
To: Mr. Arnaldo Mercado, Sr.
Environmental Programs Administrator

Cc:

From: Tetra Tech, Grove Scientific & Engineering

Date: March 15, 2024

Subject: Task 1 – Evaluation of Sound Level Limits and Plainly Audible Standard;
Task 2 – Comparative Analysis of Noise Ordinances-Overview

Task 1 – Assessment of the Current Noise Ordinance

Tetra Tech and Grove Scientific & Engineering (GSE) were tasked with assessing the current Orange County, FL noise ordinance, as outlined in Chapter 15, Article V of the Code of Ordinances, Noise Pollution Control. Tetra Tech and GSE (The Team) have compared these limits with nationally recognized standards and best practices. The Team reviewed the application of the plainly audible standard for noise determination and the distances specified for residential and non-residential areas, as well as examined the use of others' personal hearing abilities to enforce the plainly audible standard and its potential subjectivity. The Team's findings have been summarized in this memorandum.

Orange County Noise Ordinance (Last Updated June 24, 2014)

Orange County's current noise ordinance defines "plainly audible" as the following:

Plainly audible shall mean any noise or noise disturbance produced by any source, or reproduced by a radio, tape player, television, CD player, electronic audio equipment, musical instrument, sound amplifier or other mechanical or electronic sound making device that can be clearly heard by a person using his/her normal hearing faculties, at a distance as defined in subsection 15-183 (b)(1) (See Table 2 below) from the property line or right-of-way line of the source of the noise disturbance. When the particular sound or noise involves words or phrases, sound or noise may be deemed as "clearly heard" even though the investigating officer cannot determine the specific words or phrases being uttered or produced. The detection of a rhythmic bass reverberating type of noise disturbance is sufficient to constitute a plainly audible sound or noise.

Based on our review of comparable noise ordinance's Plainly Audible definitions, the Orange County definition should be updated to consider current noise generating equipment, simplified to make it more of a "nuisance" decision by the Officer and to make the measurement distances less ambiguous, and thus more enforceable. Our recommendations to revise this definition will be presented in Phase 2 of the project.

Orange County's current noise ordinance outlines the maximum permissible sound levels; land use categories; times; and measurement descriptors are summarized in Table 1 below a sound level meter.

Table 1: Maximum Allowable Sound Level Limits

Land Use Category	Measurement	Time of Day	Sound Level Limit (dBA)
Noise Sensitive Zone*	Time Averaged	Anytime	55 dB
	Impulsive	7:00am – 10:00pm	60 dB
	Impulsive	10:01pm – 6:59am	Not allowed
Residential Area	Time Averaged	7:00am – 10:00pm	60 dB
	Time Averaged	10:01pm – 6:59am	55 dB
	Impulsive	7:00am – 10:00pm	65 dB
	Impulsive	10:01pm – 6:59am	Not allowed

*Noise-sensitive zones include schools, public libraries, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, and other areas defined as such pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

Table 1 displays the maximum allowable sound level limits for noise sensitive zones and residential areas. Orange County’s current noise ordinance does not specifically address other land use categories (such as industrial, commercial, etc.) for maximum allowable sound level limits using a sound level meter. Based on our review of comparable ordinances, such as City of Orlando and Jacksonville, noise limits will be recommended for a broader range of land uses in Phase 2. Noise limits will also be recommended for Special zoning districts, stadiums and event venues, as identified by the County.

Orange County’s current noise ordinance also outlines the distance requirements of sound that is plainly audible in underlying land use categories and times as summarized in Table 2 as an assessment of noise without the use of a sound level meter.

Table 2: Plainly Audible Sound Level Limits

Underlying Land Use Category (from which noise emanates)	Time of Day	Distance
Residential Area	7:00am – 10:00pm	500 feet or more
	10:01pm – 6:59am	150 feet or more
Nonresidential Area	7:00am – 10:00pm	500 feet or more
	10:01pm – 6:59am	300 feet or more

We will recommend revising this Table with additional land uses and to refine the sound measurement distances, which appear to be excessive, based on stakeholder and Officer enforcement input in Phase 2.

The recommended increased land use categories in the noise limit Tables should increase the focus on controlling noise from commercial or industrial developments close to residential uses. Development review policy and potential zoning ordinance revisions to focus on additional buffers, barriers, and setbacks from anticipated noise generating uses will be recommended in Phase 2.

Nationally Recognized Standards and Best Practices

In 1975, the U.S. EPA developed a performance-standard model noise ordinance which was intended to be a basic tool for the use by communities of various sizes in the development of noise control ordinances tailored to their specific local conditions and goals. In 2019, the Noise Pollution Clearinghouse (NPC), a national non-profit organization with extensive online noise related resources, revised the EPA's Model Noise Ordinance as an effort to bring noise regulation into the 21st century. The plainly audible definition in the NPC model ordinance:

Radios, Television Sets, Musical Instruments and, Similar Devices

Operating, playing or permitting the operation or playing of any radio, television, phonograph, drum, musical instrument, sound amplifier, personal sound system, vehicular sound system, or similar device which produces, reproduces, or amplifies sound:

(a) Between the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. the following day in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 50 feet or more in any direction from the device or 50 feet or more from a real property boundary if on private property. [Except for activities open to the public and for which a permit has been issued by (appropriate authority) according to criteria set forth in];

(b) Between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. the following day in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 100 feet or more in any direction from the device or 100 feet or more from a real property boundary if on private property [Except for activities open to the public and for which a permit has been issued by (appropriate authority) according to criteria set forth in];

(c) In such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 100 feet or more in any direction from such device, when operated in or on a motor vehicle on a public right-of-way or public space, or in a boat on public waters, or;

(d) In such a manner as to be plainly audible to any person other than the operator of the device, when operated by any passenger on a common carrier.

Comparing this model to the County's current plainly audible measurement distances points out the noise tolerance of the County's ordinance.

Task 2- Noise Ordinance Comparison Table

We compared the Orange County noise ordinance with seven (7) local and similar sized Florida communities, see attached Table. Although the information and details from the varying noise ordinances speak for themselves, we offer the following observations on the comparison:

- The County's ordinance is lacking noise limits from sources within the varying land uses;
- Plainly Audible noise measurement distances can be refined, and the definition simplified to ease enforcement;
- Sound level meter definition needs updating.
- Special zoning districts, stadiums, and event venues need to be defined by the County and added noise limits accordingly;
- Special districts need to be identified by the County, if any, and related noise limits added to the ordinance;
- We are assuming that airport noise zones and vehicle noise limits, regulated by other laws, are not to be considered within the County ordinance;
- Lawn, or other property maintenance, noise generating equipment limits should be added to the ordinance.

Again, the Phase 2 tasks will present a proposed draft ordinance utilizing the best language from the reviewed ordinances.

Noise Ordinance Items	Orange County ¹	City of Orlando ²	Seminole County ³	Hillsborough County ⁴	City of Gainesville ⁵	City of Jacksonville ⁶	U.S. EPA Model Noise Ordinance ⁷	City of Winter Park ⁸	
Limits based on the "source"	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	
Limits based on the "receiving area"	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	
Noise Limit for Residential - Day time as Receiving area	7am to 10pm 60 dB	N/A	7am to 11pm 60 dB	7am to 10pm 60 dB	N/A	7am to 10pm 55-65 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	7am to 10pm 55 dBA	N/A	
Noise Limit for Residential - Night time as Receiving area	10:01pm to 6:59am 55 dB	N/A	11pm to 7am 55 dB	10pm to 7am 55 dB	N/A	10pm to 7am 55-60 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	10pm to 7am 50 dBA	N/A	
Noise Limit for Industrial - Day time as Receiving area	7am to 10pm 60 dB	N/A	All times 75 dB	All times 70 dB	N/A	All times 70 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	All times 65 dBA	N/A	
Noise Limit for Industrial - Night time as Receiving area	10:01pm to 6:59am 55 dB	N/A	All times 75 dB	All times 70 dB	N/A	All times 70 dBA (depending if from Class I, B, C, N land)	All times 65 dBA	N/A	
Noise Limit for Commercial - Day time as Receiving area	7am to 10pm 60 dB	N/A	7am to 11pm 65 dB	All times 65 dB	N/A	All times 60-65 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	All times 60 dB	N/A	
Noise Limit for Commercial - Night time as Receiving area	10:01pm to 6:59am 55 dB	N/A	11pm to 7am 60 dB	All times 60 dB	N/A	All times 60-65 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	All times 60 dB	N/A	
Noise Limit for Residential - Day time as Source	N/A	7am to 10pm 60 dB	N/A	N/A	8am to 10pm 61 dB	7am to 10pm 55-65 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	N/A	N/A	
Noise Limit for Residential - Night time as Source	N/A	10pm to 7am 55 dB	N/A	N/A	10pm to 8am 55 dB	10pm to 7am 55-60 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	N/A	N/A	
Noise Limit for Industrial - Day time as Source	N/A	7am to 10pm 75 dB	N/A	N/A	N/A	All times 70 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	N/A	N/A	
Noise Limit for Industrial - Night time as Source	N/A	10pm to 7am 75 dB	N/A	N/A	N/A	All times 70 dBA (depending if from Class I, B, C, N land)	N/A	N/A	
Noise Limit for Commercial - Day time as Source	N/A	7am to 10pm 70 dB	N/A	N/A	8am to 10pm 66 dB	All times 60-65 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	N/A	N/A	
Noise Limit for Commercial - Night time as Source	N/A	10pm to 7am 65 dB	N/A	N/A	10pm to 8am 60 dB	All times 60-65 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)	N/A	N/A	
Construction Noise Exemption	7am to 10pm	7am to 9pm (Monday to Saturday)	7am to 11pm	6am to 8:30pm	Not allowed between 9pm to 6am if noise creates a disturbance across a real property boundary, excluding emergency work	7am to 10pm 65-75 dBA (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land) 10pm to 7am 60 dBA	8am to 8pm, prohibited if plainly audible 8pm to 8am excluding emergency work.	Prohibited - Construction activities, piledrivers, hammers, etc. The operation between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on Monday through Friday, and from 8:00 p.m. on Friday to 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning.	
Construction - Concrete pours procedures at night time	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	City of Jacksonville has issued a development permit, where no construction equipment will be operated before 3:00 a.m. and within 150 meters (if 5 acres or more, 250 meters) of any Class A or B land that contains a building that is or can be occupied during nighttime hours	N/A	May be authorized by City Manager depending on certain criteria.	
Other exemptions	Lawn maintenance activities, from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.; Railway locomotives or cars activity conducted in accordance with federal laws and regulations; Church or clock carillons, bells or chimes from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.; Aircraft and airport activity conducted in accordance with federal laws and regulations; Law enforcement activities, including training; Emergency signals during emergencies; Emergency signal testing between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Emergency work or emergency service; Generators used during or as a result of an emergency; Motor vehicles operating on a public right-of-way subject to F.S. § 316.293 and applicable federal criteria; Refuse collection vehicles, including street sweepers, while in the process of performing their intended activities; Scheduled organized activities at a publicly-owned or operated facility; The supervised public display of fireworks by fair associations, amusement parks, and other organizations or groups of individuals or other lawful use of fireworks; Any motor vehicle engaged in a professional or amateur sanctioned, competitive sports event for which admission or entry fee is charged, or practice or time trials for such event, at a facility being used for such purposes as of October 15, 1995; and Outdoor events for which the organizer has been issued a special outdoor event permit by Orange County, provided it is conducted in accordance with such permit.	Noises from safety signals, emergency equipment and vehicles, warning devices and emergency pressure release valves and law enforcement activities, including training. Noises from motor vehicles such as automobiles, trucks, airplanes, motorcycles, and railroads which are regulated by state and federal law. Ordinary domestic noises provided such noises comply with the requirements of Chart 1.	Railway locomotives or cars. Aircraft and airport activity conducted in accordance with federal laws and regulations. Maintenance of public service facilities. Law enforcement and public safety activities, including training. Motor Vehicles operating on a public right of way subject to Section 316.293, Florida Statutes, as this statute may be amended from time to time. Operation of any regulated utility. Events permitted under Section 30.1378, Seminole County Land Development Code, concerning special event permits or under Chapter 158, Seminole County Code concerning motion pictures, as these ordinances may be amended from time to time. Public works projects contracted for or by a governmental agency. Activities sponsored or related to the operation of general education institutions on property owned or under the control of the institution. Holders of solid waste franchises and any solid waste collection performed by Seminole County or any municipality within Seminole County. Emergency power generators.	Sirens, whistles, bells or alarms lawfully used by emergency vehicles or emergency providers, or sounds associated with the normal operation of railroads and locomotives. Activities conducted on County athletic facilities and public or private school grounds, which are conducted in accordance with the manner in which such spaces are generally used, including but not limited to athletic, musical, and entertainment events at public or private schools. The lawful discharge of firearms. Sounds associated with religious activities, including but not limited to bells and chimes, if not unreasonably loud to a reasonable person of ordinary sensibility. Except as otherwise prohibited in Section 36-436 of this article, barking of dogs and other sounds made by domesticated animals, if intermittent and not unreasonably loud to a reasonable person of ordinary sensibility. Sounds made by animals on lands zoned for agricultural purposes, or by nondomesticated animals. Competitive motor vehicle events which have received an authorization from the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County (EPC) pursuant to EPC Rule 1-10.05. Activities on Florida State Fair Authority property. Sounds from motor vehicles which are subject to the Florida Uniform Traffic Control Law, F.S. Ch. 316. Sounds emanating from agricultural land which are exempt from local government regulation pursuant to F.S. § 823.14. Sounds regulated under Chapter 1-10 of the Rules of the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County emanating from phosphate mining operations.	Sirens, whistles, bells or alarms lawfully used by emergency vehicles or emergency providers, or sounds associated with the normal operation of railroads and locomotives. Activities conducted on County athletic facilities and public or private school grounds, which are conducted in accordance with the manner in which such spaces are generally used, including but not limited to athletic, musical, and entertainment events at public or private schools. The lawful discharge of firearms. Sounds associated with religious activities, including but not limited to bells and chimes, if not unreasonably loud to a reasonable person of ordinary sensibility. Except as otherwise prohibited in Section 36-436 of this article, barking of dogs and other sounds made by domesticated animals, if intermittent and not unreasonably loud to a reasonable person of ordinary sensibility. Sounds made by animals on lands zoned for agricultural purposes, or by nondomesticated animals. Competitive motor vehicle events which have received an authorization from the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County (EPC) pursuant to EPC Rule 1-10.05. Activities on Florida State Fair Authority property. Sounds from motor vehicles which are subject to the Florida Uniform Traffic Control Law, F.S. Ch. 316. Sounds emanating from agricultural land which are exempt from local government regulation pursuant to F.S. § 823.14. Sounds regulated under Chapter 1-10 of the Rules of the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County emanating from phosphate mining operations.	Sounds resulting from any authorized emergency vehicle when responding to an emergency call or acting in time of emergency. Sounds resulting from emergency work as defined in section 15-2. Any aircraft operated in conformity with, or pursuant to, federal law, federal air regulations and air traffic control instruction used pursuant to and within the duty adopted federal air regulations; and any aircraft operating under technical difficulties in any kind of distress, under emergency orders of air traffic control, or being operated pursuant to and subsequent to the declaration of an emergency under federal air regulations. All sounds coming from the normal operations of interstate motor and rail carriers, to the extent that local regulation of sound levels of such vehicles has been preempted by the Noise Control Act of 1972 (42 U.S.C. § 4901 et seq.) or other applicable federal laws or regulations. Sounds from the operation of motor vehicles, to the extent they are regulated by F.S. 316.293. Any nonamplified noise generated by public speaking activities conducted on any public property or public right-of-way pursuant to legal authority. Sounds produced at organized sporting events, by fireworks and by permitted parades on public property or public right-of-way.	The emission of sound for the purpose of alerting persons to the existence of an emergency or a potential danger. The emission of sound in the performance of emergency work. Agricultural activities of a farm as FARM is defined in the Florida Right to Farm Act, F.S. § 823.14. Commercial water-borne traffic, mass transportation vehicles, air transportation and rail transportation (except railroad switching yards). Unamplified carillons, bells or chimes. The emission of sound in the discharge of weapons at sport shooting ranges as defined and exempted in F.S. § 823.16. Sound emitted from safety relief valves and rupture discs.	The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to: (a) the emission of sound for the purpose of alerting persons to the existence of an emergency, or (b) the emission of sound in the performance of emergency work. The provisions of this article shall not apply to: (a) Activities covered by the following Sections: 6.2.6 (Construction), 6.2.10 (Explosives, Firearms, and Similar Devices), 6.2.13 (Stationary Non-emergency Signaling Devices), 6.2.14 (Emergency Signaling Devices), 6.2.15 (Motorboats), 6.2.17 (Domestic Power Tools), 9.1.3 (Refuse Collection Vehicles), (b) the un-amplified human voice; (c) interstate railway locomotives and cars; (d) motor vehicles crossing the property line accessing private property or public rights-of-way; and (e) (non-stationary farming equipment)/(all agricultural activities)	Noise alerting persons to the existence of an emergency or in the performance of emergency work. Railway locomotives and cars. Chimes, bells and music emanating from religious establishments. City refuse operations. Traditional community events, such as parades or sports events. Routine maintenance of public service facilities.
Plainly audible procedures	Residential: 7am to 10pm at 500 ft. 10:01pm to 6:59am at 150 ft. Non-Residential: 7am to 10pm at 500 ft. 10:01pm to 6:59am at 300 ft.	Residential: 10pm to 7am at 15 ft. Multi-Use: 10pm to 7 am at 50 ft.	Multi-Use: 11pm to 7am at 50 ft.	Multi-Use: All times at 150 ft.	Inside vehicle, plainly audible at 25 ft, outside of vehicle at a distance of 200 feet or more from the real property line of the source of the sound or noise	25 ft outside of vehicle	Radios, TVs, Instruments: 8am to 8pm at 100 ft, 8pm to 8am at 50 ft. Loud Speaker: 8am to 8pm at 100 ft, 8pm to 8am across real property boundary. Non-Emergency Signaling Devices: All times at 100 ft.	The operation of any sound system, speakers, radio, television, turntable, amplifier, musical, instrument, phonograph, machine or device between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. from outside any residential, office or commercial building or between 11:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. from inside any residential, office or commercial building in such manner as to create a plainly audible sound either at a distance of 50 feet	
Plainly audible definition	Plainly audible shall mean any noise or noise disturbance produced by any source, or reproduced by a radio, tape player, television, CD player, electronic audio equipment, musical instrument, sound amplifier or other mechanical or electronic sound making device that can be clearly heard by a person using his/her normal hearing faculties, at a distance as defined in subsection 15-183 (b)(1) from the property line or right-of-way line of the source of the noise disturbance. When the particular sound or noise involves words or phrases, sound or noise may be deemed as "clearly heard" even though the investigating officer cannot determine the specific words or phrases being uttered or produced. The detection of a rhythmic bass reverberating type of noise disturbance is sufficient to constitute a plainly audible sound or noise.	Plainly audible means any sound that can be detected by a person using his or her unaided hearing faculties who has a direct line of sight and hearing to the source of the noise. The person need not determine particular words or phrases, or the name of any song or artist; the detecting of a rhythmic bass reverberating sound is sufficient.	Audible: Sound that is capable of being heard by an individual using normal hearing faculties not enhanced by any mechanical or medical device, such as a hearing aid.	No definition listed	Plainly audible, except for section 15-3(d)(9) means any sound or noise produced by any source, or reproduced by a radio, tape player, television, CD player, electronic audio equipment, musical instrument, sound amplifier or other mechanical or electronic sound making device, or nonamplified human voice that can be clearly heard by a person using their normal hearing faculties, at a distance of 200 feet or more from the real property line of the source of the sound or noise.	No definition listed	Any sound that can be detected by a person using his or her unaided hearing faculties. As an example, if the sound source under investigation is a portable or personal vehicular sound amplification or reproduction device, the enforcement officer need not determine the title of a song, specific words, or the artist performing the song. The detection of the rhythmic bass component of the music is sufficient to constitute a plainly audible sound.	Plainly audible sound means any sound that can be detected by a person using his or her unaided hearing faculties. As an example, if the sound source under investigation is a portable or personal vehicular sound amplification or reproduction device, the detection of the rhythmic base component of the music is sufficient to verify plainly audible sound. A person need not determine the title, specific words, or the artist performing the song.	
Sound level meter definition	Sound level meter shall mean an instrument which includes a microphone, amplifier, RMS detector, integrator or time averager, output meter, and weighting network used to measure sound pressure levels. The output meter reads sound pressure level when properly calibrated. The sound level meter shall be of Type 2 or better, as specified in the American National Standards Institute publication entitled "Specifications for Integrating-Averaging Sound Level Meters" designated as ANSI standard S1.43-1997 and any subsequent revision thereof.	All measurements shall be made with a sound level meter. The sound level meter shall be calibrated in accordance with the meter manufacturer's recommendations. As necessary, a windscreen shall be utilized with the sound level meter. The measurements shall in general be made in accordance with the standards as promulgated by the American Society for Testing and Materials guidance.	Sound Level Meter: An instrument used for measuring the A-weighted Sound Level or C-Weighted Sound Level. Any Sound Level Meter used to determine compliance with this Chapter must meet or exceed the Class 1 or Class 2 performance specifications identified in ANSI Standard S1.4 Part 1, "Electroacoustics - Sound Level Meters - Part 1: Specifications". To be valid, readings from a Sound Level Meter must be properly calibrated in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.	Sound Level Meter - A device used to measure sound pressure level, or weighted sound pressure level, or octave band sound pressure level, and this device is of Type 1, as specified in the American National Standards Institute Publication S1.4-1983 (R2006) or its successor publication or amendments, including but not limited to ANSI S1.4A-1985 (R2006).	Sound level meter means an instrument, including a microphone, an amplifier, an output meter, and frequency weighting networks, for the measurement of sound levels.	Sound-level meter means an instrument which includes a microphone, amplifier, RMS detector, integrator or time averager, output or display meter and the weighting networks used to measure sound pressure levels. The American National Standards Institute, Inc. publication entitled Specifications for Sound-Level Meters, designated as ANSI S1.4-1983, or subsequent revisions, is hereby adopted as the standard specifications for sound-level meters. The American National Standards Institute, Inc. publication entitled Acoustical Terminology, designated as ANSI S1.1-1994, or subsequent revisions, is hereby adopted as the standard reference for technical definitions of acoustical terms not defined in this Chapter.	An instrument which includes a microphone, amplifier, RMS detector, integrator or time averaging device, output meter, and weighting networks used to measure sound pressure levels.	Sound level meter means any instrument including a microphone, amplifier, an output meter, and frequency weighting networks for the measurement of noise and sound levels in a specific manner and which complies with standards established by the American National Standards Institute specifications for sound level meters S1.4, 1971, as amended.	
Sound level definition	Sound level shall mean the weighted sound pressure level obtained by the use of a metering characteristic and weighting A as specified in American National Standards Institute specifications for sound level meters (ANSI standard 1.4-1983). If the weighting employed is not indicated, the A-weighting shall apply.	No definition listed	Sound Level: The weighted Sound Level measured using a Sound Level Meter using an "A" weighting filter or "C" weighting filter, and the meter time response set to "Slow".	Sound Level - A logarithmic ratio of sound power or parameters related to power such as pressure, referenced to the threshold of human hearing, 20 micropascals.	Sound level means the weighted sound pressure level as measured in dB(A) by a sound level meter and as specified in American National Standards Institute (ANSI) specifications for sound-level meters (ANSI S1.4-1971 (R1976)). If the frequency weighting employed is not indicated, the A-weighting shall apply.	Sound level: in decibels, a weighted sound pressure level, determined by the use of metering characteristics and frequency weightings specified in ANSI S1.4-1983, "Specifications for Sound Level Meters," or subsequent revisions.	"Sound Level" Means The Weighted sound pressure level obtained by the use of a sound level meter and frequency-weighting network, such as A or C, as specified in the American National Standards Institute specifications for sound level measurements (ANSI S1.4), of the latest approved revision thereof.	Noise disturbance means any sound which: (1) Endangers or injures the safety or health of humans or animals; (2) Annoys or disturbs a reasonable person of normal sensitivities; (3) Endangers or injures personal or real property; (4) Is loud or raucous; (5) Causes actual or imminent interference with peace or good order; or (6) Exceeds any dBA limit established pursuant to this division 2.	
Unamplified human voice exemption	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing on the public streets between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. so as to create a noise disturbance.	

<p>Special Areas: 1. Specific Zoning Districts</p> <p>2. Downtown Areas</p> <p>3. Noise-Sensitive Zones or Quiet Zones (schools, public libraries, churches, hospitals, nursing homes, and other areas defined as such pursuant to a resolution adopted by the board of county commissioners.)</p>	<p>1. N/A</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. 55 dB (all times)</p>	<p>1. Major Attraction Overlay Zoning District: show and ride attractions, fireworks, show pyrotechnics, aerial displays, sound effects, theatrical sound systems, music and human voices are exempt.</p> <p>2. Downtown Entertainment Area (DEA)*: 7am to 11:59pm Weekdays 75 dB; 7am to 1:59am Weekends 75 dB; 12am to 7am Weekdays 70 dB; 2am to 7am Weekends 70 dB.</p> <p>3. N/A</p>	<p>1. N/A</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. N/A</p>	<p>1. N/A</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. Sounds associated with religious activities, including but not limited to bells and chimes, if not unreasonably loud to a reasonable person of ordinary sensibility.</p>	<p>1. N/A</p> <p>2. Permitting may be required for special events, not to exceed 70 dB measured from 200 ft from boundary of area. Four hours between M-Th 9am to 12am midnight, Friday and Saturday 9am to 1am, NYE 9am to 1am, 9am to 2am if no residences, hospitals, or nursing homes are within 0.5 radius</p> <p>3. Vehicles should not play music louder than necessary in areas adjoining churches, schools, or hospitals</p>	<p>1. N/A</p> <p>2. For ticketed, special events held at the Metropolitan Park where 500+ individuals will attend with amplified sound, the following restrictions apply: Friday- 12pm to 11pm, Saturday- 11am to 11pm, Sunday (unless the next day is a holiday, then it is 11am to 11pm)- 12pm to 10pm, Weekends (other than Holidays)- 12pm to 10pm, sound check not to begin before 9am day of event or 4 hours prior to event, if weather disturbs event, time may be extended up to 30 mins. Max allowable sound level up to 100 ft away from stage: 105 dB</p> <p>3. 7am to 10pm 55 dB-65 dB (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land) 10pm to 7am 55 dB-60 dB (depending if from Class A, B, C, D land)</p>	<p>1. N/A</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. Sound that disrupts normal activities or annoys participants are prohibited.</p>	<p>1. Central Business District and Hannibal Square Neighborhood Commercial District: between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. musical entertainment in such manner as to create a plainly audible sound to a reasonably prudent person of ordinary sensibilities or detectable vibration that: (1) Unreasonably disturbs the peace; (2) Can be heard or felt at a distance of 50 feet from the building or structure in which such musical entertainment is located; (3) Can be heard or felt inside any residential occupancy within another building or any tenant space within the same building; or (4) is in excess of 50 dB as measured with a sound level meter inside any receiving property.</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. Chimes, bells or music emanating from religious establishments are exempted.</p> <p>Prohibited - The creation of any noise on any street adjacent to any school, institution of learning, church or court while the school, institution of learning, church or court is in use or adjacent to any hospital, which interferes with the workings of such institution or which disturbs or unduly annoys patients in the hospital.</p>
<p>When two or more persons residing in separate residences located across a property line (boundary) from the property from which a noise emanates are in general agreement as to the times, durations, and disturbing nature of such noise, such testimony will constitute prima facie evidence of a noise disturbance</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Enforcement and Penalties</p>	<p>It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any provisions of this article, or any provisions of any resolution enacted pursuant to this article. The provisions of this article may be enforced by notice of violation, civil citation, or criminal citation. Any person not in compliance with this article, or any provisions of any resolution enacted pursuant to the authority of this article, may be prosecuted in accordance with chapter 11 of this Code or as provided in section 1-9 of this Code. Each violation shall be considered a separate offense.</p>	<p>This Chapter shall be enforced pursuant to the provisions set forth in Chapter 1, section 1.08 or Chapter 5, Article II of this Code.</p> <p>Except as otherwise provided by law or ordinance, a person found guilty of violating any provision of this Code may be sentenced to pay a fine not to exceed \$500.00 and may be sentenced to a definite term of imprisonment not to exceed sixty (60) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.</p>	<p>As authorized by Section 125.69, Florida Statutes (2019), as this statute may be amended from time to time, any person who violates this Chapter 165 may be punished by imprisonment for a term not to exceed sixty (60) days or a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or both, for each such violation. In addition and supplemental to any other procedure or penalty provided by this Code or other law, any person who violates this Chapter 165 is subject to the Code Enforcement Board or Special Magistrate process and the fine and lien provisions of Chapter 53, Part 2, of this Code. In addition and supplemental to any other procedure or penalty provided by this Code or other law, any person who violates this Chapter 165 is subject to Chapter 53, Part 3, Code Enforcement Citations. Each day such violation is committed or permitted to continue will constitute a separate offense and will be punishable as such.</p>	<p>Pursuant to F.S. § 125.69, a person who violates any provision of this division shall be subject to prosecution in the name of the state in the same manner as misdemeanors are prosecuted and upon conviction, such person shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$500.00 or imprisonment in the County jail not to exceed 60 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.</p> <p>Each occurrence of a violation, or, in the case of continuous violations, each day a violation occurs or continues, constitutes a separate offense and may be punished separately.</p>	<p>Violation procedures. c. For the purposes of this section, it is sufficient warning for all prohibited sounds if the person or persons responsible for any succeeding sounds are warned of, or cited for, one or more offending sounds of the same type within the previous year (365 days), or in the case of a business, in the time period since ownership of the business changed, whichever is less.</p> <p>d. For a violation of subsection 15-3(d)(9), no warning is required to be given prior to issuance of a citation.</p> <p>(a) Violation of sound level limits; violation of plainly audible standard on other than posted property.</p> <p>(1) Warnings: a. When a designated official of the city determines that there is a violation of section 15-3, except for violations of section 15-3(d)(9) and the sound is coming from non-posted property, the official shall issue a written warning to the person or persons responsible for the sound. The warning shall advise the person of the violation, and of the possible penalty if the person fails to eliminate the sound or reduce the sound so that it is within permitted limits. b. The person or persons receiving the warning shall have a reasonable time, as defined in section 15-2, to comply with the warning, except for violations of section 15-3(d)(9).</p>	<p>Enforcement of violations of this Rule shall be in accordance with Chapters 360 and 368, Ordinance Code except any Law Enforcement Officer of the City of Jacksonville, Florida shall have the authority to write a citation for failure to comply with any part of this Rule.</p>	<p>Enforcement 11.1 Penalties (a) Any person who violates any provision of this ordinance shall be fined \$300 for the first offense, \$500 for the second, and \$1,000 for each subsequent offense. (b) Any person who violates any provision of this ordinance three times in one year shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. (c) Each day of violation of any provision of this ordinance shall constitute a separate offense.</p>	<p>Any person violating any of the provisions of this division shall be deemed guilty of an offense punishable as provided in section 1-7. In addition to any other remedies provided under this Code or other applicable law, the city shall provide written notice by first class U.S. Mail to the owner of any property which is found by the city to be the location of an illegal open house party. That notice shall be mailed to the owner of the property as listed in the Orange County Public Records and the notice shall also be placed in the records of the city and at the city's discretion, may be otherwise provided to the owner as well. Each subsequent violation of the prohibition on illegal open house parties at the same property shall carry a civil penalty as established in chapter 1 of this Code, and the enforcement provisions of chapter 1 of this Code shall apply to the enforcement of that penalty.</p>
<p>Notes:</p>								
<p>¹ Orange County Code of Ordinances Article V - Noise Pollution Control</p>								
<p>² City of Orlando Code of Ordinances Chapter 42 Noise</p>								
<p>City of Orlando proposed to increase allowable decibels in the Downtown Entertainment Area (LDC 2022-10011)</p>								
<p>³ Seminole County Code of Ordinances Chapter 165 - Noise Control</p>								
<p>⁴ Hillsborough County Code of Ordinances, Division 2 - Noise</p>								
<p>⁵ City of Gainesville Code of Ordinances Chapter 15 - Noise</p>								
<p>⁶ City of Jacksonville Code of Ordinances Chapter 368 - Noise Control</p>								
<p>⁷ US EPA Model Noise Control Ordinance As Modified by The Noise Pollution Clearinghouse</p>								
<p>⁸ City of Winter Park Code of Ordinances, Division 2 - Noise and Disturbance Control</p>								