

# Noise By-law Ad-Hoc Committee **AGENDA**

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For the **Second Meeting** of the Noise By-law Ad-Hoc Committee  
to receive **Public Input**  
regarding a new **Harmonized Noise By-law**  
to be held on **Thursday, August 6, 2009**  
in **Committee Room C-11, Tom Davies Square at 7:00 p.m.**

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## DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

### PRESENTATIONS

1. Brief Overview  
(**VERBAL PRESENTATION**)
  - Ron Swiddle, City Solicitor

### CORRESPONDENCE

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### PUBLIC INPUT

### NEXT MEETING

### ADJOURNMENT (RECOMMENDATION PREPARED)

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Councillor Caldarelli, Chair  
Councillor Callaghan  
Councillor Rivest

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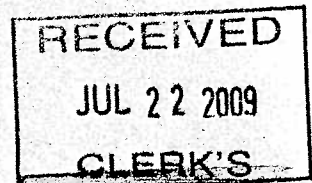
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R. Swiddle  
B. Gutjahr  
D. Brouse  
F. Elsner  
B. Bigger  
A. Haché

**Angie Haché**  
City Clerk

**Franca Bortolussi**  
Council Secretary

July 19/09

City Clerk,  
City of Greater Sudbury,  
P.O. Box, 5000, Ste A,  
Sudbury Ont. P3A5P3



Re: Harmonized Noise By-Law

Gentlemen:

With respect to the above proposed By-Law I would ask that your consideration be given to the horrible din caused by some motorcycles.

The way the traffic pattern has been allowed to develop on Atlee St. we are subject to a very heavy traffic pattern and have become a favourite route for many motorcycles in addition to the buses, trucks, waste management carriers etc. making for a very noisy neighbourhood.

Some motorcycles are very quiet but others must be specially rigged to make extra racket and when they go up or down the street any time of the day or night it is like having an airplane in your living room. The din in the cupboard rattles.

There is a 4 way stop at Atlee & Hawthorne and when the motorcycles stop at the sign they sit there and rev their motors until the way is clear and then they take off. If they are going south there is a slight grade and they really give it for that block til they come to the Gemmill stop. I can hear them roaring along Westmount to Barrydowne if I happen to have windows open. If they are going North from the Hawthorne stop they have a straight run to La Salle and they really let it rip.

I know motorcycles have every right to be on the

road but I would ask that some curb be placed on the equipment or the exhaust systems allowed on street bikes used in general traffic.

As I have already stated we are already subject to extremely heavy traffic for a residential neighborhood and I do believe some consideration should be given to reducing the aggravation of these inconsiderate riders.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elizabeth Johnson

**From:**  
**To:** <lisa.oldridge@greatersudbury.ca>  
**Date:** 7/20/2009 2:05 PM  
**Subject:** Harmonized Noise By-law

I would like to state that I am not bothered by the sound of my next door neighbour's grandchildren playing, although they are loud. I've heard that there are some cities where the sounds of exuberant children are banned. This is not right. I also don't have a problem with my neighbour in the back playing the Beach Boys while they are working in their yard and around their pool. They're not doing it to disturb me. In fact it sets up a sort of ambiance for the neighbourhood. Of course, they're not cranking the bass up.

I have another neighbour who has very loud outdoor parties. But you know, at 11 p.m. exactly the music is always turned right off. Every time. How could I complain about that??

Dogs barking? So long as it doesn't continue for more than a few minutes at a time I don't think it's a big deal. Dogs are great security and wonderful company. Of course a dog is going to bark if there is a trespasser in the middle of the night or a bear wanders into the yard! It's when it goes on and on and over and over that we need to be looking at doing something about it.

I DO have a problem with vehicles that roar down the roadway with stereos blasting. I do NOT want to feel the VIBRATIONS of noise, no matter the time of day. I think that anyone who needs a muffler repair shouldn't wait months to get it done, either. People who want to repair engines of any kind shouldn't do it at the crack of dawn or after dark. I'd have a big problem with a neighbour who insisted on routinely mowing their lawn at 6 a.m. These are the kinds of noise I think should be banned. Unnecessary noise.

Linda Makela

**From:** Sylvio  
**To:** <lisa.oldridge@greatersudbury.ca>  
**Date:** 7/21/2009 2:38 PM

In regard to this new city noise bylaw that you want to pass i hope you do that in order to protect the average person instead of the big truck owners. thank you. sylvio vachon.

**From:** "Fred Lammi"  
**To:** <lisa.aldridge@greatersudbury.ca>  
**Date:** 7/22/2009 6:59 PM  
**Subject:** Re new harmonized by-law

From Fred Lammi July 22-09

Re: new harmonized bylaw suggestions.

Above all , altered exhaust systems on any type of motorized vehicle.

All noise , music , partying etc no later than 10:00 PM 11:00 PM too late.

No music or unnecessary noise at any time of day loud enough to go over the property line .

**From:** Len Rivet  
**To:** <lisa.oldridge@greatersudbury.ca>  
**Date:** 7/26/2009 11:17 AM  
**Subject:** Noise By-law

Hi, here on Wellinhton Heights area, we are subject to noise from vehicle mufflers and sound systems from vehicles or homes that are one block away and we still feel the vibration on our windows or ears. Hopefully something is done about it. Thanks. Len



Lionel W. F. Rudd. C.E.T.

Ontario.

26<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.

City Clerk,  
City of Greater Sudbury,  
P.O. Box 5000, Station "A",  
Sudbury, P3A 5P3  
Ontario.

Noise Ad Hoc Committee,

**Re: Comments Regarding the new Harmonized By-law**

Noise can be roughly defined as any sound that is loud, unpleasant, unexpected, undesired and definitely unwanted. At the same time one person's symphony is another's torture. Unwanted noise can be most disturbing to many people, it disturbs their sleep, rest and peace of mind. Low frequency noise such as that which emanates from "boom boxes" (stationary and mobile) are very disturbing as there is literally no escape and such noise can even cause dwellings to reverberate. Such noise is more often "felt" rather than heard.

People who are infirm, incapacitated through illness or injury, elderly, immobile and of course the very young (babies) have no defense or escape. Yet their health and well being can be severely influenced by unnecessary and unwanted noise.

It is hoped that the City of Greater Sudbury enact a sufficiently effective universal Noise By-law to protect ALL citizens. There is a very definite need to control unwanted noise from stereo's (radios and ghetto blasters), backyard parties, noisy hobbies (model airplanes etc), noisy vehicles including dirt bikes, snowmobiles, and ATV's, power boats, vehicles travelling with noisy radios and "boom boxes", noisy machinery, barking dogs and livestock (we are only a heart beat away from allowing backyard chickens). Other noise can come from construction and building too. Special events like those that take place at Bell Park, and other public parks, generally produce a lot of noise. I can hear the odd so called music festival at my home which is almost 2 miles from Bell Park. Such noise is totally unacceptable.

It is generally accepted that people need to mow their lawns with power lawn mowers but this type of noise is infrequent and normally done at a time not thought to cause a problem.

From my understanding the current bylaw for the old City of Sudbury states in so many words that "anyone causing a noise that detracts from an individuals enjoyment of their property" is in violation of the noise by-law - 24 hours per day 7 days per week.

I feel that it is essential to pass a very strong by-law to protect innocent people from those who are so inconsiderate as to impose their noise on others. Without an effective Noise By-law we can expect extreme dissension between neighbours and those creating unwanted noise. People can be driven to distraction by unwanted noise, violence and extreme altercations have been known to ensue when an individual suffering the effects of noise has run out of legal options and cannot escape the offending noise.

Sincerely

Lionel W.F. Rudd. C.E.T.

**From:** Romaine Chappell  
**To:** <lisa.oldridge@greatersudbury.ca>  
**Date:** 7/28/2009 7:38 PM  
**Subject:** noise bylaw

As I will be out of town the week of your meeting;  
First what exactly IS a "harmonized" bylaw I wonder ????  
Exactly how many noise bylaws are there ???  
Will 'harmonizing' them make our city more peaceful??  
The biggest question that I have is this : WHO WILL ENFORCE THIS NEWLY HARMONIZED BYLAW  
???????????????????? this city needs MORE personnel to enforce ALL their bylaws.  
Could I be mistaken in my understanding that there is only ONE bylaw officer for our vast and far-flung  
area ??????

We, as residents, have our ears assaulted by many un-necessary cacophonies of sound, especially  
evenings and weekends. But we can do nothing about it except call the police...who I am sure have much  
more important things to do.

suggestion: employ some extra bylaw officers.....OR.....allow the volunteers in the COPS program to hand  
out warnings and report same to the bylaw officer who MUST follow up i.e. one warning ,then a fine for  
the second time and stiffer fines for subsequent infractions.

I am NOT suggesting that people who have a big family gathering or celebration should be fined (unless  
it's a weekly thing) I can live with that. I have a neighbour who plays the drums incessantly (no, he is not a  
teenager)with no rythm and spoils every peaceful solitude I seek in my garden; he is driving the  
neighbours nuts !! OH! and he lets his dog roam morn and night to defacate on other's lawns.

Sorry I cannot be there  
Romaine Chappell,

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Looking for the perfect gift? Give the gift of Flickr!

**From:**  
**To:** <lisa.oldridge@greatersudbury.ca>  
**Date:** 7/29/2009 6:57 AM  
**Subject:** New harmonized Noise By-law

We would like to submit that the "Harmonized Noise By-law take note of the loud engine brakes used on Transport trucks.

Right now there is a sign posted across from the Tasse' dealership on Regent St S in this city.

We live on Henri St., just south of the OPP station on Hwy 69 S. We hear the loud engine brakes at all times of the day and night-even to the point of being wakened up. We cannot have our windows open for this reason. It's a little too much to take. With the steadily increasing traffic it is becoming very annoying and getting increasingly worse.

We are suggesting that the city do the following.'

1) Incorporate a by law prohibiting the use of engine brakes in the city(Very common in other communities)

2)Probably not a part of the by laws)--Install warning flashing orange lights for BOTH north and south bound traffic which alerts drivers when the light at the bottom on the hil at the OPP entrance are turning red. A similar system is in use on HWY 17 at Arnprior.

The noise from the engine brakes does not emanate solely from that particular light, it also comes from the South By pass lights at the top of the hill.

Due to the topography, the noise seems to be increased by bouncing off the north side of our valley, directly on to the residents of our sub-division.

Theresa Sevigny/Max Sevigny

July 29th/2009 6:53 am

**From:** "colleen carty"  
**To:** <lisa.oldridge@greatersudbury.ca>  
**Date:** 7/29/2009 8:41 AM  
**Subject:** New Harmonized Noise By-law

We would like to submit that the Harmonized Noise By-law take note of the loud engine noise generated by Transport trucks when travelling Highway 69 South in the "Little Queen's Park " area. We have recently moved to Sudbury, and are amazed and concerned about the noise and safety of the general public generated by the heavy traffic on this stretch of road.

This issue has been created by a traffic light installed at the entrance to Little Queen's Park at the base of a steep hill.

At the present time, only a faded traffic sign for west-bound traffic about 3 kilometers closer to the Southridge Mall requesting non-use of engine brakes exists. We can attest to the change in our environment since this area was where my family was raised.

We live on Henri St., just east of this traffic light, and hear the loud engine noise as well as the noise created by these trucks at all hours of the day and night- even to the point of being wakened up. We cannot leave our windows open for this reason. It's a little too much to take. With the steadily increasing traffic, it is becoming very annoying and is increasingly worse.

We are requesting that the City take the following actions:

1) Incorporate a by-law prohibiting the use of engine brakes in the community (a very common one in other communities).

2) (Probably not a part of the by-laws)-Install warning flashing orange lights for both north and south bound traffic which alerts drivers when the lights at the OPP entrance are turning red. A similar system is in use on Hwy. 17 at Arnprior and is very effective. We personally appreciated this even though we drove only domestic vehicles (trailers, campers, vans, trucks) and felt much safer on the road.

The noise from engine brakes does not emanate solely from that particuolar light; it also comes from the South By-pass lights at the top of the hill.

Due to the topography, the noise seems to be increased by bouncing off the west side of our valley and directly on to the residents of our subdivision.

Also, if our city has any influence on the calendar for constructing the proposed by-pass relocation from Hwy. 69 to Hwy. 17 earlier than the now proposed date of 2020, we feel that it would greatly enhance this beautiful entrance to our city, as well as making it a much safer road. It is becoming increasingly moure dangerous to access 69 Sout- our only way to get into the city proper.

Sincerely,  
Colleen Carty,

**From:**  
**To:** <lisa.oldridge@greatersudbury.ca>  
**Date:** 7/29/2009 11:18 AM  
**Subject:** harmonizing noise by-law

To: Noise By-law Ad Hoc Committee  
From: Ms. Deborah Sheehan and Ms. Donna Stanley  
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2009

Re: Harmonizing Noise By-Laws

We have been residents of Henri Street for some 12 years now and we have watched as the volume of traffic has steady increased on Highway 69 South. On numerous occasions we have discussed our safety concerns regarding the traffic in this area with Counsellor Doug Craig. To date, no actions have been taken by the city to address these concerns.

The problem, as residents in the Richard Lake and McFarlane Lake area can attest to, is that the speed at which traffic flows along this stretch of highway is not appropriate given the residential nature of this area. The posted speed limit is 90 km/hr through this valley and traffic regularly seems to exceed that limit. We can only anticipate that this problem will be amplified once the four laning of highway 69 is completed. Adding to the dangers is the lack of a center turning lane and the short exit lanes to access residential streets along this highway. Vehicles travelling at these speeds may be required to stop for local traffic attempting to turn onto these streets and also for traffic lights adjacent to the OPP station. Specifically, we note that there is no warning system to alert drivers to these traffic lights changing and all too frequently transports travelling at these speeds are using engine brakes to stop at this intersection (if they stop at all). The noise from these brakes reverberates throughout our neighbourhoods at all times of the day and night all year. This is unacceptable and must be stopped.

To begin to respond to our concerns, we would like to propose that the Noise By-law Ad Hoc Committee address the issue of noise by:

- 1) 1) decreasing the speed limit in this part of the city,  
22  
12)
- 2) 2) banning the use of engine brakes by transport trucks throughout the Greater City of Sudbury.

We look forward to having our concerns addressed by this committee and hope that new rules will be implemented and enforced in the near future.

To: Noise By-law Ad Hoc Committee

From: Ms. Patricia Tobin and Ms. Patricia Christopher

Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2009

Re: Harmonizing Noise By-Laws

We have been residents of Henri Street for some 20 years now and we have watched as the volume of traffic has steady increased on Highway 69 South. On numerous occasions we have discussed our safety concerns regarding the traffic in this area with Counsellor Doug Craig. To date, no actions have been taken by the city to address these concerns.

The problem, as residents in the Richard Lake and McFarlane Lake area can attest to, is that the speed at which traffic flows along this stretch of highway is not appropriate given the residential nature of this area. The posted speed limit is 90 km/hr through this valley and traffic regularly seems to exceed that limit. We can only anticipate that this problem will be amplified once the four laning of highway 69 is completed. Adding to the dangers is the lack of a center turning lane and the short exit lanes to access residential streets along this highway. Vehicles travelling at these speeds may be required to stop for local traffic attempting to turn onto these streets and also for traffic lights adjacent to the OPP station. Specifically, we note that there is no warning system to alert drivers to these traffic lights changing and all too frequently transports travelling at these speeds are using engine brakes to stop at this intersection (if they stop at all). The noise from these brakes reverberates throughout our neighbourhoods at all times of the day and night all year. This is unacceptable and must be stopped.

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- 1) decreasing the speed limit in this part of the city,
- 2) banning the use of engine brakes by transport trucks throughout the Greater City of Sudbury.

We look forward to having our concerns addressed by this committee and hope that new rules will be implemented and enforced in the near future.