



City of Delta
COUNCIL REPORT
Regular Meeting

To: **Council**

From: **Fire & Emergency Services Department** Bylaw No.: **8497**

Date: **May 6, 2025**

Fire Regulation Bylaw Updates

The following report has been reviewed and endorsed by the City Manager's Office.

▪ **RECOMMENDATION(S):**

THAT first, second, and third readings be given to Delta Fire Regulation Bylaw No. 5855, 2001 Amendment (Fire Safety Act and Permit Authority) Bylaw No. 8497, 2025.

▪ **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with recommended amendments to the Delta Fire Regulation Bylaw that:

- meet the requirements of the new provincial *Fire Safety Act* (FSA),
- amend the firework permit approval process to delegate permit approval authority to the Manager, Property Use and Compliance (PUC), and
- ensure fireworks permits are not issued to applicants or properties with open bylaw files.

▪ **BACKGROUND:**

Fire Safety Act

The new provincial FSA came into effect on August 1, 2024. The new legislation requires local authorities to designate fire inspectors and fire investigators. To meet the requirements in the FSA, the Delta Fire Regulation Bylaw requires amendments.

Firework Permits

In 2006, the City of Delta banned the use of fireworks except with a Fireworks Permit issued by the Fire Department. Almost all firework usage in Delta is prohibited, with the Fire Department only issuing an average of three permits per year.

In September 2024, Council adopted amendments to the Delta Fire Regulation Bylaw which doubled existing fines for firework bylaw contraventions to \$500, and prohibited the discharge or otherwise use of fireworks within 500 metres of livestock properties.

Currently, firework permit applications are submitted to and approved by the Fire Department. The intent of the bylaw amendment is to ensure cross department collaboration between the Fire Department and other departments during the permit application review process by centralizing administrative authority in the PUC Department.

▪ **DISCUSSION:**

Fire Safety Act

Staff have put forward an amendment bylaw that increases the Fire Chief's flexibility and authority to appoint fire inspectors and fire investigators. This amendment increases administrative efficiency and brings the City into compliance with the FSA.

Firework Permits

The amendment bylaw delegates firework permit approval authority to the Manager, PUC. The PUC Department is the lead department for other types of City permits/licenses (e.g., business licenses, soil deposit/removal permits, Mobile Food and Beverage Vendor Permits etc.). The Fire Department will still be involved in the permit approval process because fire safety expertise is required to review key components of the permit application, such as Fire Safety Plans.

Applicants will submit their applications to the PUC Department. PUC will review the application alongside all relevant bylaw information associated with the applicant, company, or property identified in the permit application. The bylaw amendment requires permits not to be issued to any applicant that has open bylaw files associated with the applicant, the company, or the property identified in the permit application. PUC will send the application to relevant departments including the Fire Department for review of Fire Safety Plans and other application components that require fire safety expertise. Where all conditions are addressed, PUC will issue a permit and monitor compliance along with Fire Department staff as required. The PUC Department will also have the authority to deny a Firework Permit where conditions are not satisfied.

Implications:

Financial Implications – There are no financial implications.

▪ **CONCLUSION:**

Staff have put forward an amendment bylaw that brings the Delta Fire Regulation Bylaw into compliance with the new provincial *Fire Safety Act*. The amendment bylaw also updates the firework permit approval process to delegate permit approval authority to the Manager, Property Use and Compliance, which will promote collaboration across departments during the review and approval of these permit applications.



Guy McKintuck
Fire Chief

Department submission prepared by: Graeme Bant, Senior Corporate Policy Analyst; Christine Nenno, Administrative Assistant to the Fire Chief

This report has been prepared in consultation with the following listed department.

Concurring Department		
Department	Name	Signature
Property Use and Compliance	David Shaefer	DS

▪ **ATTACHMENT:**

A. Delta Fire Regulation Amendment Bylaw No. 8497, 2025.