



IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

Contact:

Desiree I. Gonzalez, 915-487-0270

dgonzalez@epcounty.com

Laura E. Gallegos, Ed. D., 915-283-9645

l.gallegos@epcounty.com

June 29, 2023

El Paso County Takes “No Action” on Fireworks Ban

EL PASO, TX — El Paso County Commissioners Court have taken “No Action” regarding the sale, use or possession of fireworks for the 2023, July 4th holiday period. The deadline to ban the use of sticks and fins rockets within El Paso County was on June 15th, where Commissioners Court received a final presentation at their special session meeting.

The Court received an update on the County’s Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) of 569 as of the June 15th date. The KBDI index would need to be at least 575 or higher to ban fireworks. However, as of June 28th, the current KBDI for the County is now at 619 and is “high risk” fire potential with current drought conditions described as “severe”.

El Paso County Judge Ricardo Samaniego continues to work closely with firework vendors who have all agreed to not sell sticks and fins rockets, which are more difficult to control, causing potential wildfires. Due to “no action” taken on the June 15th special session, the sale of fireworks will remain permitted. The County Judge will continue to watch and closely monitor weather conditions and the KBDI in case a local emergency declaration needs to be issued to halt fireworks presenting an eminent threat of potential fires.

The Commissioners Court extends their gratitude to the vendors for their assistance in the past with clean-up efforts after the holiday, support and collaboration with El Paso County.

###

 [@epcounty](https://www.facebook.com/epcounty)  [@elpasocountytx](https://www.instagram.com/elpasocountytx)