

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Updating City Council on Noise Control Office. (Report)

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Presenter name: Paul van Orden

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The City of Portland/Office of Neighborhood Involvement Noise Control Program works to improve neighborhood livability by enforcing the city's noise regulations and issuing Noise Variances for events and activities that cause more noise than normally allowed. The program works to ensure that the livability of Portland communities is maintained.

The purpose of this report is to update City Council on the Noise Control Office

Financial and budgetary impacts:

This legislation has no financial and budgetary impacts.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The report is an update of the current state of affairs of the Noise Control Office. There are no community impacts, since there are no changes requested.



CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

Chloe Eudaly, Commissioner

Suk Rhee, Bureau Director

Noise Control Program

1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 110

Portland, Oregon 97204

Promoting a culture of civic engagement

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 22, 2017

TO: Portland City Council

FROM: Dave Austin, Deputy Chief of Staff,
Commissioner Eudaly's Office

SUBJECT: Updating City Council on the Noise Control Office

The Noise Control staff within the Office of Neighborhood Involvement will be offering a 15 minute Power Point program overview at the City Council meeting on Wednesday August 30th on the state of the Noise Office in its current configuration and staffing levels. The staff will be focusing on the three primary elements of Noise Control: the response to a broad spectrum of noise complaints city-wide with a single noise inspector; the administration of well over 600 noise variance permits by staff; and the success and recent challenges for the quasi-judicial Noise Review Board to administer large noise variance projects and to set the tone for proposed changes to Title 18 of the City code.

As the City grows and development patterns transform our urban landscape, the Noise Control staff are working to shift our response priorities to best administer services City-wide and respond to rapidly growing livability concerns. Noise control work in Portland is anticipated to become a growing concern as neighborhoods become more affluent. As the issue of noise pollution in a given sector of the City becomes a growing concern for the community, neighborhoods are also becoming more vocal about addressing the health concern through city leaders.

The presentation and broad overview are intended to give the City Council a quick update on current practices and priorities of Noise Control at the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. The Noise Office will be focused in the next several years on increasing its number of direct interactions with the public through its field inspections and through effective informal problem solving efforts that its technical staff undertake daily.

The Noise Office has also identified several opportunities for City-wide improvement to the growing human health issue of urban noise pollution. These improvements focus on better interagency coordination primarily with our colleagues in the Portland Police Bureau and the Bureau of Emergency Communication. Secondly, there is an opportunity for coordination with the public on the growing need for night time construction by our partner agencies, such as : the Bureau of Environmental Services, Oregon Department of Transportation, the Portland Water Bureau, and the Portland Bureau of Transportation.

The Noise Office has been making positive inroads with the Portland Parks Bureau to respond to and adapt to permitting needs in the body of public spaces for which the Parks Bureau staff has oversight. The cooperative approach with the Parks Bureau is one of the ongoing examples of interagency coordination that the Noise staff will use as a model for other cooperative solutions to our urban noise challenges.