

Good morning. My name is MaryHelen Kincaid.

In April & May 2014 neighbors endured 7 weeks of impact hammer pile driving at the construction site of Block 17 in the North Pearl District.

Residents were suffering serious negative physical & psychological effects of the 100+ decibel noise.

Portland City Noise Code, Title 18 limits construction noise, but pile driving is exempt because of the belief that it is impossible to reduce the noise to meet the 85 decibel limit for construction equipment.

Over the years, Pearl District residents had come to believe that the use of the impact hammer pile driver was a necessary evil of high-rise construction and something they just had to endure.

Then neighbors did some research and learned that there is newer, quieter technology available such as the auger drill method.

They also researched the physical and psychological effects of exposure to loud noise. What they found was alarming.

On May 14, 2014 the group attended the monthly Noise Review Board meeting.

They presented the board with compelling evidence of the serious health hazards posed by this type of noise and shared information about the availability of newer, quieter methods to set foundation piles such as the auger drill.

While the Noise Review Board agreed that the noise was a "nuisance" they were skeptical and not very encouraging or supportive.

They told the group that any changes to the Noise Code, Title 18 would have to be approved by the City Council and advised the group to take their concerns there.

On June 25, 2014 members of the group appeared before City Council requesting Title 18 be amended to:

- Restrict the permissible hours of the day & days of the week for pile driving.
- Remove the exemption for pile driving, thereby requiring a Noise Variance Permit.
- Require the use of noise mitigation devices.

City Council called the presentation "impactful" and pledged their support.

Mayor Hales commented...and I quote...

"we'll continue to work with you both in the Noise Office and the Planning Bureau to figure out what the options are here and to move quickly enough that it will make a difference."

...that was four years ago.

Over the next three years the Noise Control Office and Noise Review Board held 17 public meetings where the issue of restricting pile driving was discussed.

On July 9, 2015 the Noise Control Office presented a proposal to City Council to amend Title 18 to reduce the permissible hours of the day & days of the week for pile driving.

From: 7 am – 6 pm, Monday through Saturday.

To: 8 am – 6 pm, Monday through Friday

The proposed code change was approved by City Council and became effective July 29, 2015.

Parsons, Susan

From: Mh Kincaid <jamasu88@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 4:46 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Cc: Mary Sipe
Subject: Public testimony on May2nd

Please assign me one of the 5 slots on May 2nd for public testimony on the Noise code. I am joining Mary Sipe.

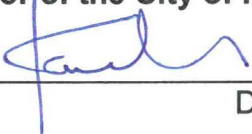
Thanks,

Maryhelen Kincaid

Request of Maryhelen Kincaid to address Council regarding noise code
(Communication)

Filed APR 24 2018

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By  Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		