

Citizens asked to speak up about issues

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
Wednesday, 03 November 2010 23:22 -

Fireworks and alcohol sales, viaduct included in city survey.

Should Gothenburg allow the sale and discharge of fireworks over the New Year holiday?

What about extending the sale of alcohol from 1 to 2 a.m.?

Do you support the construction of another viaduct and re-routing of traffic around the city?

Local citizens have a chance to tell the Gothenburg City Council how they feel about these issues in a first-ever survey to be sent in utility bills.

Customers should receive their bills and the enclosed survey by Monday, Nov. 8.

The survey, according to Mayor Joyce Hudson, was done at the suggestion of the Gothenburg City Council.

“Sometimes the council makes decisions without a lot of input or feedback from citizens,” Hudson explained. “This gives citizens a chance to have input on subjects that affect the city and its policies.”

She said a suggestion about sending a survey to citizens came up during a discussion about whether or not to allow the sale and discharge of fireworks in town.

During an October meeting, the council decided not to change the city ordinance which allows fireworks a week before and through the Fourth of July.

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However a couple of council members said they'd like public comment about the issue and about extending the fireworks curfew from 10 to 11 p.m.

A new state legislative law gives the cities the option of whether or not to allow the sale of fireworks Dec. 28-31 and Jan. 1.

Two fireworks salespeople asked the city council to change the ordinance and to look at extending the hours fireworks can be discharged around July 4.

Hudson said the fireworks issue started discussion about the issue but two others were added.

The council also seeks feedback on another new state law that allows communities to extend the sale of alcohol from 1 to 2 a.m.

Although there was public input during a public hearing about whether or not to pursue the construction of a second viaduct, questions about the topic are included in the survey.

Hudson urged the community

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