

Memorandum to Council

Fire and Emergency Services Department

Fire Administration Division



To: Mayor and Members of Council

CC:

**Acknowledged by M. Gaskell,
Chief Administrative Officer**

From: Michael Hickey, Fire Chief

Date: September 25, 2023

File #: N/A

Subject: Fireworks By-law Update

Whitby Fire & Emergency Services (WFES) is seeking approval to amend Fireworks By-law #6339-10, to permit the use of consumer grade fireworks on Lakshmi Puja, the third (3rd) day of Diwali, in perpetuity.

Similar annual exemption requests were put forward and granted by Council in both 2021 and 2022. Most recently, on June 19, 2023, Council considered fireworks regulations through Report FES 04-23, with the final decision made to maintain the Town's existing fireworks by-law (#6339-10).

Appreciating consumer grade fireworks are permitted on New Year's Eve, New Years Day, Victoria Day, and Canada Day, WFES recommends consumer grade fireworks be permitted on Lakshmi Puja, the third (3rd) day of Diwali, in perpetuity. This amendment aligns with fireworks by-laws at various neighbouring municipalities, including the Town of Ajax, the City of Oshawa, the Township of Scugog, and the Town of Milton.

Please refer to By-law # 8020-23, being a by-law to amend the Town's existing fireworks by-law (#6339-10) in perpetuity, upon Council approval.