Ongoing Meetings

We had small group meetings with directors of both Save Our Shores and the SPCA this week and they were fruitful. We are cautiously optimistic that once they speak with their staffs and boards we will garner a letter of support from each, adding to our support from Native Animal Rescue. They have the politics of donors to think about. The world of 501C3 non-profits is not as easy as one might imagine.

Getting the SCPolice Department to respond to a request for a public meeting with them has, however, been extremely frustrating, so we do not yet have a meeting date for you. We were finally told we were "in the queue to be reviewed." Seems no one likes touching a topic about public policy. We'll persevere!

Recommendations to the BOS

Our Working Group will be finalizing FFF's recommendations to the Board of Supervisors next month. We'll then prepare a portfolio for each supervisor and schedule individual meetings with them between early December and mid-January. When finalized, we will post the recommendations on our web site.

SB 522

This is the best news we have had in our campaign. I received a phone call from Senator Mendoza's aide, Jacob Moss. We spoke for 40 minutes! SB 522 did not die in committee. It was always going to be a two-year bill and it will be reintroduced in the next legislative session after the first of the year. *Jacob Moss needs emails!!!* He said that if he can start getting them now he can develop a substantial folder to impress CA legislators of citizen support for the bill.

Here's where you can absolutely help. Send an email <u>right</u> <u>away</u> to <u>jacob.moss@sen.ca.gov</u> and convey two things: 1) your short, personal story of how you are plagued, harmed, or stressed by fireworks in your neighborhood and 2) your strong support for Mendoza's SB 522 as a way to help our community. Read details of the bill here: http://freedomfromfireworks.weebly.com/call-to-action.html

Please copy, paste and send this two paragraph request about SB 522 to family and friends all over the state of California, because the more *statewide* support SB 522 gets, the better the chances for its passage next year.

A Special Request

And now our *finale to this update*. We are quite a group, having grown slowly but surely from a couple of dozen residents to 143 of you now receiving these updates, with 123 of you listed on our Supporters page. Well done, all! The more of us countywide, the better. *Our ability to get the BOS to embrace our campaign recommendations will be improved with more residents learning of and supporting our campaign.*

Here is how those of you who have **Facebook** accounts can help make a difference! Go to our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/freedomfromfireworks/?fref=ts and do any or all of four things:

- 1. *Like the page* (easy peasy).
- 2. Leave a comment on any post.
- 3. Share our page on your own Timeline.
- 4. *Share* any post on your own FB page Timeline.

In the Facebook world, *share* is more effective than *like*, but the choice is yours to make.

By doing this each one of you is helping to spread the word to your Santa Cruz friends. People can go directly from our <u>FB page</u> to our web site and use the <u>Contact Us</u> form, just as all of you did over these past three months.

Our Facebook manager and creative designer behind the weekly posts (Sonia) is convinced that we can enlarge our supporters of this campaign with our FB page. Let's give it a try! Wouldn't it be terrific if your simple actions on FB added to our list and the next newsletter is sent to 175 residents instead of 143?! Let's just do it! If this works as we think it will, occasionally we'll remind you to keep up the good work.

As always, also feel free to share this entire newsletter by forwarding it to family and friends.

Thanks to one and all, Jean on behalf of Freedom From Fireworks