

## Dan Jonasson

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**From:** Josh Wolsky  
**Sent:** Friday, September 06, 2019 11:46 AM  
**To:** Tom Barry; Jason Olson; Kelly Hendershot; Dan Jonasson; Jason Sorenson; Lance Meyer; Brian Billingsley  
**Cc:** Shaun Sipma; Stephan Podrygula  
**Subject:** Construction Activity Nuisances

Hello Everyone:

This note is intended to trigger a formal action/recommendation/response from any and all appropriate arms of the City.

For the third time this summer, I have dealt with issues/complaints related to construction noise and activity outside of what can be considered reasonable working hours.

This morning, I visited the property at 121 10th St. NW. SWIF work is taking place to the South of this residence on a storm sewer discharge line. Currently, there are four diesel generators there running. According to the property owner, they have been running constantly in some degree -- including through the nights -- for at least a couple weeks. I stood in the backyard for a couple of minutes and was immediately feeling sick from the fumes so it not only noise that we need to consider a nuisance.

Earlier this summer (months ago I believe) I mentioned to Dan and Jason that there was generator powering a de-watering pump running constantly at this location. This was my first incident related to construction noise and nuisance.

The second is connected to contacts with Mitch Holbach. Many of you are familiar with those circumstances so I won't revisit them at length only to say that at least two of his very-heated City Hall visits were related to construction noise at inappropriate times.

Clearly, this is an issue that is grating on citizens in our community, and while these complaints might seem to be superficial and short-lived and thus easy to dismiss, the manner in which these frustrations are expressing themselves (driving people crazy) are far more significant. This is not an issue we should take lightly. And with more and more construction inevitable in the coming years, it is my opinion that we must address these practices through internal policy, ordinance, penalty, and contract specifications.

There are other ways to get this work done. There are assurances in permitting work by outside and private contractors that we can secure.

I will be adding this is a discussion item to the first regularly scheduled October meeting, I would appreciate a staff report on findings and recommendations at that time.

Also, I have requested that the property owner at 10th St. NW submit a complaint tracker through the City website so this issue can be tracked.

Respectfully,

## ***Decibel Level Comparison Chart***

<b>Environmental Noise</b>	<b><i>dB</i>A</b>
Jet engine at 100'	140
<b>Pain Begins</b>	<i>125</i>
Pneumatic chipper at ear	120
Chain saw at 3'	110
Power mower	107
Subway train at 200'	95
Walkman on 5/10	94
<i>Level at which sustained exposure may result in hearing loss</i>	<i>80-90</i>
City Traffic	85
Telephone dial tone	80
Chamber music, in a small auditorium	75-85
Vacuum cleaner	75
Normal conversation	60-70
Business Office	60-65
Household refrigerator	55
Suburban area at night	40
Whisper	25
Quiet natural area with no wind	20
Threshold of hearing	0

Note: dBA = Decibels, A weighted