

Dear Austin City Staff:

We are writing to indicate what the Austin hotel and lodging industry would respectfully ask to be included in the proposed redraft of the Austin noise ordinance. Our goal is to achieve a reasonable compromise on the regulations and enforcement contained in any future ordinance. To achieve this result, we would suggest the inclusion of the following items:

- Allow for DBC-weighted measurements (with reasonable decibel levels). The adopted
 threshold should ensure that existing and future music venues have a reasonable
 opportunity to operate and also ensure that other businesses and residences within the
 sound path will be able to operate in a reasonable manner and have enjoyment of their
 properties.
- Vibration provisions should apply to music establishments and not just vehicles and watercraft.
- Allow enforcement officers to measure sound from within a complainant's property or by some other equally or more effective mechanism.
- Allow submission of compliance plans for noise violators in exchange for a limited grace period of warnings instead of citations.
- Sound measuring equipment must be made available to enforcement officers that is sufficient to provide DBC-measurements. The field enforcement personnel need the tools to accurately and fairly accomplish these measurements.
- When the burden of compliance is on an offending business, the ordinance needs to
 include some type of automatic "pull the plug" enforcement mechanism that can be
 implemented after reasonable notice and grace periods have expired.

We hope that the above suggested provisions are helpful in achieving a mutually beneficial ordinance to address this vital issue.

Sincerely,

Brian Sullivan Denise Eisman
Deputy General Counsel President

Texas Hotel & Lodging Assn. Austin Hotel & Lodging Assn.