

Appendix C: Sample Noise Ordinance Language

Policy Option 13.1 suggests adopting a noise ordinance based on zoning districts. The following standards are included as an example of the type of language which could be included in a noise ordinance.

Noise. No use shall create ambient noise levels which exceed the following standards:

Maximum Noise Standards By Zoning District

<i>Zone of Property Receiving</i>	
Residential	60
Commercial	65
Office	65
Industrial	70
Public and Open Space	

1. *Duration and timing.* The noise standards above shall be modified as follows to account for the effects of time and duration on the impact of noise levels:
 - a. In residential zones, the noise standard shall be 5 dB lower between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., except during daylight savings time when the noise standard shall be lower from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.b. Noise that is produced for no more than a cumulative period of 5 minutes in any hour may exceed the standards above by 5 dB.
 - b. Noise that is produced for no more than a cumulative period of 1 minute in any hour may exceed the standards above by 10 dB.
2. *Planning Director may require acoustic study.* The Planning Director may require an acoustic study for any proposed projects that could have or create a noise exposure greater than that deemed acceptable. For any study required, noise shall be measured with a sound level meter, which meets the standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI Section S1.4-1979, Type 1 or Type 2). Noise levels shall be measured in decibels from the property line. The unit of measure shall be designated as dB. A calibration check shall be made of the instrument at the time any noise measurement is made.
3. *Noise attenuation measures.* The Planning Director may require the incorporation into a project of any noise attenuation measures deemed necessary to ensure that noise standards are not exceeded.

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