

## Ontario Municipal Code

**CHAPTER 29: NOISE**

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**Sec. 5-29.01. Declaration of findings and policy.**

It is hereby found and declared that:

(a) The making and creation of excessive, unnecessary or unusually loud noises within the limits of the City is a condition that has existed for some time, however, the extent and volume of such noises is increasing;

(b) The making, creation or maintenance of such excessive, unnecessary, unnatural or unusually loud noises that are prolonged, unusual and unnatural in their time, place and use affect and are a detriment to public health, comfort, convenience, safety, welfare and prosperity of the residents of the City; and

(c) The necessity in the public interest for the provisions and prohibitions hereinafter contained and enacted, is declared as a matter of legislative determination and public policy, and it is further declared that the provisions and prohibitions hereinafter contained and enacted are in pursuance of and for the purpose of securing and promoting the public health, comfort, convenience, safety, welfare and prosperity and the peace and quiet of the residents of the City.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

### **Sec. 5-29.02. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, specific words and phrases are defined as follows:

- (a) "Ambient noise level" shall mean the all-encompassing noise level associated with a given environment and is a composite of sounds from all sources, excluding the alleged offensive noise or excessive sound, at the location and approximate time at which a comparison with the alleged offensive noise is to be made.
- (b) "Applicable (noise) zone" shall mean the noise zone category based on the actual use of the property, provided that the actual use is a legal use in the City.
- (c) "A-weighted sound level" shall mean the sound pressure level in decibels (dBAs) as measured with a sound level meter using the A-weighted filter network (scale) at slow response and at a pressure of twenty (20) micropascals. The A-weighted filter de-emphasizes the very low and a very high frequency component of sound in a manner similar to the response of the human ear, and is a numerical method of rating human judgment of loudness.
- (d) "Decibel (dBA)" shall mean a unit for measuring the amplitude of a sound, equal to twenty (20) times the logarithm to the base ten (10) of the ratio of pressure of the sound measured to the reference pressure of twenty (20) micropascals.
- (e) "Equivalent sound or noise level (Leq)" shall mean the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) 60804 Standard for measurement, or the most recent revision thereof, for the sound level corresponding to a steady state noise level over a given sample period with the same amount of acoustic energy as the actual time varying noise level or the energy average noise level during the sample period. The measurement period for the purposes of this chapter is fifteen (15) minutes.
- (f) "Impulsive noise" shall mean a noise of short duration usually less than one (1) second and of high intensity, with an abrupt onset and rapid decay. Such objectionable noises may also be repetitive.
- (g) "Intrusive noise" shall mean that noise that intrudes over and above the ambient noise at a given location. The relative intrusiveness of a sound depends upon its amplitude, duration, frequency, time of occurrence and tonal information content, as well as the prevailing ambient noise level.
- (h) "Maintenance" shall mean the upkeep, repair or preservation of existing property or structures.
- (i) "Noise" shall mean any unwanted sound or sound that is undesirable because it interferes with speech and hearing, or is intense enough to damage hearing or is otherwise annoying.
- (j) "Noise level (sound level)" shall mean the weighted sound pressure level obtained by use of a sound level meter having a standard frequency filter for attenuating part of the sound spectrum. For purposes of this chapter, all noise levels (sound levels) shall be A-weighted sound pressure level.
- (k) "Noise (sound) level meter" shall mean an instrument, including a microphone, an amplifier, an output meter and frequency weighting networks for the measurement and determination of noise and sound levels. For the purposes of this chapter, the sound level meter must meet the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) 60651 and 60804 Standards, or the most recent revisions thereof, for Type 1 sound level meters or an instrument and the associated recording and analyzing equipment that will provide equivalent

data.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

### **Sec. 5-29.03. Designated noise zones.**

The properties hereinafter described shall be assigned to the following noise zones:

Noise Zone I:	All single-family residential properties;
Noise Zone II:	All multi-family residential properties and mobile home parks;
Noise Zone III:	All commercial property;
Noise Zone IV:	The residential portion of mixed use properties;
Noise Zone V:	All manufacturing or industrial properties and all other uses.

The actual use of the property, and not necessarily its zoning designation, shall be the determining factor in establishing whether a property is in Noise Zone I, II, III, IV or V, provided that the actual use is a legal use within the applicable zone.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

### **Sec. 5-29.04. Exterior noise standards.**

(a) The following exterior noise standards, unless otherwise specifically indicated, shall apply to all properties within a designated noise zone.

<i>Allowable Exterior Noise Level (1)</i>		<i>Allowed Equivalent Noise Level, Leq. (2)</i>	
<i>Noise Zone</i>	<i>Type of Land Use</i>	<i>7 a.m. to 10 p.m.</i>	<i>10 p.m. to 7 a.m.</i>
I	Single-Family Residential	65 dBA	45 dBA
II	Multi-Family Residential, Mobile Home Parks	65 dBA	50 dBA
III	Commercial Property	65 dBA	60 dBA
IV	Residential Portion of Mixed Use	70 dBA	70 dBA
V	Manufacturing and Industrial, Other Uses	70 dBA	70 dBA

(1) If the ambient noise level exceeds the resulting standard, the ambient noise level shall be the standard.

(2) Measurements for compliance are made on the affected property pursuant to § 5-29.15.

(b) It is unlawful for any person at any location within the incorporated area of the City to create noise, or to allow the creation of any noise on property owned, leased, occupied or otherwise controlled by such

person, which noise causes the noise level, when measured at any location on any other property, to exceed either of the following:

- (1) The noise standard for the applicable zone for any fifteen-minute (15) period; and
  - (2) A maximum instantaneous (single instance) noise level equal to the value of the noise standard plus twenty (20) dBA for any period of time (measured using A-weighted slow response).
- (c) In the event the ambient noise level exceeds the noise standard, the maximum allowable noise level under such category shall be increased to reflect the maximum ambient noise level.
- (d) The Noise Zone IV standard shall apply to that portion of residential property falling within one hundred (100) feet of a commercial property or use, if the noise originates from that commercial property or use.
- (e) If the measurement location is on a boundary between two (2) different noise zones, the lower noise level standard applicable to the noise zone shall apply.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.05. Interior noise standards.**

(a) The following interior noise standards, unless otherwise specifically indicated, shall apply to all properties within a designated noise zone.

<b>Allowable Interior Noise Level (1)</b>		<b>Allowed Equivalent Noise Level, Leq. (2)</b>	
<i>Noise Zone</i>	<i>Type of Land Use</i>	<i>7 a.m. to 10 p.m.</i>	<i>10 p.m. to 7 a.m.</i>
I	Single-Family Residential	45 dBA	40 dBA
II	Multi-Family Residential, Mobile Home Parks	45 dBA	40 dBA
IV	Residential Portion of Mixed Use	45 dBA	40 dBA

(1) If the ambient noise level exceeds the resulting standard, the ambient noise level shall be the standard.

(2) Measurements for compliance are made on the affected property pursuant to § 5-29.15.

(b) It is unlawful for any person at any location within the incorporated area of the City to create noise, or to allow the creation of any noise on property owned, leased, occupied or otherwise controlled by such person, which noise causes the noise level, when measured at any location on any other property, to exceed either of the following:

- (1) The noise standard for the applicable zone for any fifteen-minute (15) period;
  - (2) A maximum instantaneous (single instance) noise level equal to the value of the noise standard plus twenty (20) dBA for any period of time (measured using A-weighted slow response).
- (c) In the event the ambient noise level exceeds the noise standard, the maximum allowable noise level under such category shall be increased to reflect the maximum ambient noise level.
- (d) The Noise Zone IV standard shall apply to that portion of residential property falling within one hundred (100) feet of a commercial property or use, if the noise originates from that commercial property or

use.

(e) If the measurement location is on a boundary between two (2) different noise zones, the lower noise level standard applicable to the noise zone shall apply.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

### **Sec. 5-29.06. Exemptions.**

The following activities shall be exempted from the provisions of this chapter:

(a) Any activity conducted on public property, or on private property with the consent of the owner, by any public entity or its officers, employees, representatives, agents, subcontractors, permittees, licensees or lessees that the public entity has authorized are exempt from the provisions of this chapter. This includes, without limitation, sporting and recreational activities that are sponsored, co-sponsored, permitted or allowed by the City or any school district within the City's jurisdictional boundaries. This also includes, without limitation, occasional outdoor gatherings, public dances, shows or sporting and entertainment events, provided such events are conducted pursuant to an approval, authorization, contract, lease, permit or sublease by the appropriate public entity, specifically the planning commission or City Council;

(b) Occasional outdoor gatherings, public dances, show, sporting and entertainment events, provided said events are conducted pursuant to a permit or license issued by the appropriate jurisdiction relative to the staging of said events;

(c) Any mechanical device, apparatus or equipment used, related to or connected with emergency machinery, vehicle, work or warning alarm or bell, provided the sounding of any bell or alarm on any building or motor vehicle shall terminate its operation within forty-five (45) minutes in any hour of its being activated;

(d) Noise sources associated with construction, repair, remodeling, demolition or grading of any real property. Such activities shall instead be subject to the provisions of § 5-29.09;

(e) Noise sources associated with construction, repair, remodeling, demolition or grading of public rights-of-way or during authorized seismic surveys;

(f) All mechanical devices, apparatus or equipment associated with agriculture operations provided that:

(1) Operations do not take place between 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.;

(2) Such operations and equipment are utilized for the protection or salvage of agricultural crops during periods of potential or actual frost damage or other adverse weather conditions; or

(3) Such operations and equipment are associated with agricultural pest control through pesticide application, provided the application is made in accordance with permits issued by or regulations enforced by the California Department of Agriculture;

(g) Noise sources associated with the maintenance of real property. Such activities shall instead be subject to the provisions of § 5-29.08;

(h) Any activity to the extent regulation thereof has been preempted by state or federal law;

(i) Any noise sources associated with people and/or music associated with a party at a residential property. Such noise shall be subject to the provisions of OMC § 5-29.07;

(j) Any noise source emanating from an ice cream truck within the City. Such noise shall be subject to the provisions of OMC § 4-18.04;

(k) Any noise sources associated with barking dogs or other intermittent noises made by animals on any

properly within the City. Such noise shall be subject to the provisions of OMC Chapter 1, Title 6;

(l) Noise sources related to uses approved by a permit or development agreement adopted prior to the date of adoption of this chapter and that contains acoustic or noise standard conditions of approval. This exemption shall only be applicable during the effective period of the City-approved permit or development agreement.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.07. Loud and disturbing noise.**

(a) It is unlawful for any person or property owner within the City to make, cause or allow to be made any loud, excessive, impulsive or intrusive noise, disturbance or commotion that disturbs the peace or quiet of any area or that causes discomfort or annoyance to any reasonable person of normal sensitivities in the area, after a Police or Code Enforcement Officer has first requested that the person or property owner cease and desist from making such noise. The types of loud, disturbing, excessive, impulsive or intrusive noise may include, but shall not be limited to, yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, singing, playing a musical instrument, or emitting or transmitting any loud music or noise from any mechanical or electrical sound making or sound-amplifying device.

(b) The factors, standards, and conditions that may be considered in determining whether a violation of the provisions of this section has been committed, included, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) The level of the noise;
- (2) The level and intensity of the background (ambient) noise, if any;
- (3) The proximity of the noise to residential or commercial sleeping areas;
- (4) The nature and zoning of the area within which the noise emanates;
- (5) The density of inhabitation of the area within which the noise emanates;
- (6) The time of day and night the noise occurs;
- (7) The duration of the noise;
- (8) Whether the noise is constant, recurrent or intermittent;
- (9) Whether the noise is produced by a commercial or noncommercial activity; and

(10) Whether the use is lawful under the provisions of Title 5 of this Code and whether the noise is one that could reasonably be expected from the activity or allowed use.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.08. Real property maintenance noise regulations.**

(a) No person, while engaged in maintenance of real property, shall operate any tool, equipment or machine in a manner that produces loud noise that disturbs a person of normal sensitivity who works or resides in the vicinity, or a Police or Code Enforcement Officer, except between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

(b) Trimming or pruning that requires the use of chainsaws or mulching machines shall only be allowed between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on a weekday and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday.

(c) The use of electrical or gasoline powered blowers, such as commonly used by gardeners or other persons for cleaning lawns, yards, driveways, gutters and other property shall only be allowed between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on a weekday and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday.

(d) No landowner, gardener, property maintenance service, contractor, subcontractor or employer shall permit or allow any person or persons working under his or her direction or control to operate any tool, equipment or machine in violation of the provisions of this section.

(e) Exceptions. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the following:

(1) Emergency property maintenance required by the building official;

(2) The maintenance, repair or improvement of any public work or facility by public employees, by any person or persons acting pursuant to a public works contract, or by any person or persons performing such work or pursuant to the direction of, or on behalf of, any public agency; provided, however, this exception shall not apply to the City, or its employees, contractors or agents, unless:

(i) The City Manager or department head determines that the maintenance, repair or improvement is immediately necessary to maintain public service,

(ii) The maintenance, repair or improvement is of a nature that cannot feasibly be conducted during normal business hours, or

(iii) The City Council has approved project specifications, contract provisions, or an environmental document that specifically authorizes maintenance during hours of the day that would otherwise be prohibited pursuant to this section; and

(3) Any maintenance that complies with the noise limits specified in § 5-29.04.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

### **Sec. 5-29.09. Construction activity noise regulations.**

(a) No person, while engaged in construction, remodeling, digging, grading, demolition or any other related building activity, shall operate any tool, equipment or machine in a manner that produces loud noise that disturbs a person of normal sensitivity who works or resides in the vicinity, or a Police or Code Enforcement Officer, on any weekday except between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. or on Saturday or Sunday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

(b) No landowner, construction company owner, contractor, subcontractor, or employer shall permit or allow any person or persons working under their direction and control to operate any tool, equipment or machine in violation of the provisions of this section.

(c) Exceptions.

(1) The provisions of this section shall not apply to emergency construction work performed by a private party when authorized by the City Manager or his or her designee;

(2) The maintenance, repair or improvement of any public work or facility by public employees, by any person or persons acting pursuant to a public works contract, or by any person or persons performing such work or pursuant to the direction of, or on behalf of, any public agency; provided, however, this exception shall not apply to the City, or its employees, contractors or agents, unless:

(i) The City Manager or a department head determines that the maintenance, repair or improvement is immediately necessary to maintain public services,

(ii) The maintenance, repair or improvement is of a nature that cannot feasibly be conducted during

normal business hours, or

(iii) The City Council has approved project specifications, contract provisions, or an environmental document that specifically authorizes construction during hours of the day that would otherwise be prohibited pursuant to this section; and

(3) Any construction that complies with the noise limits specified in §§ 5-29.04 or 5-29.05.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.10. Other public agency exceptions.**

The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed to prohibit any work at different hours by or under the direction of any other public agency or public or private utility companies in cases of necessity or emergency.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.11. Schools, day care centers, churches, libraries, museums, health care institutions; Special provisions.**

It is unlawful for any person to create any noise that causes the outdoor noise level at any school, day care center, hospital or similar health care institution, church, library or museum while the same is in use, to exceed the noise standards specified in § 5-29.04 prescribed for the assigned Noise Zone I.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.12. Sound amplifying equipment.**

Loudspeakers, sound amplifiers, public address systems or similar devices used to amplify sounds shall be subject to the provisions of § 5-29.13. Such sound amplifying equipment shall not be construed to include electronic devices, including but not limited to, radios, tape players, tape recorders, compact disc players, MP3 players, electric keyboards, music synthesizers, record players or televisions, which are designed and operated for personal use, or used entirely within a building and are not designed or used to convey the human voice, music or any other sound to an audience outside such building, or which are used in vehicles and heard only by occupants of the vehicle in which installed.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.13. Amplified sound.**

(a) The City Council enacts the following legislation for the sole purpose of securing and promoting the public health, comfort, safety and welfare for its citizenry. While recognizing that the use of sound amplifying equipment may be entitled to certain protection by the constitutional rights of freedom of speech and assembly, the City Council finds that in order to protect the public safety and the correlative rights of the citizens of this community to privacy and freedom from public nuisance of loud and unnecessary noise, reasonable regulation of the time, place and manner of the use of amplifying equipment is necessary. In no event shall approval or authorization required herein be withheld by reason of the constitutionally protected content of any material proposed to be broadcast through amplifying equipment.

(b) It is unlawful for any person, other than personnel of law enforcement or governmental agencies, to install, use or operate a loudspeaker or sound amplifying device in a fixed or movable position or mounted



upon any vehicle within the City for the purpose of giving instructions, directions, talks, addresses or lectures to any persons or assemblages of persons in or upon any street, alley, sidewalk, park, place or public property without a permit to do so from the Police Chief or his or her designee. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the provisions of this section shall also apply to the use of sound amplifying equipment upon public or private property when used in connection with outdoor or indoor public or private events, whether or not admission is charged or food or beverages are sold, when such activity is to be attended by more than one hundred (100) persons and the noise emanating from the event will be audible at the property plane, or in the case of a street dance or concert on the nearest residential property. Those activities listed in § 5-29.06(a) are exempt from the requirements of this section.

(c) The Police Chief or his or her designee is authorized to approve and issue permits under this section.

(d) An application for a permit required by this section shall be filed with the Police Chief at least sixteen (16) days and no more than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the date on which the sound amplifying equipment is intended to be used. Applications for events covered by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution are exempt from the time requirements of this section if it is shown that circumstances require a shorter filing period and the event will not constitute an unsafe condition. The application shall contain the following information:

(1) The name, address and telephone number of both the owner and the user of the sound amplifying equipment;

(2) The license number, if a sound truck is to be used;

(3) A general description of the sound amplifying equipment which is to be used;

(4) Whether sound amplifying equipment will be used for commercial or noncommercial purpose;

(5) The dates and times upon and within which, and the streets or property over or upon which, the equipment is proposed to be operated;

(6) The name or names of one (1) or more persons who will be present during the conduct of any activities for which registration is sought and who will have authority to reduce the volume of any sound amplifying equipment during the course of the activities if required pursuant to this chapter and, otherwise, to insure compliance with the provisions of this chapter;

(7) A statement by the applicant that he or she is willing and able to comply with the provisions of this chapter and the conditions of the permit; and

(8) A sketch of the area or facilities within which the activities are to be conducted, with approximate dimensions and illustration of the location and orientation of all sound-amplifying equipment.

(e) The Police Chief shall deny the permit application or revoke any permit if the chief finds any of the following:

(1) The application contains materially false or intentionally misleading information;

(2) The use of sound amplifying equipment at an event or activity proposed will be located in or upon a premises, building or structure that is hazardous to the health or safety of the employees or patrons of the premises, business, activity, or event, or the general public, under the standards established by the Uniform Building or Fire Codes, or other applicable codes, as set forth in OMC Titles 4 and 8;

(3) The use of sound amplifying equipment at an event or activity proposed in or upon a premises, building or structure that lacks adequate on-site parking for participants attending the proposed event or activity under the applicable standards set forth in OMC Title 9;

(4) The conditions of any motor vehicle movement are such that, in his or her opinion, the use of the equipment would constitute an unreasonable interference with traffic safety;

(5) The conditions of pedestrian movement are such that the use of the equipment would constitute a detriment to traffic safety;

(6) The application submitted by the applicant reveals that the applicant would violate the provisions of this section or any other provision of federal, state and/or local law;

(7) The applicant is unwilling or unable to comply with the provisions of this chapter or any conditions imposed upon any permit issued;

(8) There had already been a permitted event at the intended location, or within a two hundred (200) yard radius of the intended location and the prior permitted event was located on residentially zoned property or on a street, alley, public parking lot or neighborhood park within three (3) months prior to the intended event. Community parks are exempt from this subsection (8); or

(9) The applicant or location has had previous violations within the past calendar year, and in the judgment of the Police Chief, issuance would be contrary to the intent of this section.

(f) In determining whether the use of the equipment would constitute an unreasonable interference with or detriment to traffic safety, the Police Chief shall consider, but shall not necessarily be limited to:

(1) The volumes, patterns and speed of vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the proposed area of use;

(2) The relationship of the proposed use of equipment and potential impacts upon traffic patterns;

(3) Availability of sufficient room for the operation of the equipment without significantly interfering with the traffic patterns;

(4) Proximity to schools, playgrounds and similar facilities where use of such equipment might attract children into traffic patterns; or

(5) Proximity to busy intersections or other potentially hazardous conditions where use of such equipment might constitute a hazard by reason of its tendency to distract drivers of vehicles or pedestrians.

(g) Issuance or denial.

(1) If the application is approved, the Police Chief shall return an approved copy of the application to the applicant and shall issue a permit. The permit shall constitute permission for the use of the sound amplifying equipment as requested.

(2) Any application filed shall be either approved or disapproved within five (5) days of the filing thereof.

(3) If the application is disapproved, the Police Chief shall return a disapproved copy forthwith to the applicant with a written statement on the reason for disapproval.

(i) Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Police Chief or his or her designee may file an appeal to the City Manager. A complete and proper appeal shall be filed with the City Clerk within ten (10) calendar days of the action that is the subject of the appeal. If the applicant fails to file an appeal within the ten (10) day filing period provided herein, denial shall take effect immediately upon expiration of such filing period. All appeals shall be in writing and shall contain the following information: (a) name(s) of the person filing the appeal, (b) a brief statement in ordinary and concise language of the relief sought, and (c) the signatures of all parties named as appellants and their mailing addresses. After receiving the appeal, the City Clerk shall immediately forward the matter to the City Manager for handling.

(ii) The City Manager shall, upon receipt of the appeal, set the matter for hearing before the City Manager or a hearing officer. Any hearing officer shall be a licensed attorney or recognized mediator designated by the City Manager. The hearing shall be set for not more than ten (10) calendar days after the receipt of the appeal unless a longer time is requested or consented to by the appellant. Notice of such hearing shall be given in writing and mailed at least five (5) calendar days prior to the date of the hearing,

by U.S. mail, with a proof of service attached, addressed to the address listed on the permit application, or the written appeal if different from the permit application. The notice shall state the grounds of the complaint or reason for the denial and shall state the time and place where such hearing will be held.

(iii) The City Manager or hearing officer shall, within ten (10) calendar days following the conclusion of the hearing, make a written finding and decision, which shall be delivered to the City and the appellant by first class mail. Notwithstanding any provision in this Code, the decision of the City Manager or hearing officer shall be the final administrative decision of the City. Any party dissatisfied with the decision of the City Manager or hearing officer may seek review of such decision under the provisions of Code Civil Procedure, §§ 1094.5 and 1094.8, as amended from time to time.

(h) In addition to any other provisions of this Code, the use of sound-amplifying equipment and sound trucks in the City shall be subject to the following regulations:

- (1) The only sounds permitted are music and human speech;
- (2) Sound shall not be emitted within one hundred (100) yards of hospitals, churches, schools and City Hall;
- (3) The volume of sound shall be controlled so that it will not be audible for a distance in excess of one hundred (100) feet from the sound amplifying equipment or sound truck, and so that the volume is not unreasonably loud, raucous, jarring, disturbing or a nuisance to persons within the range of allowed audibility; or
- (4) The sound amplifying equipment or sound truck shall not be used between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.14. Motor vehicles.**

The use of any motor vehicle in such a condition as to create excessive, impulsive or intrusive noises is prohibited. The discharge into the open air of the exhaust of any internal combustion engine, stationary or mounted on wheels, motorboat or motor vehicle, including motor cycle, whether or not discharged through a muffler or other similar device, which discharge creates excessive, unusual, impulsive or intrusive noise is prohibited. Motor vehicles shall comply with the noise regulations of the California Vehicle Code.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.15. Noise level measurement.**

(a) The location selected for measuring exterior noise levels in a residential area shall be at any part of a private yard, patio, deck or balcony normally used for human activity and identified by the owner or, if occupied by someone other than the owner, the occupant of the affected property as suspected of exceeding the noise level standard. This location may be the closest point in the private yard or patio, or on the deck or balcony, to the noise source, but should not be located in nonhuman activity areas such as trash container storage areas, planter beds, above or contacting a property line fence, or other areas not normally used as part of the yard, patio, deck or balcony. The location selected for measuring exterior noise levels in a nonresidential area shall be at the closest point to the noise source. The measurement microphone height shall be five (5) feet above finish elevation or, in the case of a deck or balcony, the measurement microphone height shall be five (5) feet above the finished floor level.

(b) The location selected for measuring interior noise levels shall be made within the affected residential unit. The measurements shall be made at a point at least four (4) feet from the wall, ceiling or floor, or within the frame of a window opening, nearest the noise source. The measurements shall be made with

windows in an open position.

(c) Any decibel measurement made pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be measured in decibels (dBAs) as measured with a sound level meter using the A-weighted sound pressure level.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.16. Prima facie violation.**

Any noise exceeding the noise level standard as specified in §§ 5-29.04 and 5-29.05, shall be deemed to be prima facie evidence of a violation of the provisions of this chapter.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.17. Penalty.**

(a) Any person who negligently or knowingly violates any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of an infraction and upon conviction shall be punishable by a fine specified in OMC § 1-2.01. Each day a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable as such.

(b) Any person who negligently or knowingly violates any provision of this chapter may also be subject to fine(s) specified in the administrative citation schedule of fines set forth in OMC § 1-5.04. The manner of issuing administrative citations shall comply with all the procedures specified in OMC Chapter 5, Title 1.

(c) As an additional remedy, the operation or maintenance of any device, instrument, vehicle or machinery in violation of any provisions of this chapter, which operation or maintenance causes or creates sound levels exceeding the allowable standards as specified in this chapter, shall be deemed and is declared to be a public nuisance and may be subject to abatement by a restraining order or injunction issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(d) Any violation of this chapter is declared to be a public nuisance and may be abated in accordance with law. The expense of enforcing this chapter is declared to be public nuisance and may be by resolution of the City Council declared to be a lien and special assessment against the property on which such nuisance is maintained, and any such charge shall also be a personal obligation of the property owner.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.18. Enforcement and administration.**

(a) It shall be the responsibility of Police or Code Enforcement Officers to enforce the provisions of this chapter and to perform all other functions required by this chapter. Such duties shall include, but not be limited to investigating potential violations, issuing warning notices and citations, and providing evidence to the City prosecutor for legal action.

(b) For violations of § 5-29.07, Police or Code Enforcement Officers shall obtain a declaration under penalty of perjury from two (2) declarants living in separate households within a sixty (60) day period stating in detail all of the following:

(1) That the declarant is a resident of a residential neighborhood located within two hundred (200) yards of the noise source; and

(2) Within the past month declarant has heard noise for substantially long periods to the extreme annoyance of the declarant.

(3) Declarations from two (2) declarants are required to prove a violation of § 5-29.07, but are not required to prove that a person has violated any other provision of this chapter.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.19. City Manager waiver.**

The City Manager is authorized to grant a temporary waiver to the provisions of this chapter for a period of time necessary to correct the violations of this chapter, if such temporary waiver would be in the public interest and there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the activity, or the method of conducting the activity, for which the temporary waiver is sought. This time period may include a commitment to a program that includes placing necessary orders and entering into necessary contracts within thirty (30) days for repair or installation.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)

#### **Sec. 5-29.20. Noise abatement program.**

(a) In circumstances where adopted community-wide noise standards and policies prove impractical in controlling noise generated from a specific source, the City Council may establish a noise abatement program that recognizes the characteristics of the noise source and affected property and that incorporates specialized mitigation measures.

(b) Noise abatement programs shall set forth in detail the approved terms, conditions and requirements for achieving maximum compliance with noise standards and policies. Said terms, conditions and requirements may include, but shall not be limited to, limitations, restrictions, or prohibitions on operating hours, location of operations, and the types of equipment.

(§ 2, Ord. 2888, eff. March 6, 2008)