



NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Board Agenda Memo

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**MEETING DATE:** September 25, 2018  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** District IV Supervisor, Hank Weston  
**SUBJECT:** Discussion and consideration to address nuisance impacts in residential zoned neighborhoods and communities from the discharge of firearms.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Direct staff to develop recommendations for the Board's consideration on reasonable regulations to mitigate nuisance impacts in residential zoned neighborhoods and communities from discharging firearms.

**FUNDING:** N/A

**BACKGROUND:**

Over the course of my tenure as District IV Supervisor, I have received various complaints throughout the years on nuisance impacts from the discharging of firearms in residential zoned areas. Specifically, complaints have included continuous shooting for long hours, sometimes reported as all-day events that cause loud noise disruptive bursts, concerns over the discharging of firearms that are too close to neighboring residences with projectiles penetrating neighboring parcel boundary lines, and impacts of increased traffic to neighboring communities.

And while it is a known fact that shooting and hunting are a major leisure activity and valued right within our County, a protected and sustained quality of life for residents needs to also be carefully balanced within the context of negative impacts that occur from shooting on residential zoned areas.

As such, I respectfully request the Board engage in discussion on a reasonable balance for shooting on residential zoned parcels that include RA, R1, R2 and R3 to mitigate the negative impacts that shooting can create as a nuisance to the neighboring community. Specifically, the issues that I will be raising for discussion include, but are not limited to, the distance of shooting near neighboring dwellings and residences, allowable times for shooting on residential zoned

parcels, and restrictions for shooting on Red Flag Days to prevent wildfire as outlined in the chart below. Moreover, per discussion, I would respectfully request the Board direct staff to research a reasonable balance for the discharging of firearms on residential zoned areas as it relates to preventing and mitigating nuisances and return back to the Board with a draft ordinance for the Board's consideration.

Discussion Item for Consideration	Notes for Discussion Consideration
Consider increasing the minimum distance that a firearm can be fired between any dwelling house, residence and other building on RA, R1, R2, and R3 parcels.	Current County Code provides a minimum distance of 50 yards that a firearm can be discharged from any dwelling house, residence or other building or outbuilding.
Consider increasing the time that a firearm is prohibited from being discharged on RA, R1, R2, and R3 parcels.	Current County Code prohibits a firearm from being discharged ½ hour before sunrise and ½ hour after sunset.
Consider prohibiting the discharge of any firearm in an area that has been issued a Redflag Warning or Fire Weather Watch issued by The National Weather Service.	Current County Code does not prohibit shooting in areas that have been issued Redflag Warnings or Fire Weather Watch Notices.
	Current County Code on the discharging of firearms does not apply in the defense of a direct threat of life or to protect property, nor apply to any person conducting a predatory control program on behalf of or licensed by any federal state or county agency. Other factors may not be applicable in some cases to current Code including hunting for non-game mammals and/or forbearers in accordance with Title 14, Sections 466 and 474, of the California Code of Regulations.

Respectfully Submitted,



Hank Weston  
District IV Supervisor