



UNITY IN DIVERSITY INC.

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Honorable Mayor and Council Members,

I am here today to request permission for the celebration of Diwali with fireworks, a tradition that holds immense cultural significance for the growing Indian Hindu population in our town.

Introduction of Diwali: Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is one of the most important festivals in Hindu culture, symbolizing the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. It's celebrated with lighting oil lamps, sharing sweets, and, importantly, fireworks.

Why Fireworks are Necessary: Fireworks are an integral part of Diwali celebrations. They represent the joy, prosperity, and excitement of the festival. The dazzling displays of light not only honor age-old traditions but also bring communities together in a shared experience of awe and wonder.

Why Our Town Needs to Give Permission:

1. **Growing Population:** The Indian Hindu community in our town is growing rapidly. Allowing fireworks for Diwali will acknowledge and respect the cultural practices of our diverse population, fostering a more inclusive environment.
2. **Consistency with Adjacent Towns:** Neighboring towns like Oshawa, Whitby, and Ajax have already permitted Diwali fireworks, some for one day and others for two. Granting permission in our town will ensure we are aligned with these communities, preventing residents from feeling the need to travel elsewhere for celebrations.

I sincerely request the council to consider this proposal and grant permission for fireworks during the Diwali festival. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Pankaj Panchal, P.Eng., FEC, MBA, M.Sc., PMP

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🔥 We heard you, Whitby! And we appreciate your feedback. 🧨

This Diwali, fireworks will be permitted on private property from dusk to 11 p.m. on October 31 and November 1.

Enjoy your celebrations. If you plan on using fireworks, be safe, responsible & considerate of your neighbours.

Firework safety tips ➡ <https://www.whitby.ca/en/live/fireworks.aspx>



#AjaxFire reminds residents of firework safety for Diwali. 🧨

- ✓ Fireworks can only be set off from 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.
- ✓ Fireworks are not allowed on public property
- ✓ Please be mindful of community & neighbours

📄 NR: <https://www.ajax.ca/.../ajax-fire-and-emergency-services...>



If you are planning to celebrate Diwali with fireworks, remember you must get a permit. Permit fees are waived for Diwali. 🧨

Keep in mind fireworks are not permitted after 11 p.m. or before dusk, and not in the following spaces:

- ✗ Public roads
- ✗ Land in which you are not the registered owner
- ✗ Public parks and greenspaces

Ensure a safe and enjoyable fireworks experience by following these important fireworks safety dos and don'ts! 🧨

For more information about firework permits, visit: <https://brnw.ch/21wO4jj>

Fireworks Safety

Dos and Don'ts

Don'ts

- ✗ Don't light or discharge fireworks in windy conditions.
- ✗ Don't attempt to re-light a defective firework.
- ✗ Don't ever hold a lit firework in your hand.

Dos

- ✓ Do use a good discharge base.
- ✓ Do set fireworks up in a clear, open space, away from obstacles.
- ✓ Do respect your neighbours, their property and the community.

Dos

- ✓ Do always keep water, sand, or a fire extinguisher on hand in case you need it.
- ✓ Do read the full instructions first.
- ✓ Do clean up all debris and dispose of it safely.

🕒 Posted on Wednesday, October 23, 2024

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Oshawa Fire Services reminds those celebrating Diwali, the Festival of Lights, to keep fire safety in mind.

In Oshawa, fireworks may be discharged between dusk and 11 p.m. on Diwali, Thursday, October 31.

Our community members' safety, health, and well-being are our top priority.