

In the words of United States Founding Father Thomas Jefferson, "We in America do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate," and the City of Cloverdale encourages every eligible resident to take part in the upcoming election on November 8, 2022!

The Cloverdale City Council is comprised of five members, each elected at-large by the voters of Cloverdale for a four-year term. On November 8, 2022, the City of Cloverdale will hold a General Municipal Election in the City of Cloverdale for the following offices:

- **City Council** - 3 to be elected to 4 year terms
- **City Treasurer** - 1 to be elected to 4 year term
- **Qualifications** for all - registered voter in the City

The four-year terms for existing Councilmembers: Vice Mayor Wolter, Councilmember Cruz, and Councilmember Palla come to an end. In addition, the four year term for the position of City Treasurer Mike Nixon comes to an end.

In addition to these elected officials, voters will consider a measure to prohibit fireworks, including Safe and Sane Fireworks, in the City of Cloverdale. The following measure will be voted on at the general municipal election to be held in the City of Cloverdale on Tuesday, the 8th day of November, 2022:

A "YES" or "NO" vote for Measure:

City of Cloverdale Fireworks Prohibition. Shall an ordinance be adopted that prohibits the sale and use of all fireworks, including "Safe and Sane Fireworks", within the City with an exception for permitted public fireworks displays?

If you're interested in potential candidacy for a seat on the City Council, the nomination period began Monday, July 18th, 2022, and will close on Friday, August 12th, 2022 \*. Official nomination petitions for eligible candidates desiring to file for the above offices may be obtained from the Office of the City Clerk, at 124 N. Cloverdale Blvd **by appointment only**. Contact City Clerk Mike Maloney at [mmaloney@ci.cloverdale.ca.us](mailto:mmaloney@ci.cloverdale.ca.us) to schedule an appointment. For additional information to become a qualified candidate for the 2022 election, including candidate eligibility, nomination process details, required nomination and candidate forms for filing, and important contact information, toolkits, and manuals, visit our website's election section online at: [www.cloverdale.net/elections/](http://www.cloverdale.net/elections/)

*\*If nomination papers for an incumbent elective officer of the city are not filed by close of business on Friday, August 12, 2022, the voters shall have until close of business on Wednesday, August 17th by 5 p.m. to nominate candidates other than the incumbent.*

**Democracy is not a spectator sport, and with three of the five council seats up for election, as well as the position of City Treasurer and a ballot measure, we strongly urge every eligible voter in Cloverdale to make their vote count and participate in the fast-approaching November 8th election!** Voter resources including voter registration information, voting locations, ballot and candidate material, as well as an election calendar, and eventual election results, will be available and updated regularly online at [www.cloverdale.net/elections/](http://www.cloverdale.net/elections/)

In addition to voting, your involvement and contributions in conversations and the decision-making process at public meetings is not only welcomed and valued, but also encouraged! In fact, City Staff and the City Council appreciates your interest, attendance, and participation at all public meetings, both in-person and online via zoom! The Cloverdale City Council meets regularly on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 6 p.m. while the Planning Commission, a five-member review authority which serves as City Council's advisor on land use planning matters, meets on the first Tuesday of each month, and both review authorities meet at the Cloverdale Performing Arts Center. You're also invited to attend the various Council Subcommittees that have been established to help set management objectives for city government, adopt a city budget for fulfilling those management objectives, and to ensure accountability to the citizens of Cloverdale. You can find upcoming agendas with meeting location, start time, and zoom participation information, read previous minutes, or watch past meetings for all Cloverdale review authorities and subcommittees by visiting [www.cloverdale.net/agendacenter](http://www.cloverdale.net/agendacenter).

### Ballot Measure on Fireworks

On May 25th, the City Council considered whether to place a Measure on November 8, 2022 Ballot to enable the voters to consider whether to Ban the **Sale and Use of All Fireworks**,

including Safe and Sane Fireworks, within the City of Cloverdale. The City Council heard an agenda report prepared by the City Attorney and received public input on the proposed ballot measure. The Council review of a proposed ballot measure was preceded by a review of options at their January 26 meeting regarding the sale, possession, and use of fireworks and public fireworks displays in the City of Cloverdale. At that meeting, the City Council provided direction to staff to prepare a ballot measure that would prohibit the sale and use of Safe and Sane Fireworks for the City Council to consider placing on the November 8, 2022 ballot. After debate and discussion, the Council adopted a Resolution that took the following actions:

1. Calling and Giving Notice of the Holding of an Election on Nov. 8, 2022, to Consider the City of Cloverdale Measure to Prohibit Fireworks, including Safe and Sane Fireworks;
2. Ordering the Submittal of the Measure to the Voters at the Election, and
3. Requesting that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Consent to the Consolidation of this Election with the Statewide General Election and the Previously Called Municipal Election to be Held on the Same Date and Direct the Registrar of Voters to Conduct the Election.

In order to pass, the Measure must receive a simple majority (50%+1) of votes by registered voters in the City during the election. If approved by the voters, the Measure will adopt an ordinance amending the City's Municipal Code to prohibit the sale and use of all fireworks, including Safe and Sane Fireworks, in Cloverdale. Specifically, the Ordinance would delete Municipal Code section 15.14.695 in its entirety, which would eliminate the regulations legalizing Safe and Sane Fireworks. In addition, the Ordinance would add Chapter 9.44 to the Municipal Code, which would explicitly prohibit the sale and use of all fireworks, including Safe and Sane Fireworks, within Cloverdale. The Ordinance includes an exception for permitted public displays of fireworks that are conducted by a licensed professional.

If adopted by the voters, the City Council will retain the authority to amend the Ordinance in the future in order to further regulate public fireworks displays, increase penalties for violation, and make other related topics. However, any action to remove the prohibition on Safe and Sane Fireworks would require approval from the voters.

The ballot measure will include an impartial analysis prepared by the City Attorney. The Impartial Analysis will read as follows:

### CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

The California State Fire Marshall is responsible for regulating the use and sale of all fireworks in the state. Under California law, it is illegal for any person, except for a pyrotechnic professional licensed by the State Fire Marshall, to use most fireworks. "Safe and Sane Fireworks" are a specific type of fireworks that the State Fire Marshall has determined may safely be used by ordinary individuals who are not pyrotechnic professionals.

Safe and Sane Fireworks are legal under state law. However, a city has the authority to ban the sale and use of Safe and Sane Fireworks within the city's boundaries. The sale of and use of Safe and Sane Fireworks is currently allowed in Cloverdale, subject to certain regulations. Specifically, Safe and Sane Fireworks may currently be sold in Cloverdale from July 1-4. Only nonprofit organizations located in Cloverdale that provide direct and regular community services and benefits to the residents of the City may apply for a permit to sell Safe and Sane Fireworks. The City may issue permits to a maximum of three organizations. Cloverdale Municipal Code section 15.14.695 contains other regulations governing where and how Safe and Sane Fireworks can be sold.

Under current law, Safe and Sane Fireworks may only be used between 11:00 a.m. and midnight on July 4th. The use of Safe and Sane Fireworks is generally limited to private property and is prohibited in City parks. The use of all fireworks, other than Safe and Sane Fireworks, is currently prohibited in Cloverdale, except for supervised public firework shows conducted by licensed pyrotechnic professionals.

The Fireworks Ballot Measure will officially be designated a Measure Number on the ballot by the Registrar of Voters. At this time, the Measure number has not been assigned.

**In the spirit of collaboration and the democratic process, don't be a spectator: Vote in the election, participate in the public meetings, and let your voice be heard!**