

2024 Noise Issues Survey: Complete List of All Responses to Free Response Questions

If you selected other noise sources that are a significant or moderate concern, can you please provide any specific instances of noise concern (activities, events, source of noise, etc.)?

Traffic noise on Arlington Blvd, especially during morning and evening rush hour

Our area, like much of our region, has multiple hills and valleys which serve to focus sound. A bar approximately half a mile from us can seem like it is next door when they play loud music. Sometimes our neighbors hold parties. That can keep us up until late at night, but it has not reached the level where it is worth potentially coming to bad relations with them. Other members of our community, however, have suffered intensively and have called the sheriffs multiple times, with little to show for it. I hear these accounts at our local MAC meetings and the impact is very high.

Fireworks

Vehicle noise

Low flying small aircraft including planes and helicopters

Agritourism related

Fireworks are going off in Discovery Bay frequently not only NYE, Memorial Weekend, July 4 and Labor Day but many weekends. Having so many AirBnBs adds to this problem. Please make tough ordinances to stop the fireworks and limit the short term rentals.

Loud parties that go long past 10 PM.

Large unpermitted gatherings or parties

Neighbors in pool

weekends.

UNNECESSARY LOUD CARS ON DB BLVD

M-80S BEING SET OFF. fireworks

Quiet hours need to be enforced. Many parties go past 11pm. Construction sometimes start at 7am.

Landscape people early at condos

Gas-powered landscaping tools such as leaf blowers should be totally banned. In fact, all leaf blowers should be completely banned. I used a broom instead of blowing dirt into the air and onto other people's property.

Noise before 8 am (leafblowers, construction noises) or after 10pm (parties/bands) particularly on weekdays/night.

Noisy neighbors blasting music or loud parties late, dogs barking at all hours

Loud super cars (e.g. Lambourghini's) winding up and speeding down Diablo Road.

ATV, Motorcycles, fireworks

Private helicopters owned by neighbors. Terrified my chickens. Tuning vehicles in metal sheds. Batting practice in metal sheds.

Big rigs driving on the other side of camino, Diablo, that are not ag

weekends with leaf blowers/mowing before 8:00 am

Motorcycle racing-

Constant fireworks being set off during the summer months.

Illegal exhaust, illegal weapon discharge

loud banging that sounds like a big pieces of metal clashing in the middle of the night

People walking in the neighborhood pulling carts, trash cans or other items making awful noise in the night.

Parties til late midnight, dogs barking any time at night and fire works.

Cars and trucks, fireworks

Motorcycles (mainly Harleys) tearing up and down Main Street from around 9:30 p.m. on after too many drinks at the bar.

1) Non-licensed motorcycles/vehicles running up and down the streets by kids/young adults 2) Airplane noise from lengthy aerobatic practice from planes practicing dives and spins over the community airspace.

No new noise ordinance please. Leave it to Cities.

Fireworks

Loud cars and train horns

Frequent Car & motorcycle speeding /& donut noises; fireworks. These noises often occur in the late night. .

Dog barking

Leaf blowers polite the air and assault the ears. They are nasty.

fireworks, people firing off m80's, etc.

Loud auto and motorcycle engines! If you are near one it can hurt your ears and set off car alarms. And we have lots of them here in El Sobrante, every day. They are used in "Sideshows" but roar up Appian Way singly every day.

crazy traffic noises on SPD Rd. illegal vehicles, cards with no mufflers, speeding and racing etc

Loud private vehicles, such as motorcycles or cars with faulty mufflers

Airplanes especially at night

Fireworks and gunfire leading up to and after Fourth of July. And aftermarket mufflers on muscle cars that disturb the peace.

Music/bass/car stereos often in cars that are not moving/parked

Fireworks

Penalties must be set to hold violaters accountable.

Side shows, cars racing on San Pablo Dam Rd.

Fireworks not related to July 4

Side shows/ donuts and the never ending illegal fireworks

Very Loud Cars and Motorcycles. Also Dogs and except during July 2-6: Fireworks.

Fireworks throughout the night

Fireworks and Dogs barking

sideshows

All vehicles that REV to cause havoc, backfiring. M-40, 80, and 1000's shakes house all hrs going on 3 mo, daily, all hrs 24/7. "Party", venues, until early, to all night, no enforcement. BANDS! SCREAMING! ATTENDEES! Sheriff, O enforcement!

Loud cars... music and mufflers

Sideshows and fireworks

Those loud cars that race on San Pablo Dam Road. Also, the trucks with very loud music/s[ealers/

Large parties on my street sometimes go on past 10p and the sound systems are very loud

next door neighbor works on engines - car, trucks, boat, motorcycle in front yard; noise of loud vehicles that visit house; modified mufflers on vehicles; hot rodding; music blaring from open jeep; firecrackers; very loud firecracker bombs

Caliber charter school in Tara Hills uses outdoor PA system to blast announcements and "pump up" the students on a daily basis. They also play music for various events throughout the year. The school was originally built for 400 students, and they have 900+ students, so they gather all students outside for announcements because their auditorium has max capacity of 400. Some events last for hours. I can hear the announcements and music from 1.5 blocks away, inside my home with doors and windows closed. I've worked with the school to remedy the situation, but it's an ongoing battle. Also, loud parties held in the neighborhood have been an issue, BOTH during the day and evenings. Some just blast music, and others have live bands.

Overly loud cars. Example: cars with modified mufflers that set all the car alarms on the street off

Fireworks, sideshows, really lou car mufflers

Motorcycles late at night on San Pablo Dam Road by The Rancho bar

Charter schools

Bangs, Explosions, Sirens (potentially Tsunami Warning sirens?)

Fireworks

Are there types of noise regulations that you would be concerned about when applied to your home or business? For example, limitations and associated fines for violating standards in the following areas: construction hours, leaf blowers and other loud landscaping tools, amplified music and other noise at outdoor gatherings and parties (large and small) and commercial establishments such as bars, restaurants, repair shops, etc.

N/A

No.

No concerns

The amplified music is the biggest issue when it comes to parties since there are some crowds that go all night

Vehicle music and noise

Bethel Island is a recreational community.

I want larger fines on amplified music and outdoor gatherings. The recurring offenders are renting out their properties for events. Current fines are much less than property owners receive to rent their properties out for these unpermitted events.

None

Please place limits on the hours for amplified music for everyone.

I would have no issues with any regulations and would encourage them

Amplified music lighting including laser lighting from events/parties in my community that are typically taking place without the necessary temporary event permits

None

I would like to see leaf blowers regulated if it can be done in a way that does not impact landscapers' ability to make a living.

Construction and leaf blower

Construction hours .

NO

Not sure I understand the question

No

Yes

leaf blowers, amplified music

No concerns — I would like to see fines for noise.

Protect the sanity of communities that are unincorporated !

Not if it was clearly spelled out.

Amplified music, parties, barking dogs

No

no

No

No

Amplified music and other noise at outdoor gatherings and parties.

We are a farm. I would hope roosters, goats, donkeys, peafowls etc. would continue to be allowed.

Na

Businesses and for profit parties

yes, i would like reasonable allowances for parties with amplified music until 10:00 pm on week days and weekends.days.

No, I follow decent courtesy. Would not have a huge party/festivals by (for profit)

I think planned outdoor events are great for building community and think they should be encouraged rather than restricted.

No

No

Limitation on hours

NA

Would be nice to have a warning first and if it's ignored then a fine.

No

Any type of loud noise should stop maximum 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Sunday thru Thursday and 10:00 p.m. (or earlier) on Friday and Saturday.

Some of us still have to get up very early to go to work.

No as long as they are reasonable

Neighbors yard service is using very loud leaf blowers right now, a disturbing nuisance.

No new noise ordinance please. Leave it to Cities.

No

no

No.

Most construction happens between 8-4 which is reasonable. Why don't you just BAN LEAF BLOWERS? Go back to raking and sweeping.

none

no

Landscaping power tools are minor compared to roaring engines of vehicles, including pickup trucks.

I do not live near any establishments likely to produce such noise.

no

No

No

Fines for my answer #3

As long as there are appropriate hours for construction/lawn equipment we are not worried about limitations

Amplified music and loud parties going past 10PM . When the violation occurs and is reported Law Enforcement should have the necessary written repercussions when dealing with the violators addressing the complaint

I don't believe this is a problem and believe fines would be inappropriate

Reasonable hours of operation would be welcome.

No

No concerns, we do need tougher rules that are being enforced!

No

No

no

None, I make no noise, except when trying to get enforcement.

Amplified music in residential areas

No concerns, I would welcome noise regulations for home and business

Hard to control volume. Restricting of noise after 10pm for gatherings and commercial establishments seems doable.

I would say not before 8a and nothing over 10p Monday thru Thursday and midnight on Friday & Saturday, Sunday 8a-10p

no

For me I think specific hours are necessary for construction, leaf blowers, etc. For example, should be used only between 7am - 7pm. But for loud music and announcements, there should be a maximum decibel determined, so it is measurable. Also, the local sherrif's office needs to have some enforcement mechanism, like first complaint is a "warning". Second complaint is a violation with small fine. Third complaint, should be a large fine, with potential other ramifications. Basically, the regulations need to be specific, measurable AND enforceable for the police.

No

No

loud noises from parties after 10 pm

Parties are a minor issue and should not be targeted.

Early morning and afternoon amplified sounds, music and announcements

Exempt occasional parties and music from regs

Noise regulations can be difficult to enforce because nuisances occur during nights and weekends when limited enforcement staff are either off work or busy protecting public safety. Do you have input to share on how these constraints should be addressed as the County considers its options in this area?

I am more concerned about the traffic noise during the work day. East Richmond Heights is very quiet at night and on weekends.

I think that the natural enforcement is the sheriff's office, which is already interacting in this without much effect. One could equip them with decibel meters and resources to train and maintain calibration and they could write citations. If money were involved it would have an actual impact.

Give a warning first, then give a fine if the noise continues.

This question seems to be a way for the County to avoid its responsibility to ensure the safety of its residents. "Nights and weekends" doesn't necessarily apply to the "construction" and "leafblower" choices in question #2 in this survey. The noise concerns in El Sobrante are predominantly due to parties and other events. The response would be from the Sheriff's office.

There needs to be a way to stop the party while it's happening, whether it's with other agencies aiding. There have been horrible accidents where these parties have been. Maybe enforcing check points at/near where these parties are to reduce the amount of drunk drivers?

N/A

Code Enforcement needs to work on the weekends including the evenings when these unpermitted loud events occur.

Add staff to work during those times to enforce noise regulations,

Trained noise monitors? Code Enforcement?

Hire more staff 😊

Why not have code enforcement officers work the weekends when these illegal events are happening? Give them time off during the week in exchange. It takes some burden off law enforcement officers who are handling other matters on the weekends

Implement ordinances that can be enforced

Setting noise decibel limits is difficult but establishing hours when loud noises are not permitted is an effective first step for parties and construction i.e noise restriction in Diablo from 10 pm - 8 am. For leaf blowers an easy solution is to require electric blowers. Carmel by the Sea has outlawed gas leaf blowers and the gardeners have adjusted without much issue. My own gardener just shrugs his shoulders when I ask about the regulation

Hire more police.

SideShow type cars should be 'one & done' and parties 1 warning.

Clear signage and lots of signage particularly regarding fireworks

Consider the use of video for reactive actions like fines.

No

this is difficult as any enforcement sources outside of the county will most likely not be as effective

Make the fines high enough to fund more officers. Require STRs (eg airbnb) to have business licenses. The license should prohibit loud parties and provide for higher fines and revocation of the business license at the second offense.

You might have to make a big deal of enforcement to start so that people understand that noise regulations carry consequences. There are plenty of people who would probably volunteer to report noise makers.

People are afraid to report and feel safer if there is a way to report issues anonymously. Perhaps there is a way to give warnings the first time, and a fine subsequently. If staff isn't available, maybe there are ways to document the issues and report later. Some kind of decibel readers, video or audio recordings.

No.

no

Sheriff coming out promptly and enforcing code violations.

Add staff on the weekends!!!

Maybe when people call in about the noise especially when it's still going on after 10:00 p.m. that at least incident report should be made and the offending people should be addressed the following day.

Yes

Weekends, they should be shut off by 11

Are there ANY staff available during weekends, primarily Saturday nights?

Neighbors to video as evidence; contact sheriff to substantiate video is true

Enforcement priorities are understandable, but when individuals break the law flagrantly, such as setting off fireworks, and no enforcement action is taken it emboldens them.

One weekend and/or as needed Code Enforcement should work a Saturday night wand target problem areas. Fines should be paid within 30 days and/or added to tax bills instead of a lien that I believe is what is happening now

No

NA

Need to hire more staff, fines could help to pay for it

Inform the residents with flyers first. So they know and hopefully they stop doing this noises. To avoid fines.

Put monitors, similar to cameras on polls in problem areas and are

Have a Sheriff or CHP officer randomly park at the far north end of Main Street (by the caboose) in Byron between 10:00 and 11:00 p.m. on a Friday or Saturday night.

Video capture of violations and enforcement with affidavit from witness.

Luckily my concerns are during weekdays.

No new noise ordinance please. Leave it to Cities.

Online reporting, with audio files and time stamps, for officers to follow up later

Allowing loud voices amplified sound for house parties is unreasonable, no matter the time. IMO it causes the majority of the problems. My other fireworks and vehicle reckless driving noises fall under public safety.

If your community is healthy, neighbors know each other, there is often care and respect which engenders considerate behavior.

In El Sobrante, the common complaint is loud music/parties/events, which take place primarily on the weekends. Our default response is to call the Sheriff's office so that there can be some sort of enforcement.

no

Residents can tell you where violations occur on regular basis, especially people who work from home or are retired.

No

hire more police

I realize noise complaints are a low priority, but I believe that they should be enforced like any other law, and there are sufficient officers on staff to respond.

No

I have no clue. Neighbors could report violations with cell phone recordings but this puts them at risk for retaliation

Chronic offenders could have penalties enforced during weekday

Create a document addressing any Loud Noise being reported and develop a monetary fine when a violation occurs

This is a non-issue. I've lived in ERH for nearly 7 years and work from home. I can't think of a single time when a noise regulation would have helped.

Perhaps a hotline specifically for noise problems.

No

Make the penalties so high, e.g. for fireworks, that people don't want to risk it. Allow police to tag homes so the homeowner is responsible, too, if the tenants misbehave.

Hire more Sheriffs and Cops. Pay for Overtime.

The venues, parties making noise, maybe drunk, drugged, and disorderly, block driveways, leave cigarette butts, all kinds of crazy stuff, all kinds of safety issues. Yeah, how about enforcing, and serve and protect, EVERYONE.

Serve a follow up notice

Refer to practices and ordinances of other counties who have done this successfully

Is there an option to seek funding for a dedicated enforcement staff member.

Online complaints, non emergency reporting with a follow up

hotline to report noise; are there noise meters to install on street corners?; fines to residents who are identified as repetitive noise makers

Provide a process for the community to document and submit complaints. Similar to the CCC code enforcement site, where residents can submit code violations. But include a way to upload photos, video, or screen shot of decibel reader outside the event.

It seems to me that public safety is affected by loud and unsanctioned events, making it a priority

The public and neighbors should be allowed to help enforce.

Vehicle noise enforcement by CHP or sheriffs

Public information campaign with signs on the street and on a billboard reminding folks that there are neighbors sleeping nearby

I think there should be concerns for neighborhoods regardless of the time of day.

No

Are there any additional noise related concerns or questions specific to your community that have not been previously addressed in this survey?

N/A

This is a safety issue as it becomes a point of discord between neighbors, which in the worst case situation can lead to violence. A regulation could lead to imposition of fines and thus some level of deterrence to offenders,

None.

too much traffic using Knightsen Ave as a freeway and communiting to and from the Oakley area. How can we enforce Oakley to aid in the amount of cars and lack of regulating that their excess building has caused?

No

There is very poor coordination between Code Enforcement and the a sheriff's office. Sheriffs are not trained to deal with these events or even define an event has been illegal. Many times when neighbors are dealing with noise issues, they try to talk to their neighbor about their offending noise behavior, only to potentially put them selves at risk in harms way.

Fines are not working as currently applied. Fines should be added to the property tax bill each year in order to be collected

Sideshows!

There are noise limitations on airb&b properties but an owned property next door can have loud parties until well after midnight. We have that situation in our neighborhood.

No

No

No

No

People leaving garbage on streets

Loud kids at businesses

none

Fireworks on the 4th of July can be crazy.

People would like for there to be a response and consequences that curbs the bad behaviors of noisy neighbors. They are feeling hopeless that they have to continue to suffer with lack of sleep and annoyances. They need some kind of recourse in order to live peacefully with others. Maybe some kind of PR campaign to let people know about community standards would be helpful.

No

no

No

Motorcycle and cars racing on roads , dDeltacroad , super high decibles

Motorcycle ATV

No

No

Big rigs on my street. They're loud and bumpy.

We need ENFORCEMENT STAFF on SATURDAY NIGHTS. When the violators lie about it being a "family event" have THAT person identified and sign a statement identifying them, their relationship to the property, the family member who the party is for and then do the same for the identified person who the party is for and perhaps 3 random people at the party asking about relationships, fees paid, alcohol, food being served and being charged for, whose property it is etc...

Decibals should be monitored in sheriff call out. It does not require expensive equipment, and yes an example of noise experienced

No

ENFORCEMENT OF ILLEGAL EVENTS! WHEN EVENT ORGANIZERS LIE TO DEPUTIES AND SAY IT IS A FAMILY EVENT THEY SHOULD WRITE A REPORT WITH ALL PARTIES PROPERLY IDENTIFIED AND ALLEGED RELATIONSHIPS ON PAPER, A STATEMENT FORM THAT THEY SIGN. IF THEY ARE NOT LIEING THEN FINE, BUT WHEN IT IS CONFIRMED THAT THEY LIED IT IS A FULL FINE AND PAYABLE WITHIN 30 DAYS! ONCE THEY START HAVING TO REALLY PAY SUBSTANTIAL FINES YOU WILL CHANGE BEHAVIOR. THE ONLY PEOPLE BEING PUNISHED NOW ARE THE NEIGHBORS AND THE REAPONSIBLE PEOPLE WHO GET PERMITS AND HAVE TO FOLLOW THE RULES

No

NA

Construction noise in big business when construction it's happening should be more monitored it's really noisy and scary sounds when buildings are under construction, very annoying when working on weekends, I'm in North Richmond and had the experience about it.

Barking dogs during nighttime.

Many neighbors complain about noise at all hours especially due to parties. Partly noise can be capped. One time a Neighbors party was so loud that our house was vibrating.

Occasionally lots of shooting going on in different locations.

Just the two listed above in the free space

No, but I am more concerned about light pollution.

No new noise ordinance please. Leave it to Cities.

No

How to resolve incessant and often periodic barking not addressed by the animal noise abatement program.

Ban drones please.

m/a

no

The state should regulate two-stroke landscaping tools such as leaf blowers and weed-eaters, which are polluters as well as noisy.

No

No

We are very worried about very loud music at all times of day, music which shakes our house, the noise ordinance should not just apply to parties, everyone should be able to have a party now and then, there should be something about music that bothers your neighbors a certain number of days a year, time of day for this is somewhat irrelevant

We've been trying to get an El Sobrante Loud Noise Ordinance in place for decades. Way overdo !

No

Fireworks not holiday related

Loud noise can have a significant affect on quality of life.

"Light" industrial, isn't light, with car repair, or unlawful modifications! Screaming LOUD!

No

the stress and affects on health of nearby residents who have to live with the constant noise night and day with no concern for our well being

I want to make sure the new noise ordinance will be applied to residents, businesses AND schools. Regardless of whether the noise emanates from indoors and outdoors, the focus should be on how it affects neighbors and the community.

There needs to be a way to keep people from disturbing the peace - especially for prolonged periods of time

Loud booms coming from the refineries and lots of illegal fireworks in Richmond that echo through the Sobranate hills.

Big boom fireworks should be banned.

Late night parties/events and vehicle related sounds

Fireworks