

## The Estates At Pembroke Park 4<sup>th</sup> of July Plan Discussion



This year, we were notified that our neighborhood fireworks expert would not be available for our Annual Big Bang Block Party. While we advertise this as an official Estates at Pembroke Park event, what that means is it is organized and run by The Estates at Pembroke Park HOA Board of Directors. HOA funds are not used for the fireworks, and the fireworks for this event are fully funded using donations (around \$3,500) by residents of the neighborhood and last year, \$500 from Cedar Ridge Church. The only items usually covered by the HOA budget is the Jupiter Jump and the frozen treats. Please note that the \$3,500 we collect only pays for actual fireworks that are purchased at wholesale, and our volunteer fireworks expert does not add a fee for his services to order, store, transport, program and set off the fireworks for our annual event. It is a big ask for anyone, and we have appreciated all of the years he has put in taking care of this for us.

After we were notified that we would not have our normal fireworks expert this year, we discussed our options. The HOA Board discussed hiring another technician, but it was determined that we would most likely not be able to raise enough funds to cover an outside person/company. This was due to the fact that in 2023, only 44 of the 153 households contributed to the event, and in past years, we typically barely get enough donations to pay for the fireworks at wholesale cost. We also have to be careful who we hire due to liability for the HOA. We further discussed having the event without the fireworks, and it was the opinion of the majority of the HOA Board that the event would not be well supported without the fireworks.

While we understand there is much disappointment in this, we hope you understand the reason for our decision.

While we hope we will have our neighborhood expert back next year, we are open to discussion about other options in case that falls through. Please contact us at [estatesatpembrokepark@gmail.com](mailto:estatesatpembrokepark@gmail.com) if you wish to be involved in future discussions and assist the HOA Board with future 4<sup>th</sup> of July events.