

ATTACHMENT 4

POTENTIAL VARIATIONS TO POLICY OPTIONS

Based on the concerns and comments expressed by City Council during the November 9 legislative session and those expressed by the community, staff suggest the following potential variations to several policy options for Council consideration.

Option #2 - Expand the “Noise in public places - Central Business District” provisions to the entire City.

Variation: Council could consider limiting the noise in public places in the rest of the City to the more restrictive nighttime standard for the Central Business District, i.e., 65 dB(A) at 10 feet from the noise source or plainly audible at 50 feet from the noise source at all times. The intent is to provide further protection from noise in the rest of the City.

Option #5 - Remove the predominant use standard and adopt decibel standard based on the property use of the noise source.

Variation: If Council would like to keep the predominant use provision, staff recommends that the predominant use is defined as the property category that accounts for at least 75% of total property uses around 200 feet of the noise source. If this number is not attained, then the property use of the noise source shall apply in determining the maximum permissible noise limits.

Option #6 - Increase the daytime (7 am to 11 pm) decibel standard for commercial use to 65 decibels while maintaining the nighttime standard at 60 dB(A).

Variations: Council could consider (i) increasing the decibel standard to 65 dB(A) but reducing the daytime period to 7 am to 10 pm or 7am to 9 pm; or (ii) limiting its application to Central Business District only.

Option #7- Adopt the plainly audible standard in residential areas during the nighttime from 11 pm to 7 am.

Variation: Council could consider adopting the plainly audible standard but restricting its applicability to amplified play-back music, music instruments, television sound and small appliance use such as washer and dryer, vacuum cleaner. Staff feels that by limiting the standard to specific types of noise would greatly address the concern about uneven application of the standard.

This plainly audible standard is being used widely by jurisdictions around the country.