INFORMAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

No. 25-0041

To the Mayor and Members of the City Council

March 4, 2025





SUBJECT: PROPOSED NOISE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

The purpose of this report is to outline proposed amendments to the existing Noise Ordinance, Section 23-8 of the City Code of Ordinances, to better address concerns regarding excessive noise levels, particularly in the West 7th Urban Village, by adjusting permissible noise levels during specific hours, clarifying what noises are prohibited or may request a waiver and establishing clear enforcement penalties.

Restrictions on Decibel Levels

In response to repeated noise complaints, the first amendment would lower the maximum decibel levels in the West 7th Urban Village between 12:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. as follows:

Friday through Saturday

• Daytime: 7:00 am to 12:00 a.m.: 80 dBA (currently 2:00 a.m.)

• Nighttime: 12:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.: 70 dBA (currently 2:00 a.m.)

Noise Prohibited and Waivers

The second amendment would add a prohibition of using or causing the use of any device that creates any ground vibration that is perceptible without instruments at any point on or beyond the bounding real property line.

A waiver process is also proposed to the general prohibition for construction activity to allow such activity outside of the days and hours proscribed if there will be a benefit to the public or it is in the interest of public safety as determined by the City Manager or designee.

Enforcement and Penalties

Lastly, it is proposed to amend the penalty provision of the ordinance to establish a graduation of penalties to address habitual offenders and to add a civil penalty provision in accordance with Chapter 54 of the Texas Local Government Code.

If you have any questions please contact Melinda Ramos, Deputy City Attorney, at 817-392-7631 or Assistant Police Chief Robert Alldredge at 817-392-4131.

Jesus "Jay" Chapa City Manager

