

# Nuisance Noise Ordinance





# Background

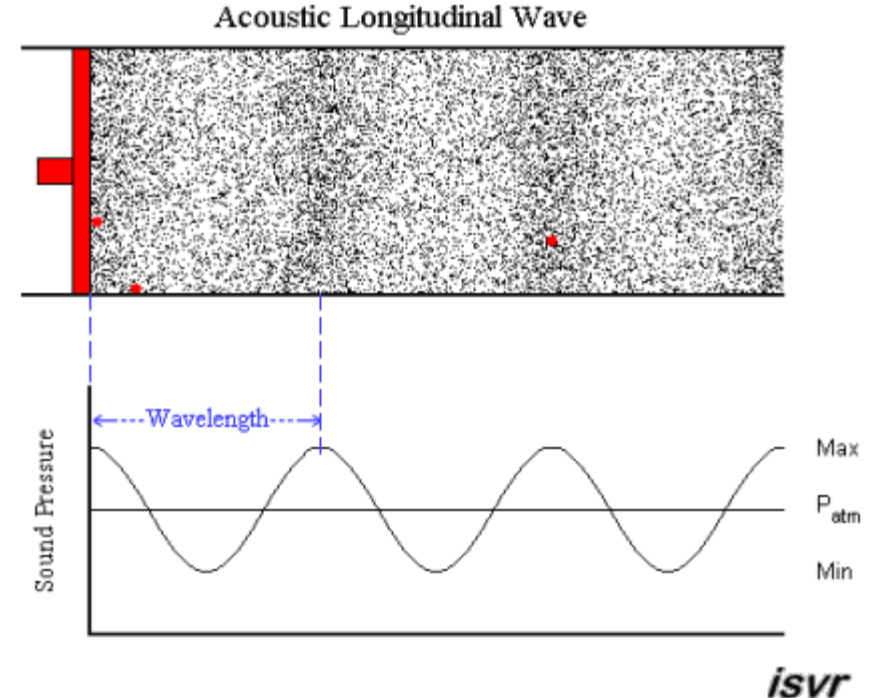


- January 2020: “Intentional Noise Pollution” Petition Presented to Council
- June 2021: Council Requested a Draft of a Nuisance Noise Ordinance
- September 2021: Initial Draft of Ordinance Presented to Council
- January 2022: Council Requested Sound Study
- June 2022: Sound Study Completed
- June 2022: Two Coffee with a Cop Events Focusing on the Sound Study
- August 2022: Southside Neighborhood Sound Study Discussion Meeting
- October 2022: Press Release and Townhall Meeting to Solicit Community Input



# How Will Sound Levels be Measured?

- Properties of Sound:
- Sound is...
- Intensity/Amplitude = Loudness
- Loudness is Measured in Decibels
- Wavelength = Pitch
- A Scale & C Scale Weighted Loudness Measurements





# What are decibel levels for types of noise?

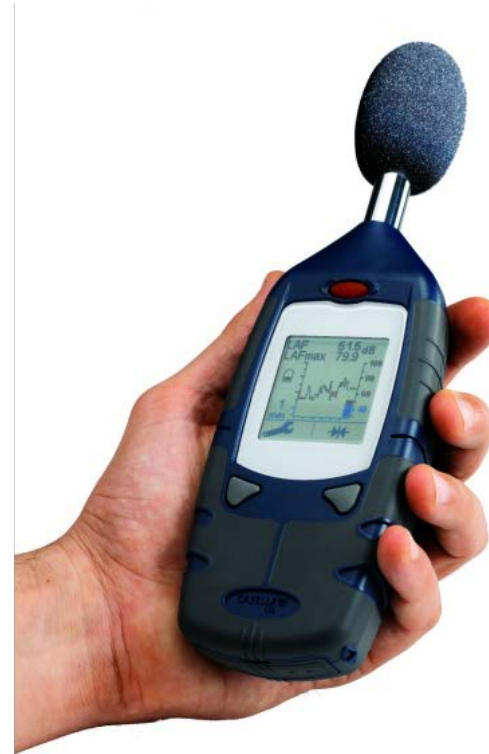
Type of Noise	Decibel level	Characterization
Jet Take-Off Artillery Fire Jack Hammer	120-130	Deafening
Sonic Boom Orchestra Music Fortissimo Rock Band	100-120	Deafening
Truck Unmuffled Loud Street Noise Police Whistle	80-100	Very Loud
Noisy Office Quiet Typewriter Average Radio	60-80	Loud
Noisy Home Average Conversation Quiet Radio	40-60	Moderate
Private Office Quiet Home Quiet Conversation	20-40	Faint
Rustle of Leaves Wisper Human Breathing	10-20	Very Faint



# What Instrument Will We Use to Measure Sound Levels?



- Casella Cel 24x
- ANSI Type 2
- Acoustic Calibrator Included
- Sound Meter will be Calibrated Before Each Use







# Comments and Concerns We Have Heard



## Business Related

- Citizens feel reluctant to make public comments in support of a Nuisance Noise Ordinance out of fear of retaliation from supporters of local bars
- ‘Who is more important: My business that serves 200 people, or a couple complaining residents?’
- Businesses feel 55dB in Mixed Use areas is too low
- Why measure sound as an average over a period of time vs. measuring impulse/peak sound levels?
- Why were measurements taken by the consultants at certain specific locations in their study?
- Make an acknowledgement of the Nuisance Noise Ordinance a condition of approval for new liquor licenses; the City is approving too many liquor licenses
- Questions about what zoning applied to certain areas
- Ordinance should cover the ability for an individual to be outside using their property with a disturbance



# Comments and Concerns We Have Heard

## Vehicle Related

- Intentional vehicular noise is a different issue than stationary noise at a business
- Noise from a vehicle should be measured differently
- Why are noise limits exempt based on weight?
- Vehicle noise is most consistent and bothersome and should be addressed first
- How is the sound measured when driving a vehicle?
- Can there be a separate ordinance for vehicles and businesses?
- Concerns about modified mufflers



# MD Acoustics Presentation



- Details of the sound study
- Time and locations of sound readings
- Recommendations for the ordinance
- Questions



# Council Discussion/Direction

1. Should we separate vehicle noise and nuisance noise into two separate ordinances?
2. If we do, is there a preference to see one before the other?



# Nuisance Noise Ordinance Direction



1. Are the hours from 7 am to 10 pm and 10 pm to 7 am satisfactory?
2. Should we consider one decibel limit for all zoning types, or keep it regulated by residential, commercial, industrial or mixed?
3. Are the noise levels satisfactory?
4. Is the fine schedule satisfactory?



# Vehicle Noise Direction

1. Should we remove the weight limit on vehicles?
2. Should we just have one decibel limit or is council good with having two based on the speed limit of the roadway?
3. Are we good with the location of measurement being outside the traffic lane of the violator?
4. Is the fine schedule satisfactory?

# Comments

