

From: Nicholas Davies <nbdavies@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2026 11:25 AM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Yes to birds (91399), no to fireworks (91380)

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Dear Park Commissioners,

I don't see your meeting this week as an available option on the [Meeting Registration page](#). Please let me know when that's corrected so I can register properly.

My intent is to register in favor of item 91399 and in opposition to item 91380. Fireworks are a privilege, not an entitlement, and I believe SWBA makes a good case that we need to be more mindful of the impact of fireworks on the wildlife that share our environs.

SWBA's data also shows that city-approved fireworks displays may provide cover for unsanctioned fireworks displays to be set off at the same time. This could be because the city-allowed displays normalize the use of fireworks, or because the loud volume of the city-allowed displays makes unsanctioned displays harder to detect and enforce. Regardless of the mechanism, the allowed displays may be having a "multiplier effect" on unsanctioned use of fireworks, rather than acting as a substitute.

I've heard many neighbors express resentment of the intrusiveness of these loud displays into their own homes, where booms and pops can frighten pets and/or evoke gunfire or explosives for people with past experience of those. While some attendees of baseball games may welcome the addition of fireworks, others may find it exclusionary.

In this context, I do not see fireworks as worthwhile, when the only purpose they serve is a 10 minute amusement. We've already tried many years of allowing these displays, and the concerns about them have not diminished. Let's try a year without them for once, and see if they're all that urgently missed.

Thank you,

Nick Davies
3717 Richard St