MOTION

Each year, the City of Los Angeles experiences a sharp rise in emergency incidents related to the use of illegal fireworks, particularly during the weeks surrounding the Fourth of July holiday. These incidents pose significant risks to public safety, contribute to air and noise pollution, and strain the resources of City departments—especially the Los Angeles Fire Department and the Los Angeles Police Department.

Illegal fireworks can and do cause fires that damage homes, open space, and infrastructure. Responding to these incidents diverts critical fire and emergency medical services from other urgent needs. Despite existing regulations, enforcement remains a challenge due to the widespread use and the difficulty of identifying the exact sources of these fireworks.

To more effectively manage these risks and enhance enforcement capabilities, the City should explore the feasibility of innovative technologies such as drones. These tools may offer the ability to detect and record illegal firework activity in real-time, enabling faster response and accountability.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Los Angeles Fire Department to report to the Council on the costs incurred by the City in responding to fires and other emergency calls caused by illegal fireworks over the most recent July 4th holiday weekend, including personnel, equipment, and property damage estimates.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Los Angeles Police Department, with the assistance of the City Attorney and any other relevant departments, be instructed to report on the feasibility and cost of implementing a drone pilot program specifically during high-firework-use periods, such as the July 4th holiday, that would allow for real-time identification and administrative fines to be issued to homes and individuals responsible for the use of illegal fireworks.

Presented by:

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Seconded by:

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