

Noise Regulation and Prohibition Bylaw Review & Consolidation Project

Electoral Area “C”, “D”, “E”, “F”, “H” & “I”

Noise Bylaw Review & Consolidation

Review Context:

- Consolidate the five (5) current “Noise Bylaws” into a single, updated bylaw;
- New exemptions criteria related to construction (previously discussed at P&D Committee); and
- Consider inclusion of decibels as a measurement criteria

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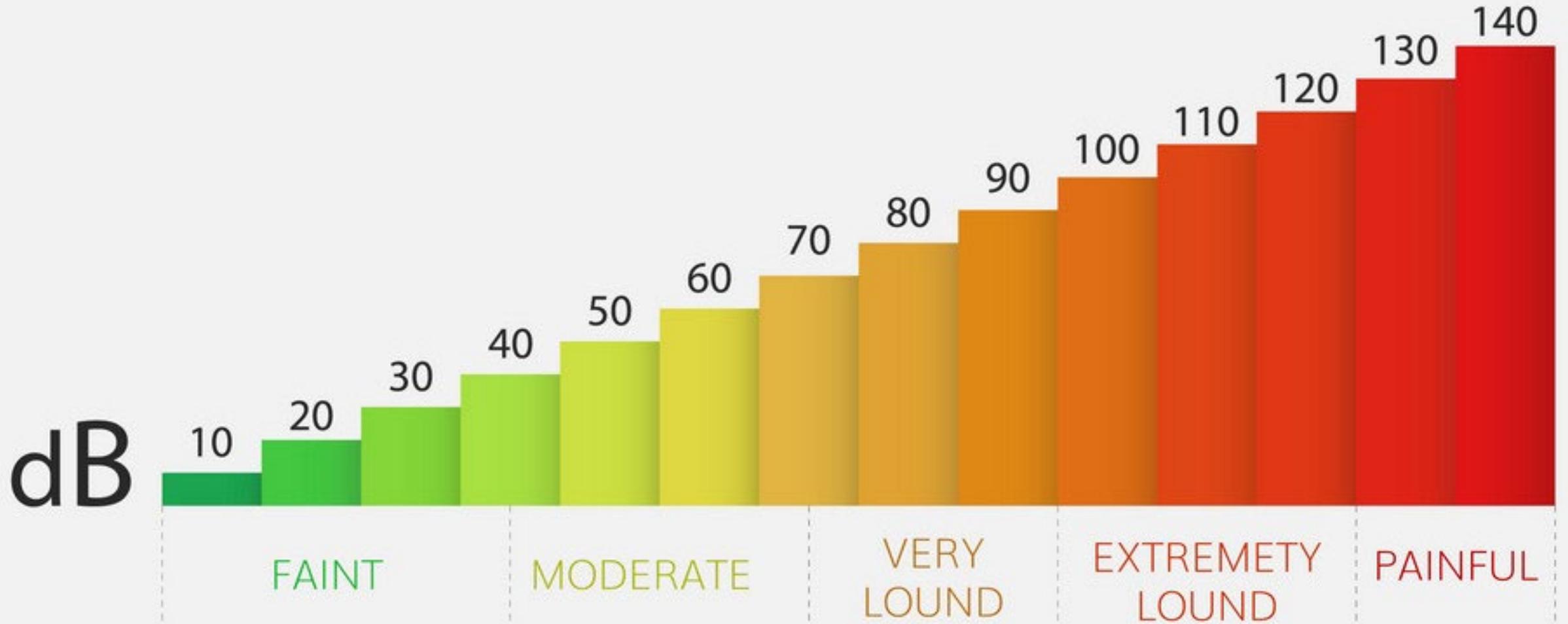
Noise control bylaws and decibels:

- Use of decibels in a noise control bylaw is considered to be “objective” criteria.
- The use of unquantifiable sound measurements in a noise control bylaw is considered to be “subjective” criteria.
- All of the member municipalities have currently adopted “subjective” noise control bylaws.
- The Regional District has no experience with the administration of an “objective” noise control bylaw.

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Decibels

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Worksafe BC Guidelines for Decibel Levels:

- 30-40 dBA quiet pleasant sounds;
- 40-50 dBA quiet normal office sounds;
- 50-60 dBA normal conversation;
- 70-90 dBA heavy machinery, electric motors;
- 100-120 dBA power saw, rex planer, motorcycle; and
- 140+ dBA jet engine, gunshot (this level causes pain).

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Decibel Examples:

Planning Department

- 44.1 dBA (approx.)

WorkSafe BC band:

- 40-50 dBA quiet normal office sounds.



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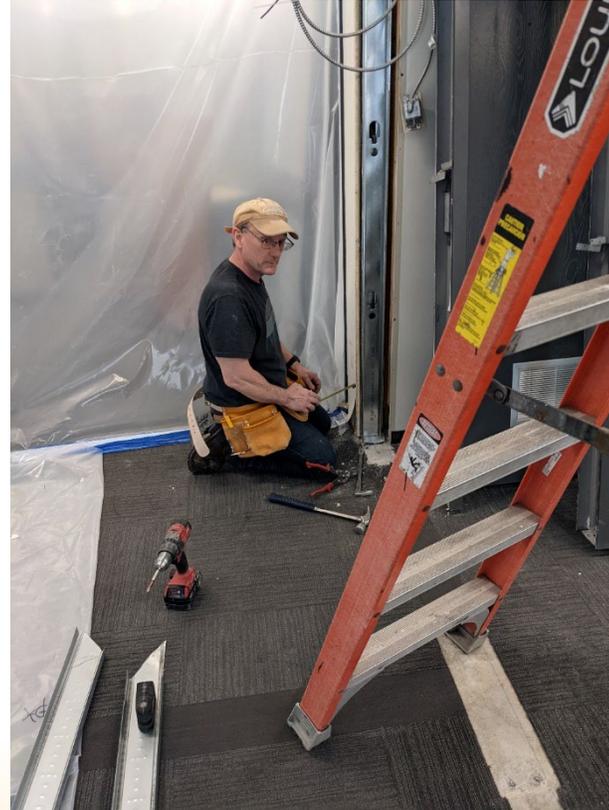
Decibel Examples:

RDOS Office renovation

- 76.1 dBA (approx.)

WorkSafe BC band:

- 70-90 dBA heavy machinery, electric motors.



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Decibel Examples:

Loading of materials

- 77.4 dBA (approx.)

WorkSafe BC band:

- 70-90 dBA heavy machinery, electric motors.



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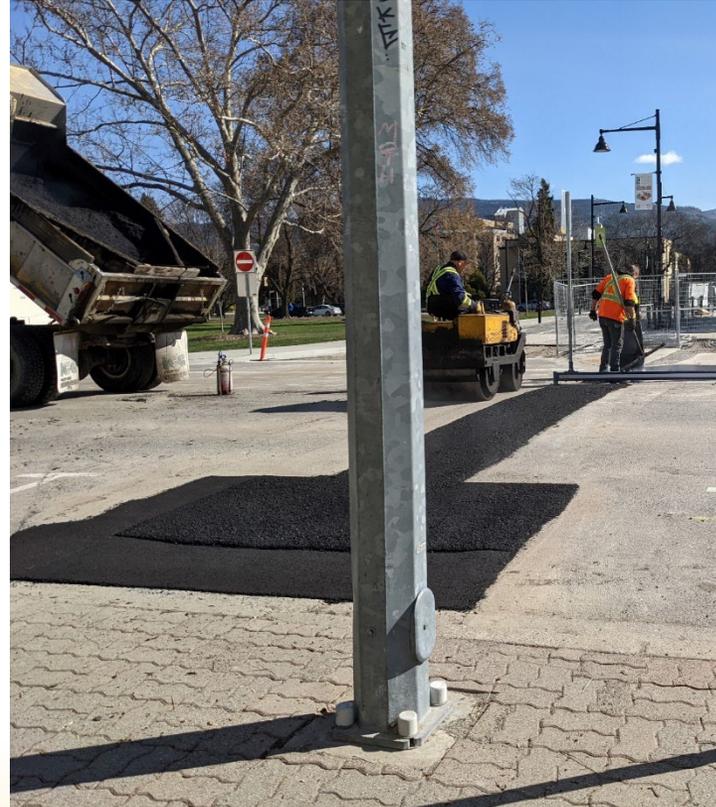
Decibel Examples:

Blacktop paving

- 85.1 dBA (approx.)

WorkSafe BC band:

- 70-90 dBA heavy machinery, electric motors.



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Decibel Examples:

Depositing aggregate

- 85.2 dBA (approx.)

WorkSafe BC band:

- 70-90 dBA heavy machinery, electric motors.

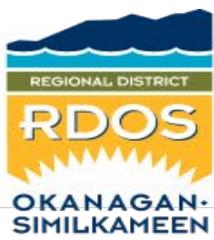


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Other Local Government Standards:

Zones	Day	Night
Residential	55 dBA	45 dBA
Residential/Commercial	60 dBA	55 dBA
Industrial	65 dBA 70 dBA (when bordering other industrial areas)	60 dBA 70 dBA (when bordering other industrial areas)

Summary review completed by Abbotsford (2017)



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Bylaw No. 2931 Revisions

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“Daytime” means:

- (a) from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on a week day or Saturday; and
- (b) from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on a Holiday.

“Quiet District” means those areas within an electoral area that are not otherwise **zoned Commercial or Industrial** in an applicable electoral area zoning bylaw;

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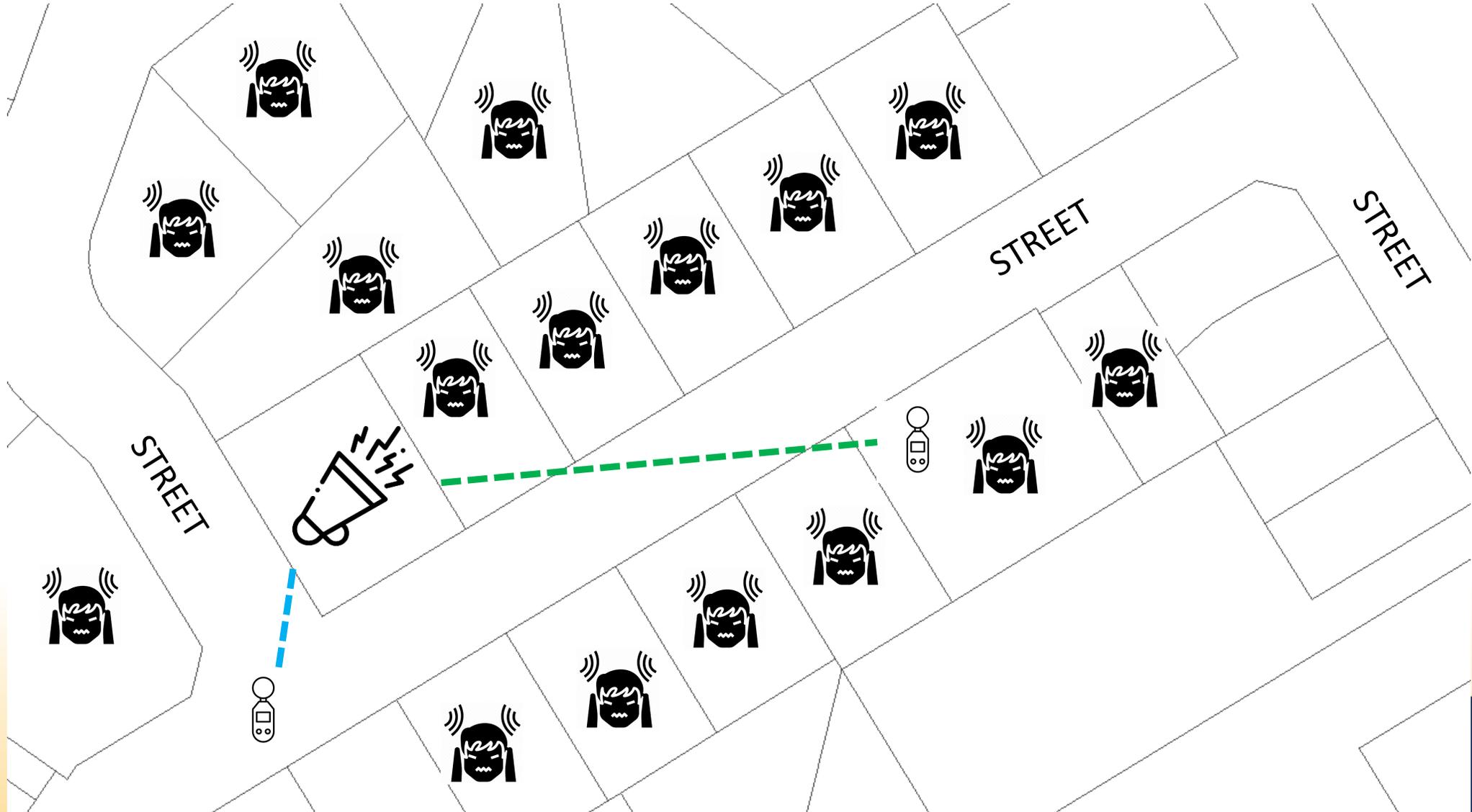
Proposed Decibel Sound Levels:

NOISE SOURCE	NOISE RECEIVER			
	Quiet District		Activity District	
	Daytime	Nighttime	Daytime	Nighttime
Quiet District	55 dBA <u>~~~~~</u>	45 dBA <u>~~~~~</u>	60 dBA <u>~~~~~</u>	60 dBA <u>~~~~~</u>
Activity District	60 dBA <u>~~~~~</u>	55 dBA <u>~~~~~</u>	70 dBA <u>~~~~~</u>	70 dBA <u>~~~~~</u>

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within the
property
line of
recipient.

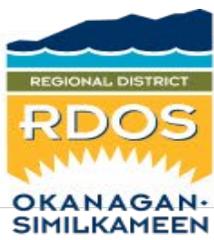
within 6m
of the
emanating
property.



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“Disturbing Sound”:

- To be applied when it is not practical to obtain a decibel measurement.
- Speaks to sounds “which disturbs or tends to disturb the quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort or convenience of persons in the neighborhood or vicinity.”



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Summary

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- A decibel based bylaw allows for a more quantifiable measurement of noise;
- The Regional District has no experience with a decibel based bylaws so staff training will be required;
- Sound measurement equipment will need to be acquired to enable the measurement of decibels;
- Start-up costs are estimated to be \$10,000, with on-going training and maintenance costs.

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Summary:

- The option of not pursuing a decibel based bylaw remains available to the Board;

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QUESTIONS?