

# Lots of July 4 fireworks in San Jose but not downtown this year

Excite Ballpark and two San Jose parks will host fireworks shows for the holiday



Fireworks erupt over downtown San Jose's Discovery Meadow Park during the Rotary Fireworks show on July 4, 2017. (Sal Pizarro/Bay Area News Group)

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If you're already making your plans to watch fireworks in San Jose for July 4, you've got a few options to choose from, including pyrotechnic displays at Lake Cunningham Park, Almaden Lake Park and Excite Ballpark.

However, that list doesn't include a show at Discovery Meadow Park in downtown San Jose this year. The Rotary Club of San Jose, which brought back the downtown fireworks in 2014, decided instead this year to sponsor the San Jose Giants' two-day celebration, which includes fireworks on both July 3 and 4.

The rockets will go off July 3 after the Giants' game against the Stockton Ports, and on July 4 the fireworks will follow a concert by country music artist Matt Stell, presented by Bay Country. Tickets are on sale for both nights at [sjgiants.com](http://sjgiants.com).

Heather Lerner, incoming president of the San Jose Rotary Club, said she's excited about expanding the fireworks show to give families a safe way to celebrate the holiday. And moving the bombs bursting in air away from the San Jose Mineta International Airport flight path means air traffic won't need to be shut down during the show, either.

"Not just one night, but two, of even bigger pyrotechnic displays that simply were not possible at our previous location," Lerner said. (In the interest of full disclosure, I'm also a member of the Rotary Club of San Jose.)

For July 4, Alma Avenue will be closed between Senter Road and 10th street so people can watch without having to buy a ticket to the concert. San Jose Giants General Manager Ben Taylor says both nights should be "unforgettable events" whether you're watching from inside or out.

Of course, San Jose residents looking for a more natural setting than a street or a baseball stadium on the Fourth can still head to Almaden Lake Regional Park, which has its ninth annual festival starting at 3 p.m. July 4 with live music, food trucks and a fun zone for kids before the fireworks start around 9:15 p.m.

San Jose Councilmember Domingo Candelas also is hosting a fireworks show at Lake Cunningham Park in East San Jose for the first time. Those festivities start at 7 p.m. and also will feature food trucks and family-friendly activities.