



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

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21 MAR 15 PM 1:42

TO: Mayor and City Council  
FROM: Roberto C. Treviño, District 1 City Councilman; Clayton Perry, District 10 City Councilman  
COPIES TO: Erik Walsh, City Manager; Tina Flores, City Clerk; Andy Segovia, City Attorney; John Peterek, Assistant to the City Manager; Emily McGinn, Assistant to City Council  
SUBJECT: Creation of a Noise Ordinance Task Force  
DATE: March 15, 2021

**Issue Proposed for Consideration:**

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda of the earliest available meeting of the Culture & Neighborhood Services Committee:

A policy requesting the creation of a Noise Ordinance Task Force to complete a review of the *Noise Ordinance Chapter 21 Article III* of the *City of San Antonio Code* and make recommendations on areas to include, but not limited to:

- Noise thresholds (dB levels)
- Hours specifying dB thresholds
- Hours of enforcement
- Enforcement entities and processes
- Low frequency noise (e.g. bass and sub-bass frequencies)
- Vibration
- Penalties
- "Entertainment zones," zoning overlays, and other provisions which may govern noise in and near residential (planning)

**Brief Background:**

The availability of food, beverage, and/or entertainment businesses near neighborhoods has had a positive cultural impact as well as stabilized residential property values. It has also presented unique challenges that affect residents' quality of life. This has led to a less than harmonious relationship between neighborhoods like King William, Oak Park - Northwood, and Tobin Hill and abutting food/beverage/entertainment business.

The intent of this policy is to determine how the Noise Ordinance can be adjusted so it is easy to understand and enforce, and so residents can have peaceful and quiet enjoyment of their home without having to resort to filing a complaint on their commercial neighbors.



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This will be accomplished with the creation of a fifteen-member task force consisting of residential and commercial parties and appropriate entities like SAPD, Code Enforcement, and the City Attorney's Office. The fifteen-member task force would be comprised of the following:

- Three (3) neighborhood specific appointments
  - Oak Park - Northwood
  - King William
  - Tobin Hill
- Five (5) general neighborhood appointments – one made by each member of the Culture & Neighborhood Services Committee (Districts 1, 2, 3, 9, and 10).
- One appointee from the North St. Mary's Business Association
  - E.g. Blayne Tucker
- One appointee from San Antonio Restaurant Association
  - E.g. Dawn Larios
- Two (2) appointees from the Food/Beverage Industry
  - Slot 1 (E.g. Jodie Newman)
  - Slot 2 (E.g. Jeret Peña)
- One officer from the San Antonio Police Department (e.g. an officer who has experience working with Code Enforcement on noise abatement)
- One officer from Code Enforcement (e.g. an officer who has experience working with SAPD noise on abatement)
- One attorney from the City Attorney's Office

The bulleted list in the "Issue" section outlines the scope of the Task Force's charge, which includes determining who enforces the ordinance and how as well as locations in which stricter standards should apply.

Once formed, the Noise Ordinance Task Force should take no more than ninety (90) days to meet (virtually or safely in person), review the current ordinance, and provide and present recommendations on adjustments to the Culture & Neighborhood Services Committee.

Staff is directed to begin compiling data related to commercial noise complaints for each district, including commercial locations with a large volume of noise complaints and the frequency of calls for service.

Submitted for Council consideration by:

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District

Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures (3 only)

1.  7
2.  8
3. John Courage 9