



AGENDA ITEM #8.2

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Report Prepared by: Jen Anderson, PLPD Office Manager

Date: July 7, 2020

Subject: National Night Out Update

Report: Typically held on the first Tuesday of August, the National Night Out Committee is strongly recommending agencies move their event to October 6th, the first Tuesday in October due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon much discussion, the Police Department has decided to forego hosting a National Night Out event this year for the following reasons.

- Our event relies heavily on the partnership of our local businesses. Due to the shutdown earlier in the year, we understand that our businesses are struggling financially and we would not want to further burden them or for them to feel obligated to donate this year.
- One of our biggest draws to our event is offering free food. Due to the pandemic, we would not be allowed to cook and serve food this year.
- Typically being held in the summer, the majority of our activities are geared for warm weather (dunk tank, Water Wars, bounce house). These activities are also a large part of our event and would not be feasible to operate during fall weather.
- Our event targets families with younger children. In October, school will most likely be in session and this event would fall on a school night.

Over the last several years, the police department has set a precedence with the greatness of this event. We take pride in hosting this event annually to bring together the community. Each year, the attendance of National Night Out has grown. With all of these factors at play, we feel confident in our relationship with the community to cancel this year's event and come back in 2021 better than ever.

Council Action Requested: No Council action requested.