

Appendix B Noise Modeling

Appendix

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LOCAL REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

Fundamentals of Noise

NOISE

Noise is most often defined as unwanted sound; whether it is loud, unpleasant, unexpected, or otherwise undesirable. Although sound can be easily measured, the perception of noise and the physical response to sound complicate the analysis of its impact on people. People judge the relative magnitude of sound sensation in subjective terms such as “noisiness” or “loudness.”

Noise Descriptors

The following are brief definitions of terminology used in this chapter:

- **Sound.** A disturbance created by a vibrating object, which, when transmitted by pressure waves through a medium such as air, is capable of being detected by a receiving mechanism, such as the human ear or a microphone.
- **Noise.** Sound that is loud, unpleasant, unexpected, or otherwise undesirable.
- **Decibel (dB).** A unitless measure of sound, expressed on a logarithmic scale and with respect to a defined reference sound pressure. The standard reference pressure is 20 micropascals (20 μPa).
- **Vibration Decibel (VdB).** A unitless measure of vibration, expressed on a logarithmic scale and with respect to a defined reference vibration velocity. In the U.S., the standard reference velocity is 1 micro-inch per second (1×10^{-6} in/sec).
- **A-Weighted Decibel (dBA).** An overall frequency-weighted sound level in decibels that approximates the frequency response of the human ear.
- **Equivalent Continuous Noise Level (L_{eq}); also called the Energy-Equivalent Noise Level.** The value of an equivalent, steady sound level which, in a stated time period (often over an hour) and at a stated location, has the same A-weighted sound energy as the time-varying sound. Thus, the L_{eq} metric is a single numerical value that represents the equivalent amount of variable sound energy received by a receptor over the specified duration.
- **Statistical Sound Level (L_n).** The sound level that is exceeded “n” percent of time during a given sample period. For example, the L_{50} level is the statistical indicator of the time-varying noise signal that is exceeded 50 percent of the time (during each sampling period); that is, half of the sampling time, the changing noise levels are above this value and half of the time they are below it. This is called the “median sound level.” The L_{10} level, likewise, is the value that is exceeded 10 percent of the time (i.e., near the maximum) and this is often known as the “intrusive sound level.” The L_{90} is the sound level exceeded 90 percent of the time and is often considered the “effective background level” or “residual noise level.”

- **Maximum Sound Level (L_{\max}).** The highest RMS sound level measured during the measurement period.
- **Root Mean Square Sound Level (RMS).** The square root of the average of the square of the sound pressure over the measurement period.
- **Day-Night Sound Level (L_{dn} or DNL).** The energy-average of the A-weighted sound levels occurring during a 24-hour period, with 10 dB added to the sound levels occurring during the period from 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM.
- **Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL).** The energy average of the A-weighted sound levels occurring during a 24-hour period, with 5 dB added from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM and 10 dB from 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM. NOTE: For general community/environmental noise, CNEL and L_{dn} values rarely differ by more than 1 dB (with the CNEL being only slightly more restrictive – that is, higher than the L_{dn} value). As a matter of practice, L_{dn} and CNEL values are interchangeable and are treated as equivalent in this assessment.
- **Peak Particle Velocity (PPV).** The peak rate of speed at which soil particles move (e.g., inches per second) due to ground vibration.
- **Sensitive Receptor.** Noise- and vibration-sensitive receptors include land uses where quiet environments are necessary for enjoyment and public health and safety. Residences, schools, motels and hotels, libraries, religious institutions, hospitals, and nursing homes are examples.

Characteristics of Sound

When an object vibrates, it radiates part of its energy in the form of a pressure wave. Sound is that pressure wave transmitted through the air. Technically, airborne sound is a rapid fluctuation or oscillation of air pressure above and below atmospheric pressure that creates sound waves.

Sound can be described in terms of amplitude (loudness), frequency (pitch), or duration (time). Loudness or amplitude is measured in dB, frequency or pitch is measured in Hertz [Hz] or cycles per second, and duration or time variations is measured in seconds or minutes.

Amplitude

Unlike linear units such as inches or pounds, decibels are measured on a logarithmic scale. Because of the physical characteristics of noise transmission and perception, the relative loudness of sound does not closely match the actual amounts of sound energy. Table 1 presents the subjective effect of changes in sound pressure levels. Ambient sounds generally range from 30 dBA (very quiet) to 100 dBA (very loud). Changes of 1 to 3 dB are detectable under quiet, controlled conditions, and changes of less than 1 dB are usually not discernible (even under ideal conditions). A 3 dB change in noise levels is considered the minimum change that is detectable with human hearing in outside environments. A change of 5 dB is readily discernible to most people in an exterior environment, and a 10 dB change is perceived as a doubling (or halving) of the sound.

Table 1 Noise Perceptibility

Change in dB	Noise Level
± 3 dB	Barely perceptible increase
± 5 dB	Readily perceptible increase
± 10 dB	Twice or half as loud
± 20 dB	Four times or one-quarter as loud

Source: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2013, September. *Technical Noise Supplement ("TeNS")*.

Frequency

The human ear is not equally sensitive to all frequencies. Sound waves below 16 Hz are not heard at all, but are “felt” more as a vibration. Similarly, though people with extremely sensitive hearing can hear sounds as high as 20,000 Hz, most people cannot hear above 15,000 Hz. In all cases, hearing acuity falls off rapidly above about 10,000 Hz and below about 200 Hz.

When describing sound and its effect on a human population, A-weighted (dBA) sound levels are typically used to approximate the response of the human ear. The A-weighted noise level has been found to correlate well with people’s judgments of the “noisiness” of different sounds and has been used for many years as a measure of community and industrial noise. Although the A-weighted scale and the energy-equivalent metric are commonly used to quantify the range of human response to individual events or general community sound levels, the degree of annoyance or other response also depends on several other perceptibility factors, including:

- Ambient (background) sound level
- General nature of the existing conditions (e.g., quiet rural or busy urban)
- Difference between the magnitude of the sound event level and the ambient condition
- Duration of the sound event
- Number of event occurrences and their repetitiveness
- Time of day that the event occurs

Duration

Time variation in noise exposure is typically expressed in terms of a steady-state energy level equal to the energy content of the time varying period (called L_{eq}), or alternately, as a statistical description of the sound level that is exceeded over some fraction of a given observation period. For example, the L_{50} noise level represents the noise level that is exceeded 50 percent of the time; half the time the noise level exceeds this level and half the time the noise level is less than this level. This level is also representative of the level that is exceeded 30 minutes in an hour. Similarly, the L_2 , L_8 and L_{25} values represent the noise levels that are exceeded 2, 8, and 25 percent of the time or 1, 5, and 15 minutes per hour, respectively. These “n” values are typically used to demonstrate compliance for stationary noise sources with many cities’ noise ordinances. Other values typically noted during a noise survey are the L_{min} and L_{max} . These values represent the minimum and maximum root-mean-square noise levels obtained over the measurement period, respectively.

Because community receptors are more sensitive to unwanted noise intrusion during the evening and at night, state law and many local jurisdictions use an adjusted 24-hour noise descriptor called the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) or Day-Night Noise Level (L_{dn}). The CNEL descriptor requires that an artificial increment (or “penalty”) of 5 dBA be added to the actual noise level for the hours from 7:00 PM to 10:00

PM and 10 dBA for the hours from 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM. The L_{dn} descriptor uses the same methodology except that there is no artificial increment added to the hours between 7:00 PM and 10:00 PM. Both descriptors give roughly the same 24-hour level, with the CNEL being only slightly more restrictive (i.e., higher). The CNEL or L_{dn} metrics are commonly applied to the assessment of roadway and airport-related noise sources.

Sound Propagation

Sound dissipates exponentially with distance from the noise source. This phenomenon is known as “spreading loss.” For a single-point source, sound levels decrease by approximately 6 dB for each doubling of distance from the source (conservatively neglecting ground attenuation effects, air absorption factors, and barrier shielding). For example, if a backhoe at 50 feet generates 84 dBA, at 100 feet the noise level would be 79 dBA, and at 200 feet it would be 73 dBA. This drop-off rate is appropriate for noise generated by on-site operations from stationary equipment or activity at a project site. If noise is produced by a line source, such as highway traffic, the sound decreases by 3 dB for each doubling of distance over a reflective (“hard site”) surface such as concrete or asphalt. Line source noise in a relatively flat environment with ground-level absorptive vegetation decreases by an additional 1.5 dB for each doubling of distance.

Psychological and Physiological Effects of Noise

Physical damage to human hearing begins at prolonged exposure to noise levels higher than 85 dBA. Exposure to high noise levels affects the entire system, with prolonged noise exposure in excess of 75 dBA increasing body tensions, thereby affecting blood pressure and functions of the heart and the nervous system. Extended periods of noise exposure above 90 dBA results in permanent cell damage, which is the main driver for employee hearing protection regulations in the workplace. For community environments, the ambient or background noise problem is widespread, though generally worse in urban areas than in outlying, less-developed areas. Elevated ambient noise levels can result in noise interference (e.g., speech interruption/masking, sleep disturbance, disturbance of concentration) and cause annoyance. Since most people do not routinely work with decibels or A-weighted sound levels, it is often difficult to appreciate what a given sound pressure level number means. To help relate noise level values to common experience, Table 2 shows typical noise levels from familiar sources.

Table 2 Typical Noise Levels

Common Outdoor Activities	Noise Level (dBA)	Common Indoor Activities
Onset of physical discomfort	120+	
	110	Rock Band (near amplification system)
Jet Flyover at 1,000 feet		
	100	
Gas Lawn Mower at three feet		
	90	
Diesel Truck at 50 feet, at 50 mph		Food Blender at 3 feet
	80	Garbage Disposal at 3 feet
Noisy Urban Area, Daytime		
	70	Vacuum Cleaner at 10 feet
Commercial Area		Normal speech at 3 feet
Heavy Traffic at 300 feet	60	
		Large Business Office
Quiet Urban Daytime	50	Dishwasher Next Room
Quiet Urban Nighttime	40	Theater, Large Conference Room (background)
Quiet Suburban Nighttime		
	30	Library
Quiet Rural Nighttime		Bedroom at Night, Concert Hall (background)
	20	
		Broadcast/Recording Studio
	10	
Lowest Threshold of Human Hearing	0	Lowest Threshold of Human Hearing

Source: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2013, September. **Technical Noise Supplement ("TeNS")**.

Vibration Fundamentals

Vibration is an oscillatory motion through a solid medium in which the motion's amplitude can be described in terms of displacement, velocity, or acceleration. Vibration is normally associated with activities stemming from operations of railroads or vibration-intensive stationary sources, but can also be associated with construction equipment such as jackhammers, pile drivers, and hydraulic hammers. As with noise, vibration can be described by both its amplitude and frequency. Vibration displacement is the distance that a point on a surface moves away from its original static position; velocity is the instantaneous speed that a point on a surface moves; and acceleration is the rate of change of the speed. Each of these descriptors can be used to correlate vibration to human response, building damage, and acceptable equipment vibration levels. During construction, the operation of construction equipment can cause groundborne vibration. During the operational phase of a project, receptors may be subject to levels of vibration that can cause annoyance due to noise generated from vibration of a structure or items within a structure.

Vibration amplitudes are usually described in terms of either the peak particle velocity (PPV) or the root mean square (RMS) velocity. PPV is the maximum instantaneous peak of the vibration signal and RMS is the

square root of the average of the squared amplitude of the signal. PPV is more appropriate for evaluating potential building damage and RMS is typically more suitable for evaluating human response.

As with airborne sound, annoyance with vibrational energy is a subjective measure, depending on the level of activity and the sensitivity of the individual. To sensitive individuals, vibrations approaching the threshold of perception can be annoying. Persons accustomed to elevated ambient vibration levels, such as in an urban environment, may tolerate higher vibration levels. Table 3 displays the human response and the effects on buildings resulting from continuous vibration (in terms of various levels of PPV).

Table 3 Human Reaction to Typical Vibration Levels

Vibration Level, PPV (in/sec)	Human Reaction	Effect on Buildings
0.006–0.019	Threshold of perception, possibility of intrusion	Vibrations unlikely to cause damage of any type
0.08	Vibrations readily perceptible	Recommended upper level of vibration to which ruins and ancient monuments should be subjected
0.10	Level at which continuous vibration begins to annoy people	Virtually no risk of “architectural” (i.e. not structural) damage to normal buildings
0.20	Vibrations annoying to people in buildings	Threshold at which there is a risk to “architectural” damage to normal dwelling – houses with plastered walls and ceilings
0.4–0.6	Vibrations considered unpleasant by people subjected to continuous vibrations and unacceptable to some people walking on bridges	Vibrations at a greater level than normally expected from traffic, but would cause “architectural” damage and possibly minor structural damage

Source: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). 2020, April. *Transportation and Construction Vibration Guidance Manual*. Prepared by ICF International.

LOCAL REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS



CHAPTER 7

NOISE ELEMENT

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NOISE ELEMENT

7.1 INTRODUCTION

The Noise Element of the General Plan examines noise sources in the City to identify and appraise the potential for noise conflicts and problems, and to identify ways to reduce existing and potential noise impacts. Existing and future noise environments and the compatibility of land uses are considered in the Element, as well as sensitive receptors and generators of stationary noise. The Element identifies projected noise levels, and contains policies and programs to achieve and maintain noise levels compatible with various types of land uses, as well as prevent high noise levels in sensitive areas. It is important to note that the Element addresses noise that affects the community at large, rather than noise associated with site-specific conditions. The regulatory framework, background information, and existing and future conditions can be found in the General Plan EIR.



7.2 AUTHORITY FOR ELEMENT

Government Code Section 65302(f) requires that a General Plan include:

"... a noise element which shall identify and appraise noise problems in the community. The Noise Element shall recognize the guidelines established by the Office of Noise Control in the State Department of Health Services and shall analyze and quantify...current and projected noise levels for all of the following sources: (1) highways and freeways; (2) primary arterials and major local streets; (3) passenger and freight on-line railroad operations and ground rapid transit systems; (4) commercial, general aviation, heliport, and military airport operations, aircraft overflights, jet engine test stands, and all other ground facilities and maintenance functions related to airport operation; (5) local industrial plants, including but not limited to, railroad classification yards; (6) other ground stationary noise sources identified by local agencies as contributing to the community noise environment."

7.3 NOISE DEFINITIONS

Noise often is defined as annoying or unwanted sound. Health studies have shown that excessive noise can cause adverse psychological or physiological effects on human beings.



Defining noise problems and establishing a regulatory scheme to deal with noise that is both fair and effective requires an understanding of some of the basic characteristics of sound and how it affects people and their activities. While sound levels can be easily measured, the variability in subjective and physical responses to sound complicates the analysis of its impact on people. Sound is created when an object vibrates and radiates part of its energy as acoustic pressure waves through a medium such as air, water, or a solid. The ear, the hearing mechanism of humans and most animals, receives these sound pressure waves and converts them to neurological impulses which are transmitted to the brain for interpretation. The interpretation by the auditory system and the brain depends on the characteristics of the sound and on the characteristics of the person hearing it.

STANDARD UNIT OF MEASUREMENT

Sound is described in terms of the loudness (amplitude) of the sound and frequency (pitch) of the sound. The standard unit of measurement of the loudness of sound is the decibel (dB). Since the human ear is not equally sensitive to sound at all frequencies, a special frequency-dependent rating scale has been devised to relate noise to human sensitivity. The A-weighted decibel scale (dBA) performs this compensation by differentiating among frequencies in a manner approximating the sensitivity of the human ear.

Decibels are based on the logarithmic scale. The logarithmic scale compresses the wide range in sound pressure levels to a more usable range of numbers in a manner similar to the Richter scale used to measure earthquakes. In terms of human response to noise, a sound ten dBA higher than another is perceived to be twice as loud, and 20 dBA higher is perceived to be four times as loud, and so forth. Everyday sounds normally range from 30 dBA (very quiet) to 100 dBA (very loud). Various methods have been developed for evaluating community noise to account for, among other things:

- The variation of noise levels over time;
- The influence of periodic individual loud events; and
- The community response to changes in the community noise environment.

NOISE SCALES AND DEFINITIONS

Sound pressure level is a measure of the sound pressure of a given noise source relative to a standard reference value. The reference pressure is typical of the quietest sound that a young person with good hearing is able to detect. Sound pressure levels are measured in decibels (dB). Decibels are logarithmic quantities, relating the sound pressure level of a noise source to the reference pressure level.

An important characteristic of sound is frequency. This is the rate of repetition of sound pressure oscillations (waves) as they reach our ears; frequency is expressed in hertz (Hz). When analyzing the total noise of any source, the frequency components are sometimes analyzed to determine the relative amounts of low-frequency, middle-frequency, and high-frequency noise. This breakdown is important for two reasons:

- Our ear is better equipped to hear mid- and high-range frequencies than lower frequencies. Thus, we find mid- and high-frequency noise to be more annoying. High-frequency noise is also more capable of producing hearing loss.
- Engineering solutions to a noise problem are different for different frequency ranges. Low-frequency noise is generally harder to control.



The normal frequency range of hearing for most people extends from a low frequency of about 20 Hz to a high frequency of about 10,000 to 15,000 Hz. People respond to sound most readily when the predominant frequency is in the range of normal conversation, typically around 1,000 to 2,000 Hz. Several filters have been developed that match the sensitivity of our ear and thus help us to judge the relative loudness of various sounds made up of many different frequencies. The so-called “A” filter is the best measure for most environmental noise sources. Sound pressure levels measured through this filter are referred to as A-weighted levels, and are measured in A-weighted decibels or (dBA).

The A-weighted filter significantly de-emphasizes those parts of the total noise that occur at lower frequencies (those below about 500 Hz) and also those at very high frequencies (above 10,000 Hz) the frequencies that we do not hear as well. The filter has very little effect, or is nearly “flat,” in the middle range of frequencies (between 500 and 10,000 Hz), where our ears are most sensitive. Because this filter generally matches our ears’ sensitivity, sounds having a higher A-weighted sound level are usually judged to be louder than those with lower A-weighted sound levels, a relationship that otherwise might not be true.

COMMUNITY NOISE EQUIVALENT LEVEL (CNEL)

Cumulative noise metrics were developed to assess community response to noise. They are useful because they attempt to take into account the loudness and duration of the noise, the total number of noise events, and the time of day these events occur in one single-number rating scale. They are designed to account for the known health effects of noise on people. The community noise equivalent level (CNEL) is a 24-hour, time-weighted energy-average noise level based on dBA that measures the overall noise during an entire day. Noise that occurs during certain sensitive time periods is penalized for occurring at these times (by adding decibels to its L_{eq} measurement). On the CNEL scale, noise between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. is penalized by approximately five dB, to account for the greater potential for noise to interfere during these hours, as well as the typically lower ambient (background) noise levels during these hours. Noise during the night (from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) is penalized by 10 dB to attempt to account for our higher sensitivity to noise in the nighttime and the expected further decrease in ambient noise levels that typically occur in the night.

EQUIVALENT NOISE LEVEL (L_{eq})

The equivalent sound level, abbreviated L_{eq} , is a measure of the exposure resulting from the accumulation of A-weighted sound levels over a particular time period (e.g., 1 hour, 8 hour, a school day, nighttime, or a full 24-hour day). However, because the length of the period can be different depending on the time frame of interest, the applicable period should always be identified or clearly understood when discussing the metric. Such durations are often identified through a subscript, for example, “ $L_{eq}(24)$ ”.

Conceptually, L_{eq} may be thought of as a constant sound level over the period of interest that contains as much sound energy as the actual time-varying sound level with its normal peaks and valleys. It is important to realize, however, that the two signals (the constant one and the time-varying one) would sound very different from each other if compared in real life. Variations in the “average” sound level suggested by L_{eq} is not an arithmetic value, but a logarithmic (“energy-averaged”) sound level. Thus, loud events clearly dominate any noise environment described by the metric.

DAY NIGHT AVERAGE (LDN)

Another commonly used noise metric is the day/night average noise level (Ldn). The Ldn is a measure of the 24-hour average noise level at a given location. It was adopted by the EPA for developing criteria to evaluate community noise exposure. Ldn is based on a measure of the average noise level over a given time period. The Ldn is calculated by averaging the Leq for each hour of the day at a given location after penalizing the sleeping hours (from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) by 10 dBA to take into account the increased sensitivity of people to noises that occur at night. The sound level exceeded over a specified time frame can be expressed as Ln (i.e., L90, L50, L10, etc.). L50 equals the level exceeded 50 percent of the time; L10, 10 percent of the time; etc.

OTHER NOISE MATRICES

As previously mentioned, people tend to respond to changes in sound pressure in a logarithmic manner. In general, a 1 dBA change in the sound pressure levels of a given sound is detectable only under laboratory conditions. A 3 dBA change in sound pressure level is considered a detectable difference in most situations. A 5 dBA change is readily noticeable and a 10 dBA change is considered a doubling (or halving) of the subjective loudness. It should be noted that a 3 dBA increase or decrease in the average traffic noise level is realized by a doubling or halving of the traffic volume; or by about a 7 mile per hour (mph) increase or decrease in speed.

For each doubling of distance from a point noise source, the sound level will decrease by 6 dBA. In other words, if a person is 100 feet from a machine, and moves to 200 feet from that source, sound levels will drop approximately 6 dBA. For each doubling of distance from a line source, like a roadway, noise levels are reduced by 3 to 5 decibels, depending on the ground cover between the source and the receiver.

Noise barriers can provide approximately a 5 dBA CNEL noise reduction (additional reduction may be provided with a barrier of appropriate height, material, location and length). A row of buildings provides up to 5 dBA CNEL noise reduction with a 1.5 dBA CNEL reduction for each additional row up to a maximum reduction of approximately 10 dBA. The exact degree of noise attenuation depends on the nature and orientation of the structure and intervening barriers.

7.4 KEY THEMES AND VISION FOR GENERAL PLAN

It is the general objective of the City to regulate and control unnecessary, excessive, and annoying sounds emanating from uses and activities within the City, and to prohibit such sounds that are detrimental to the public health, welfare, and safety of its residents. With the objective, the City is focused on maintaining or improving the quality of life for both existing and future residents. The Land Use Element proposes a variety of mixed use development types along major arterials in the City. The Noise Element will ensure that the residential and non-residential uses within the mixed use development meet established noise standards.

AMBIENT NOISE

Ambient noise is described as the all-encompassing background noise associated with a given environment, usually being a composite of sounds from many sources near and far.

Garden Grove's noise environment is dominated by vehicular traffic noise along State Route 22 (SR-22) as well as major and primary arterials. The major arterials that serve the City are Valley View Street, Brookhurst Street, Harbor Boulevard, Bolsa Avenue, Westminster Avenue, Fairview

Road, and Knott Avenue. The primary arterials that serve the City are Magnolia Street, Euclid Street, Haster Street, Chapman Avenue, Garden Grove Boulevard, and Westminster Boulevard. In addition, Katella Avenue, Harbor Boulevard, Bolsa Avenue, and Valley View Streets are designated as Smart Streets.

NOISE SENSITIVE RECEPTORS

Human response to noise varies widely depending on the type of noise, time of day, and sensitivity of the receptor. The effects of noise on humans can range from temporary or permanent hearing loss to mild stress and annoyance due to such things as speech interference and sleep deprivation. Prolonged stress, regardless of the cause, is known to contribute to a variety of health disorders. The sensitive receptors located within the City are listed in Appendix D, Air Quality Data, of the General Plan EIR.¹

NOISE AND LAND USE COMPATIBILITY MATRIX

The State of California Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Noise Element Guidelines include recommended interior and exterior level standards for local jurisdictions to identify and prevent the creation of incompatible land uses due to noise. The OPR Guidelines describe the compatibility of various land uses with a range of environmental noise levels in terms of dBA CNEL (Community Noise Equivalent Level).

A noise environment of 50 dBA CNEL to 60 dBA CNEL is considered to be “normally acceptable” for residential uses. The State indicates that locating residential units, parks, and institutions (such as churches, schools, libraries, and hospitals) in areas where exterior ambient noise levels exceed 65 dBA CNEL is undesirable. The OPR recommendations also note that, under certain conditions, more restrictive standards than the maximum levels cited may be appropriate. As an example, the standards for quiet suburban and rural communities may be reduced by 5 to 10 dB to reflect their lower existing outdoor noise levels in comparison with urban environments.

In addition, *Title 25, Section 1092 of the California Code of Regulations*, sets forth requirements for the insulation of multiple-family residential dwelling units from excessive and potentially harmful noise. Whenever multiple-family residential dwelling units are proposed in areas with excessive noise exposure, the developer must incorporate construction features into the building’s design that reduce interior noise levels to 45 dBA CNEL.

Table 7-1, Noise and Land Use Compatibility Matrix, illustrates the State guidelines established by the State Department of Health Services for acceptable noise levels for each county and city. These standards and criteria are incorporated into the land use planning process to reduce future noise and land use incompatibilities. This table is the primary tool that allows the City to ensure integrated planning for compatibility between land uses and outdoor noise.

CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NOISE STANDARDS

The City of Garden Grove maintains a comprehensive Noise Ordinance within its Municipal Code that establishes citywide interior and exterior noise level standards. The City has adopted a number of policies that are directed at controlling or mitigating environmental noise effects. The City’s Noise Ordinance (Municipal Code Section 8.47, Noise Control,) establishes daytime and nighttime noise standards; refer to *Table 7-2, Garden Grove Noise Ordinance Standards*. The ordinance is designed to control unnecessary, excessive and annoying sounds generated

¹ Similar uses are sensitive to both air quality and noise impacts. Therefore, the sensitive receptor list for both issue areas is the same.

from a stationary source impacting an adjacent property. It differentiates between environmental and nuisance noise. Environmental noise is measured under a time average period while nuisance noise cannot exceed the established Noise Ordinance levels at any time. At the boundary line between a residential property and a commercial and manufacturing property, the noise level of the quieter zone is required to be used.

**Table 7-1
Noise and Land Use Compatibility Matrix**

Land Use Category	Community Noise Exposure (L _{dn} or CNEL, dBA)			
	Normally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Normally Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable
Residential - Low Density, Single-Family, Duplex, Mobile Homes	50 - 60	55 - 70	70-75	75-85
Residential - Multiple Family	50 - 65	60 - 70	70 - 75	70 - 85
Transient Lodging - Motel, Hotels	50 - 65	60 - 70	70 - 80	80 - 85
Schools, Libraries, Churches, Hospitals, Nursing Homes	50 - 70	60 - 70	70 - 80	80 - 85
Auditoriums, Concert Halls, Amphitheaters	NA	50 - 70	NA	65 - 85
Sports Arenas, Outdoor Spectator Sports	NA	50 - 75	NA	70 - 85
Playgrounds, Neighborhood Parks	50 - 70	NA	67.5 - 75	72.5 - 85
Golf Courses, Riding Stables, Water Recreation, Cemeteries	50 - 70	NA	70 - 80	80 - 85
Office Buildings, Business Commercial and Professional	50 - 70	67.5 - 77.5	75 - 85	NA
Industrial, Manufacturing, Utilities, Agriculture	50 - 75	70 - 80	75 - 85	NA

NA: Not Applicable
Source: Office of Planning and Research, California, *General Plan Guidelines*, October 2003.
Normally Acceptable – Specified land use is satisfactory, based upon the assumption that any buildings involved are of normal conventional construction, without any special noise insulation requirements.
Conditionally Acceptable – New construction or development should be undertaken only after a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements is made and needed noise insulation features included in the design. Conventional construction, but with closed windows and fresh air supply systems or air conditioning, will normally suffice.
Normally Unacceptable – New construction or development should be discouraged. If new construction or development does proceed, a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements must be made and needed noise insulation features included in the design.
Clearly Unacceptable – New construction or development should generally not be undertaken.

**Table 7-2
Garden Grove Noise Ordinance Standards**

Land Use Designation		Ambient Base Noise Level	Time Of Day
Sensitive Uses	Residential Use	55 dBA	7:00 AM – 10:00 PM
		50 dBA	10:00 PM – 7:00 AM
Conditionally Sensitive Uses	Institutional Use	65 dBA	Any Time
	Office-Professional Use	65 dBA	Any Time
	Hotels and Motels	65 dBA	Any Time
Non-Sensitive Uses	Commercial Uses	70 dBA	Any Time
	Commercial/Industrial Uses within 150 feet of Residential Uses	65 dBA	7:00 AM – 10:00 PM
		50 dBA	10:00 PM – 7:00 AM
	Industrial Uses	70 dBA	Any Time

Source: City of Garden Grove, *Municipal Code, Section 8.47, Noise Control*, 2005.



Municipal Code Section 8.47.060, Special Noise Sources, also includes the following provisions for construction and maintenance activities:

(d) Construction of Buildings and Projects. It shall be unlawful for any person within a residential area, or within a radius of 500 feet there from, to operate equipment or perform any outside construction or repair work on buildings, structures, or projects, or to operate any pile driver, power shovel, pneumatic hammer, derrick, power hoist, or any other construction type device between the hour of 10:00 p.m. of one day and 7:00 a.m. of the next day in such a manner that a person of normal sensitiveness, as determined utilizing the criteria established in Section 8.47.050(a), is caused discomfort or annoyance unless such operations are of an emergency nature.

MINIMIZE COMMUNITY EXPOSURE TO NOISE

The primary goal with regard to community noise is to minimize the exposure of new residential development, schools, hospitals and similar noise-sensitive uses to excessive or unhealthy noise levels to the greatest extent possible. Toward this end, this Element establishes the noise/land use compatibility guidelines set forth in [Table 7-1](#) for outdoor noise. The compatibility guidelines recognize and respond to the many different noise environments in Garden Grove.

The City supports new residential development within already urbanized areas where ambient noise levels may be higher than those experienced in neighborhoods located on the urban periphery. This is in an effort to promote “smart growth,” mixed use development, making more efficient use of land and resources.

Interior noise levels for new residential development, regardless of location within the City will be required to comply with standards set forth in Title 24 of the State Health and Safety Code. New construction may need to incorporate special insulation, windows, and sealants in order to ensure that interior noise levels meet Title 24 standards.

The City will utilize the noise/land use compatibility guidelines outlined in [Table 7-1](#) and [Table 7-2](#) in making land use decisions. These compatibility guidelines show a range of noise standards for various land use categories. Depending on the ambient environment of a particular community, these basic guidelines may be tailored to reflect existing noise and land use characteristics. The matrix defines noise in terms of Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) and expressed in dB that measure sound intensity. Noise levels occurring during nighttime hours are weighted more heavily than during the daytime.

7.5 GOALS, POLICIES, AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

This Element is organized into goals, policies, and implementation programs. A description of each is provided in Chapter 1, Introduction. It is important to note that the implementation programs are specific actions to carry out all of the preceding goals and policies.

Goal N-1	Noise considerations must be incorporated into land use planning decisions.
Policy N-1.1	Require all new residential construction in areas with an exterior noise level greater than 55 dBA to include sound attenuation measures.
Policy N-1.2	Incorporate a noise assessment study into the environmental review process, when needed for a specific project for the purposes of identifying potential noise impacts and noise abatement procedures.



Policy N-1.3	Require noise reduction techniques in site planning, architectural design, and construction, where noise reduction is necessary consistent with the standards in Tables 7-1 and 7-2, Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, and Section 8.47 of the Municipal Code.
Policy N-1.4	Ensure acceptable noise levels are maintained near schools, hospitals, convalescent homes, churches, and other noise sensitive areas.
Policy N-1.5	Require the design of mixed use structures to incorporate techniques to prevent the transfer of noise and vibration from the commercial to residential use.
Policy N-1.6	Encourage commercial uses in mixed use developments that are not noise intensive.
Policy N-1.7	Avoid locating noise-sensitive land use in existing and noise-impacted areas.
N-IMP-1A	Maintain a technical resource for builders, developers, and operators of construction equipment that discusses a variety of sound attenuation measures (e.g., temporary noise attenuation fences, preferential location of equipment, use of current technology and types of noise suppression equipment), the amount of noise reduction each produces, and how to combine them to meet City requirements.
N-IMP-1B	Require that new commercial, industrial, any redevelopment project, or any proposed development near existing residential land use demonstrate compliance with the City's Noise Ordinance prior to approval of the project.
N-IMP-1C	Implement noise mitigation by placing conditions of approval on development projects, and require a clear description of mitigation on subdivision maps, site plans, and building plans for inspection purposes.
N-IMP-1D	Require construction activity to comply with the limits established in the City's Noise Ordinance.
N-IMP-1E	Require buffers or appropriate mitigation of potential noise sources on noise sensitive areas.
N-IMP-1F	Require that vehicle access to commercial properties that are located adjacent to residential parcels or other noise sensitive uses be located at the maximum practical distance from these uses.
N-IMP-1G	Encourage truck deliveries to commercial or industrial properties abutting residential or noise sensitive uses after 7:00 AM and before 10:00 PM.
N-IMP-1H	Orient residential units away from major noise sources, particularly in mixed use projects.
N-IMP-1I	Encourage the location of balconies and operable windows of residential units in mixed use projects away from arterials and other major noise sources.



- N-IMP-1J Review the noise performance standards in the Zoning Code to determine if additional or modified standards are necessary to address mixed use development, particularly along major arterial roadways, or address and mitigate noise-generating land uses.
- N-IMP-1K Enforce the Noise Ordinance to ensure that stationary noise and noise emanating from construction activities, private development, and/or special events are minimized.
- N-IMP-1L Continue to enforce noise abatement and control measures.

Goal N-2	Maximized efficiency in noise abatement efforts through clear and effective policies and ordinances.
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- Policy N-2.1 Incorporate noise considerations into land use planning decisions by establishing acceptable limits of noise for various land uses throughout the community.
- Policy N-2.2 Fully integrate noise considerations into land use planning decisions to prevent new noise/land use conflicts.
- Policy N-2.3 Incorporate noise reduction features for items such as but not limited to parking and loading areas, ingress/egress point, and refuse collection areas, during site planning to mitigate anticipated noise impacts on affected noise sensitive land uses.
- Policy N-2.4 Permit only those new development or redevelopment projects that have incorporated appropriate mitigation measures, so that standards contained in the Noise Element or adopted ordinance are met.
- Policy N-2.5 Ensure the effective enforcement of City, State, and Federal noise levels by all appropriate City Divisions.
- N-IMP-2A Require a noise impact evaluation for projects, if determined necessary through the environmental review process. Should noise abatement be necessary, the City shall require the implementation of mitigation measures based on a technical study prepared by a qualified acoustical professional.
- N-IMP-2B Consider establishing a periodic noise monitoring program to identify progress in achieving noise abatement and to perform necessary updating of the Noise Element and community noise standards.
- N-IMP-2C Amend, and combine if deemed appropriate, ordinances and policies relating to noise control. The amended ordinance(s) shall more clearly address mitigation of noise conflicts between adjacent uses, construction noise, noise associated with maintenance equipment (e.g., leaf blowers, street sweepers, etc), hours of operation of construction or maintenance equipment, noise standards, abatement, enforcement, procedures, and other like issues.



N-IMP-2D	Use code enforcement to enforce the appropriate noise standards in the City's noise ordinance(s).
N-IMP-2E	Use the Police unit to enforce the appropriate noise standards in the State's motor vehicle code.
N-IMP-2F	Require that new equipment purchased by the City of Garden Grove comply with noise performance standards.
N-IMP-2G	Disseminate information to the public regarding City noise regulations and programs, the health effects of high noise levels, means of mitigating such levels, as well as abatement and enforcement procedures.
N-IMP-2H	Coordinate with California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal-OSHA) to provide information on occupational noise requirements within the City.
N-IMP-2I	Examine the potential to establish a Violators Fee for persons requiring a second call/visit for violating the noise ordinance(s).

Goal N-3 Minimized noise impacts from freeways, ensuring that City and State interior and exterior noise standards are not exceeded.

Policy N-3.1	Encourage Caltrans to meet the State standard of 65 dBA CNEL for exterior noise levels for the Garden Grove Freeway (SR-22) and the San Diego Freeway (I-405).
Policy N-3.2	Encourage Caltrans to keep the interior residential noise levels below the State standard of 45 dBA CNEL, where appropriate and feasible.
N-IMP-3A	Continue to work with Caltrans to ensure that similar soundwalls or other appropriate mitigations to those installed along the Garden Grove Freeway (SR-22) be provided where the San Diego Freeway (I-405) abuts residential areas or areas with sensitive receptors within the City.
N-IMP-3B	Encourage Caltrans to develop a range of sound attenuation alternatives to mitigate noise impacts from the San Diego Freeway (I-405).

Goal N-4 Minimize noise impacts for residential uses and noise sensitive receptors along the City's arterial streets, ensuring that City and State interior and exterior noise levels are not exceeded.

Policy N-4.1	Examine the feasibility of implementing sound attenuation measures along the City's arterial streets. Prioritize the areas in need of sound attenuation based on degree of sensitivity, excess of maximum allowable standards, length of time the noise impact has existed, and the number or residential uses or sensitive receptors impacted.
Policy N-4.2	Minimize potential transportation noise through proper design of street circulation, coordination of routing, and other traffic control measures (e.g., shifting travel lanes away from impacted units, adding bike ways, etc.)



Policy N-4.3	Discourage through traffic on residential local streets to reduce noise.
N-IMP-4A	Install sound attenuation measures, including but not limited to, retrofitting existing residential units or sensitive receptors with double-glazed windows and sound insulation; construction of sound walls and landscaping, use of low walls and landscaped berms, enclose courtyards, rubberized asphalt, or relocation of driveways.
N-IMP-4B	Develop a streamlined process to expedite approval of noise reducing techniques identified in the noise ordinance(s).
N-IMP-4C	Ensure the inclusion of noise mitigation measures in the design of new roadway projects in the City of Garden Grove.
N-IMP-4D	Provide for continued evaluation of truck movements and routes in the City to provide effective separation from residential or other noise sensitive land uses.
N-IMP-4E	Conduct periodic noise monitoring and abatement to identify sound levels on residential local streets that may be affected by increased traffic volumes and speed limits.

Goal N-5	Minimize noise impacts on residential areas from rail and/or transit operations.
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Policy N-5.1	Continue to encourage the Southern Pacific Transportation Company to schedule trains during the daylight hours, when possible.
Policy N-5.2	Require noise attenuation measures for residential construction in areas affected by the 65 dBA CNEL railroad noise contour. Sound attenuation measures shall reduce interior noise to a maximum of 45 dBA CNEL. These measures shall be applicable to all residential construction in a railroad noise impact area, both for new structures and for renovations, remodels, and building additions.
Policy N-5.3	Work with the Orange County Transit Authority (OCTA) in the development of the OCTA right-of-way or other rail/transit lines to ensure that noise attenuation measures are addressed in the selection of the rail or vehicle technology for use along the right-of-way or rail/transit line, and in the siting, design, and construction of stations.
N-IMP-5A	Require the Orange County Transit Authority (OCTA) to comprehensively analyze and mitigate the noise impacts associated with transit development of the OCTA right-of-way or other rail/transit lines.

Goal N-6	Maintain or work to reduce noise levels associated with the Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) Los Alamitos.
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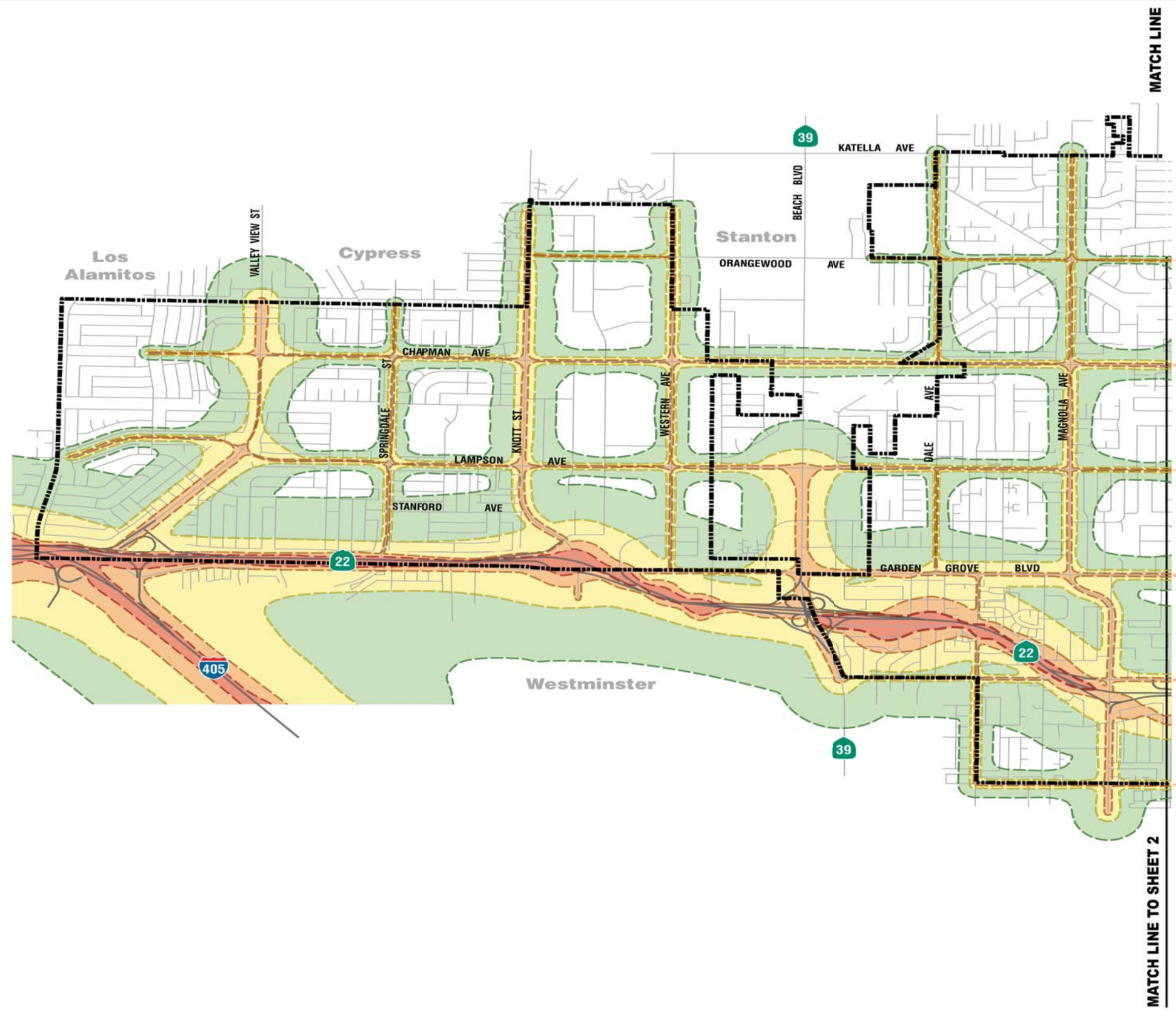
Policy N-6.1	Coordinate with the Airport Land Use Commission to monitor any expansion plans and/or increased activities at the Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) Los Alamitos.
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N-IMP-6A

Support development at the Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) Los Alamitos that adheres to the Airport Environs Land Use Plan (AELUP) and the City of Garden Grove and State noise requirements or ordinances.



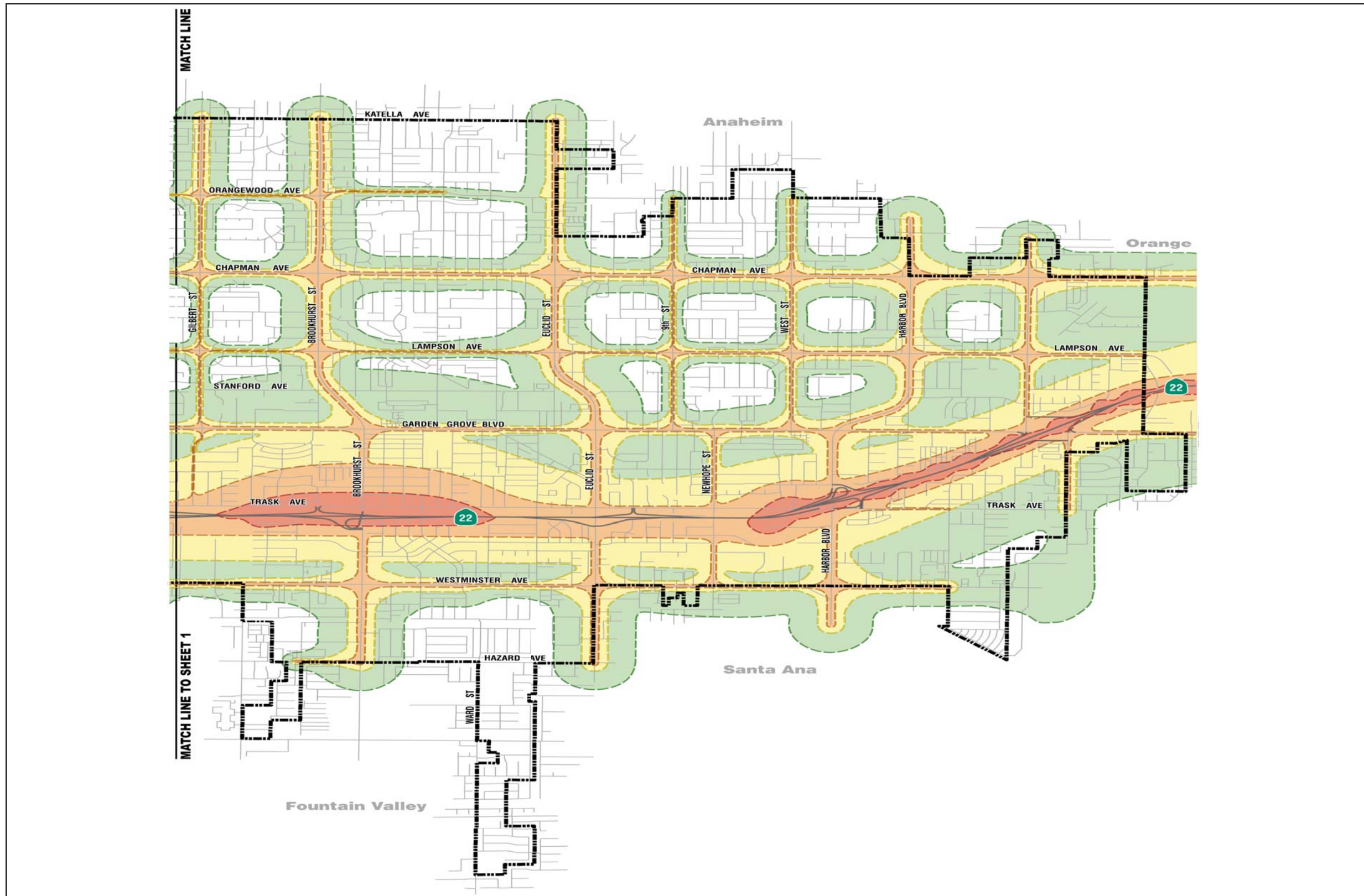


LEGEND

- Major Streets
- Freeway
- - - City Boundary
- Existing 75 CNEL
- Existing 70 CNEL
- Existing 65 CNEL
- Existing 60 CNEL



SOURCE: RBF Consulting, May 2008.

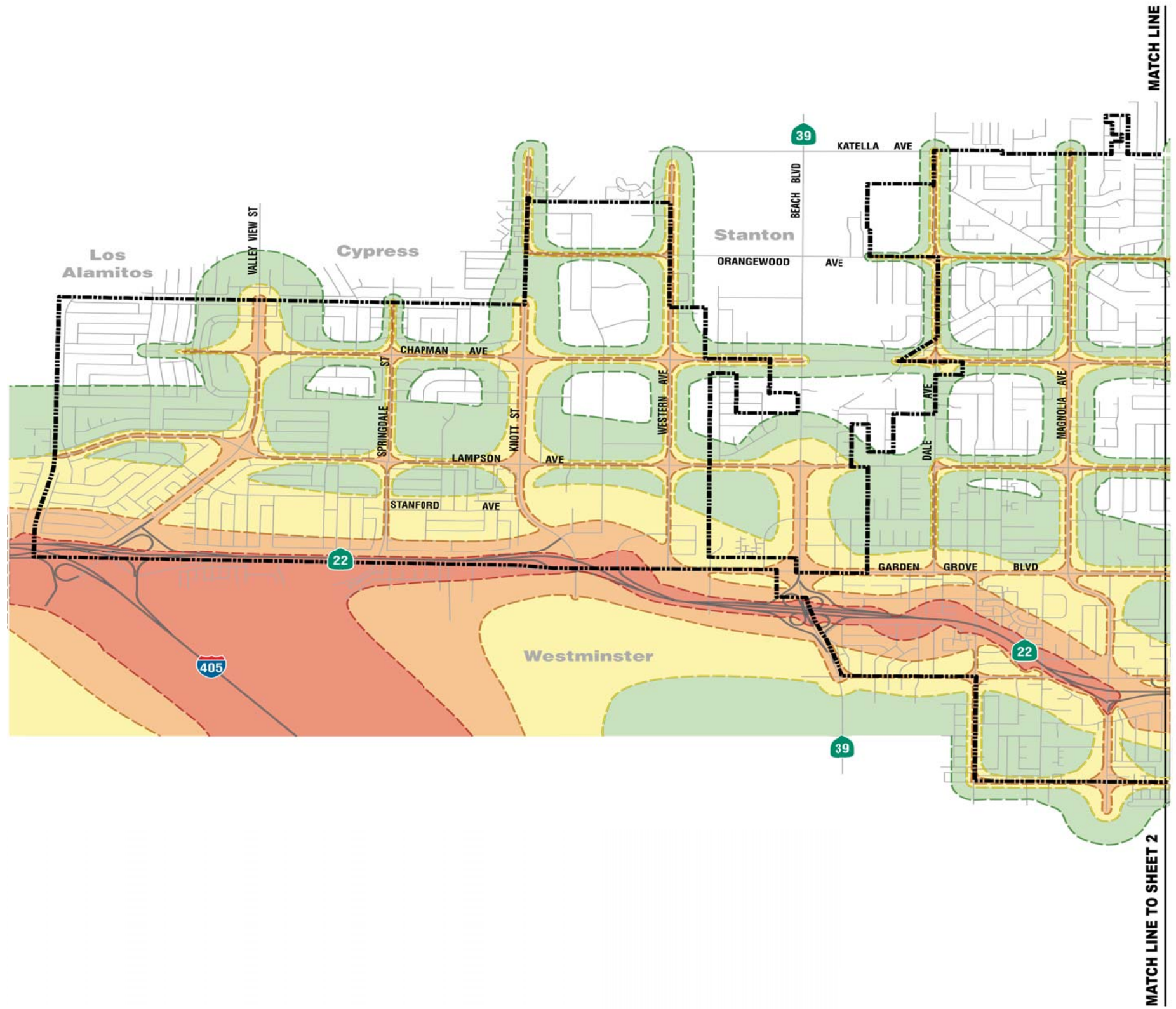


LEGEND

- Major Streets
- Freeway
- City Boundary
- Existing 75 CNEL
- Existing 70 CNEL
- Existing 65 CNEL
- Existing 60 CNEL



SOURCE: RBF Consulting.

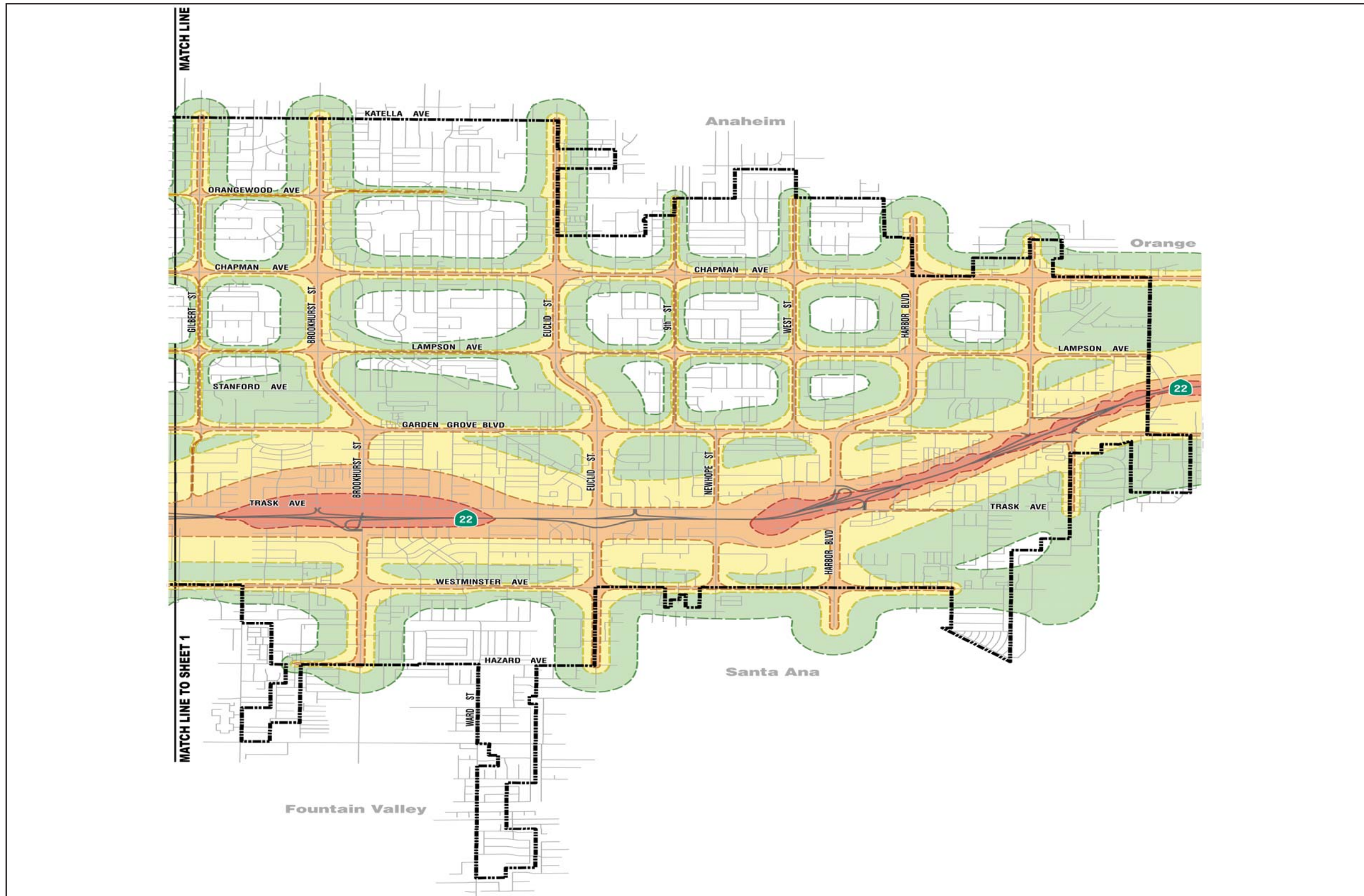


LEGEND

- Major Streets
- Freeway
- - - City Boundary
- Existing 75 CNEL
- Existing 70 CNEL
- Existing 65 CNEL
- Existing 60 CNEL



SOURCE: RBF Consulting, May 2008.



LEGEND

- Major Streets
- Freeway
- - - City Boundary
- Existing 75 CNEL
- Existing 70 CNEL
- Existing 65 CNEL
- Existing 60 CNEL



SOURCE: RBF Consulting.

CHAPTER 8.47
NOISE CONTROL

Note: Prior ordinance history: Ord. Nos. 1949, 1950, and 2258.

§ 8.47.020. Definitions.

The following words, phrases, and terms as used in this chapter shall have the meaning as indicated below:

"Actual measured ambient noise level" shall mean that noise level existing in the general area of the noise problem, excluding the noise generated by the noise source being evaluated.

"Ambient base noise level" shall mean the maximum loudness level normally found to be acceptable for given land uses and that serves as the basis for determining loudness noise violations pursuant to the provisions of Section 8.48.040 of this chapter.

"Ambient noise level" shall mean the all-encompassing background noise associated with a given environment, being usually a composite of sounds from many sources near and far.

"Commercial use" shall mean any enterprise whose principal endeavor is the sale of goods and/or services.

"Decibel (dB)" shall mean a unit that denotes the ratio between two quantities that are proportional to power: the number of decibels corresponding to the ratio of two amounts of power is 10 times the logarithm to the base 10 of this ratio. The commonly used unit for measuring sound pressure levels.

"Emergency" means operations made necessary to restore property to a safe condition following a public calamity, or work required to protect persons or property from an imminent exposure to danger or work by private or public utilities when restoring utility service.

"Industrial use" means any facility or operations involved in the manufacturing, repairing, testing, processing, warehousing, wholesaling, researching, and treatment of products.

"Institutional use" means an establishment maintained and operated by a society, church, corporation, individual, foundation, or public agency for the purpose of providing religious, charitable, social, educational, fraternal, or similar services.

"Noise" means any sound that exceeds the appropriate actual or presumed ambient noise level, that annoys or tends to disturb humans, or that causes or tends to cause an adverse psychological or physiological effect on humans of normal sensitiveness.

"Office-professional use" means any enterprise engaged in providing business or professional services.

"Residential use" means any structure utilized principally for human habitation, excluding hotels, motels, and recreational vehicle parks.

"Sound amplifying equipment" means any device for the amplification of the human voice, music, or any other sound and does not include standard automobile radios when used and heard only by the occupants of the vehicle in which the automobile radio is installed or devices on authorized emergency vehicles or horns or other warning devices on any vehicle used only for traffic safety

purposes.

"Sound level in decibels (dB)" means the sound measured utilizing the A-weighting scale and the slow needle response by a sound level meter.

"Sound level meter" means an instrument meeting American National Standard Institutes Standard S1.4-1971 for Type 1 or Type 2 sound level meters or an equivalent standard. (2660 § 2, 2005; 2802 § 1, 2011)

§ 8.47.030. Noise Level Measurement.

All noise level measurements made pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be performed using a sound level meter as defined in Section 8.47.020, using a fast needle response, utilizing the dB(A) scale.

(2660 § 2, 2005; 2802 § 1, 2011)

§ 8.47.040. Ambient Base Noise Levels.

The ambient base noise levels contained in the following chart shall be utilized as the basis for determining noise levels in excess of those allowed by this chapter unless the actual measured ambient noise level occurring at the same time as the noise under review is being investigated exceeds the ambient base noise level contained in the chart. When the actual measured ambient noise level exceeds the ambient base noise level, the actual measured ambient noise level shall be utilized as the basis for determining whether or not the subject noise exceeds the level allowed by this section. In situations where two adjoining properties exist within two different use designations, the most restrictive ambient base noise level will apply. This section permits any noise level that does not exceed either the ambient base noise level or the actual measured ambient noise level by 5 dB(A), as measured at the property line of the noise generation property.

USE CATEGORIES	USE DESIGNATIONS	AMBIENT BASE NOISE LEVELS	TIME OF DAY
Sensitive	Residential Use	55 dB(A) 50 dB(A)	7:00 a.m.—10:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.—7:00 a.m.
Conditionally Sensitive	Institutional Use Office-Professional Use Hotels & Motels	65 dB(A) 65 dB(A) 65 dB(A)	Any Time Any Time Any Time
Non-Sensitive	Commercial Uses Commercial/ Industrial Uses within 150 feet of Residential Industrial Use	70 dB(A) 65 dB(A) 50 dB(A) 70 dB(A)	Any Time 7:00 a.m.—10:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.—7:00 a.m. Any Time

(2660 § 2, 2005; 2802 § 1, 2011)

§ 8.47.050. General Noise Regulation.

- A. Noise disturbance criteria. It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully make, continue, or cause to be made or continued, any loud, unnecessary, or unusual noise that disturbs the peace or quiet of any neighborhood, or that causes discomfort or annoyance to any person of normal sensitiveness.
- B. The criteria that shall be utilized in determining whether a violation of the provisions of this section exists shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
1. The level of the noise.
 2. The frequency of occurrence of the noise.
 3. Whether the nature of the noise is usual or unusual.
 4. The level and intensity of the background noise, if any.
 5. The proximity of the noise to residential sleeping facilities.
 6. The nature and zoning of the area within which the noise emanates.
 7. The density of the inhabitation of the area within which the noise is received.
 8. The time of day or night the noise occurs.
 9. The duration of the noise.
- C. Duration of noise. The following criteria shall be used whenever the noise level exceeds:
1. The noise standard for a cumulative period of more than 30 minutes in any hour;
 2. The noise standard plus five dB(A) for a cumulative period of more than 15 minutes in any hour;
 3. The noise standard plus 10 dB(A) for a cumulative period of more than five minutes in any hour;
 4. The noise standard plus 15 dB(A) for a cumulative period of more than one minute in any hour; or
 5. The noise standard plus 20 dB(A) for any period of time.
- D. In the event the ambient noise level exceeds any of the first four noise limit categories above, the cumulative period applicable to said category shall be increased to reflect said ambient noise level. In the event the ambient noise level exceeds the fifth noise limit category, the maximum allowable noise level under said category shall be increased to reflect the maximum ambient noise level.
(2660 § 2, 2005; 2802 § 1, 2011)

§ 8.47.060. Special Noise Sources.

- A. Radios, television sets, and similar devices.
1. Use restricted. It shall be unlawful for any person within any residential area of the City

to use or operate any radio receiving set, musical instrument, stereo equipment, television set, or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound between the hours of 10:00 p.m. of one day and 7:00 a.m. of the following day in such a manner as to disturb the peace, quiet, and comfort of any person of normal sensitiveness residing in the area, as determined utilizing the criteria established in Section 8.47.050(A).

2. Prima facie violation. Any noise level exceeding the ambient base level at the property line of any property (or, if a condominium or apartment house, within any adjoining apartment) by more than five decibels shall be deemed to be prima facie evidence of a violation of the provisions of this section.
- B. Musical instruments—use restricted. It shall be unlawful for any person to use any drum or other instrument or device of any kind for the purpose of attracting attention by the creation of noise within the City. This section shall not apply to any person who is a participant in a duly licensed parade or who has been otherwise duly authorized to engage in such conduct.
 - C. Machinery, equipment, fans, and air conditioning. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any machinery, equipment, pump, fan, air conditioning apparatus, or similar mechanical device in any manner so as to create any noise that would cause the noise level at the property line of any property to exceed either the ambient base noise level or the actual measured ambient noise level by more than five decibels.
 - D. Construction of buildings and projects. It shall be unlawful for any person within a residential area, or within a radius of 500 feet therefrom, to operate equipment or perform any outside construction or repair work on buildings, structures, or projects, or to operate any pile driver, power shovel, pneumatic hammer, derrick, power hoist, or any other construction type device between the hours of 10:00 p.m. of one day and 7:00 a.m. of the next day in such a manner that a person of normal sensitiveness, as determined utilizing the criteria established in Section 8.47.050(B), is caused discomfort or annoyance unless such operations are of an emergency nature.
 - E. Vehicle repairs. It shall be unlawful for any person within any residential area of the City to repair, rebuild, or test any motor vehicle in such a manner that a person of normal sensitiveness residing in the area is caused discomfort or annoyance, as determined utilizing the criteria established in Section 8.47.050, unless such operations are of an emergency nature.
 - F. Motor driven vehicles. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any motor driven vehicle within the City in such a manner that a person of normal sensitiveness residing in the area is caused discomfort or annoyance, as determined utilizing the criteria established in Section 8.47.050(B), unless such operations are of an emergency nature; provided, however, any such vehicle that is operated upon any public highway, street, or right-of-way shall be excluded from the provisions of this section.
 - G. Amplified sound.
 1. Purpose. While recognizing the constitutional rights of freedom of speech and assembly, the City nevertheless feels obligated to reasonably regulate the use of sound

amplifying equipment in order to protect the rights of the citizens of the City to privacy and freedom from excessively loud and unnecessary noise.

2. **Registration.** It shall be unlawful for any person, other than personnel of law enforcement or governmental agencies, to install, use, or operate within the City a loudspeaker or sound amplifying equipment mounted upon any vehicle for the purposes of warnings, giving instructions, directions, talks, addresses, lectures, or transmitting music to any persons or assemblages of persons without first filing a registration statement at least seven days prior to the date on which the sound amplifying equipment is intended to be used and obtaining approval from the Zoning Administrator.
 3. **Approval.** The Zoning Administrator shall return to the applicant an approved copy of the registration statement unless he or she finds that:
 - a. The conditions of the motor vehicle movement are such that use of the equipment would constitute a detriment to traffic safety; or
 - b. The conditions of pedestrian movement are such that use of the equipment would constitute a detriment to traffic safety.
 4. **Disapproval.** In the event the registration statement is disapproved, the Zoning Administrator shall endorse upon the statement the reason for disapproval and return it to the applicant.
 5. **Appeals.** Any decision by the Zoning Administrator may be appealed to the City Council within seven days of action of the Zoning Administrator by filing a notice of appeal with the City Clerk.
- H. **Waste haulers/commercial sweepers and leaf blowers.** It shall be unlawful for any person within any commercial, industrial, or office complex area of the City to operate any refuse compacting, processing or collection vehicle, parking lot sweeper or leaf blower within 150 feet of residential property between the hours of 10:00 p.m. of one day and 7:00 a.m. of the following day.
- I. **Loading/unloading.** It shall be unlawful for any person in any commercial or industrial area of the City that abuts or is located adjacent to any residential property between the hours of 10:00 p.m. of one day and 7:00 a.m. of the following day to load or unload any vehicle, or operate any dollies, carts, forklifts, or other wheeled equipment that causes any noise that disturbs the peace or quiet of the residential neighborhood.
- (2660 § 2, 2005; 2802 § 1, 2011)

§ 8.47.070. Exemptions.

- A. **Emergency activities.** The provisions of this chapter shall not preclude the operation, maintenance, and repair of equipment, apparatus, or facilities of essential public services, including those of governmental agencies and public utilities providing those activities are of an emergency nature or are necessary to maintain the health, safety, and welfare of the citizenry.
- B. **Community activities.** Community events, as described in Section 8.08.060 of the Municipal

Code, outdoor gatherings, school bands, dances, shows, and athletic events are hereby exempted from the provisions of this chapter provided such activities are conducted pursuant to a duly authorized license or permit.

- C. State and federal preemptions. Motor vehicle and aircraft operations and any other activity whose regulation has been preempted by state or federal law is hereby exempted from the provisions of this chapter.

(2660 § 2, 2005; 2802 § 1, 2011)

§ 8.47.080. Abatement.

The City Manager or his or her designee and his or her duly authorized representatives are hereby directed to enforce the provisions of this chapter by requiring that the alleged offender correct violations and achieve compliance with the provisions of this chapter within a reasonable period of time.

- A. The City Manager or his or her designee shall have the power and duty to enforce the following noise control provisions of this Code: Section 8.47.050, Section 8.47.060(A)(2), (C), (H), and (I).
- B. The Police Department shall have the power and duty to enforce the following noise control provisions of this Code: Section 8.47.060 (A)(1), (B), (E), (F), (G)(1) and (2).
- C. The Building Official shall have the power and duty to enforce the following noise control provisions of this Code: Section 8.47.060(D).

(2660 § 2, 2005; 2802 § 1, 2011)

CONSTRUCTION NOISE MODELING

Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM),Version 1.1

Report date: 08/12/2024
 Case Description: GGSD-05.5 Mark Twain School - Site Preparation

**** Receptor #1 ****

Description	Land Use	Baselines (dBA)		
		Daytime	Evening	Night
Residences	Residential	60.0	55.0	50.0

Description	Impact Device	Usage (%)	Equipment			
			Spec Lmax (dBA)	Actual Lmax (dBA)	Receptor Distance (feet)	Estimated Shielding (dBA)
Grader	No	40	85.0		50.0	0.0
Excavator	No	40		80.7	50.0	0.0

Results

Equipment	Calculated (dBA)	Noise Limits (dBA)						Noise Limit Exceedance (dBA)					
		Day		Evening		Night		Day		Evening		Night	
		Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq
Grader	85.0 81.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Excavator	80.7 76.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	85.0 82.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM),Version 1.1

Report date: 08/12/2024
 Case Description: GGSD-05.5 Mark Twain School - Asphalt Demolition

**** Receptor #1 ****

Description	Land Use	Baselines (dBA)		
		Daytime	Evening	Night
Residences	Residential	60.0	55.0	50.0

Description	Impact Device	Usage (%)	Equipment			
			Spec Lmax (dBA)	Actual Lmax (dBA)	Receptor Distance (feet)	Estimated Shielding (dBA)
Concrete Saw	No	20		89.6	50.0	0.0
Dozer	No	40		81.7	50.0	0.0
Excavator	No	40		80.7	50.0	0.0

Results

Equipment	Noise Limits (dBA)										Noise Limit Exceedance (dBA)					
	Calculated (dBA)		Day		Evening		Night		Day		Evening		Night			
	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq		
Concrete Saw	89.6	82.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Dozer	81.7	77.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Excavator	80.7	76.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Total	89.6	84.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		

Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM),Version 1.1

Report date: 08/12/2024
 Case Description: GGSD-05.5 Mark Twain School - Building Demolition

**** Receptor #1 ****

Description	Land Use	Baselines (dBA)		
		Daytime	Evening	Night
Residences	Residential	60.0	55.0	50.0

Description	Impact Device	Usage (%)	Equipment			
			Spec Lmax (dBA)	Actual Lmax (dBA)	Receptor Distance (feet)	Estimated Shielding (dBA)
Concrete Saw	No	20		89.6	50.0	0.0
Dozer	No	40		81.7	50.0	0.0
Excavator	No	40		80.7	50.0	0.0

Results

Equipment	Noise Limits (dBA)									Noise Limit Exceedance (dBA)					
	Calculated (dBA)		Day		Evening		Night		Day		Evening		Night		
	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	
Concrete Saw	89.6	82.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Dozer	81.7	77.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Excavator	80.7	76.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Total	89.6	84.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM),Version 1.1

Report date: 08/12/2024
 Case Description: GGSD-05.5 Mark Twain School - Grading

**** Receptor #1 ****

Description	Land Use	Baselines (dBA)		
		Daytime	Evening	Night
Residences	Residential	60.0	55.0	50.0

Description	Impact Device	Usage (%)	Equipment			
			Spec Lmax (dBA)	Actual Lmax (dBA)	Receptor Distance (feet)	Estimated Shielding (dBA)
Grader	No	40	85.0		50.0	0.0
Excavator	No	40		80.7	50.0	0.0

Results

Equipment	Calculated (dBA)	Noise Limits (dBA)						Noise Limit Exceedance (dBA)					
		Day		Evening		Night		Day		Evening		Night	
		Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq
Grader	85.0 81.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Excavator	80.7 76.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	85.0 82.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM),Version 1.1

Report date: 08/12/2024
 Case Description: GGSD-05.5 Mark Twain School - Building Construction

**** Receptor #1 ****

Description	Land Use	Baselines (dBA)		
		Daytime	Evening	Night
Residences	Residential	60.0	55.0	50.0

Description	Impact Device	Usage (%)	Equipment			
			Spec Lmax (dBA)	Actual Lmax (dBA)	Receptor Distance (feet)	Estimated Shielding (dBA)
Crane	No	16		80.6	50.0	0.0
Welder / Torch	No	40		74.0	50.0	0.0
Tractor	No	40	84.0		50.0	0.0

Results

Equipment	Noise Limits (dBA)									Noise Limit Exceedance (dBA)					
	Calculated (dBA)		Day		Evening		Night		Day		Evening		Night		
	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	
Crane	80.6	72.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Welder / Torch	74.0	70.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Tractor	84.0	80.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Total	84.0	81.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM),Version 1.1

Report date: 08/12/2024
 Case Description: GGSD-05.5 Mark Twain School - Architectural Coating

**** Receptor #1 ****

Description	Land Use	Baselines (dBA)		
		Daytime	Evening	Night
Residences	Residential	60.0	55.0	50.0

Description	Impact Device	Usage (%)	Equipment		Receptor Distance (feet)	Estimated Shielding (dBA)
			Spec Lmax (dBA)	Actual Lmax (dBA)		
Paver	No	50		77.2	50.0	0.0
Drum Mixer	No	50		80.0	50.0	0.0
Roller	No	20		80.0	50.0	0.0

Results

Equipment	Calculated (dBA)		Noise Limits (dBA)						Noise Limit Exceedance (dBA)					
	Lmax	Leq	Day		Evening		Night		Day		Evening		Night	
			Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq		
Paver	77.2	74.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drum Mixer	80.0	77.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Roller	80.0	73.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	80.0	79.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM),Version 1.1

Report date: 08/12/2024
 Case Description: GGSD-05.5 Mark Twain School - Architectural Coating

**** Receptor #1 ****

Description	Land Use	Baselines (dBA)		
		Daytime	Evening	Night
Residences	Residential	60.0	55.0	50.0

Description	Impact Device	Usage (%)	Equipment		Receptor Distance (feet)	Estimated Shielding (dBA)
			Spec Lmax (dBA)	Actual Lmax (dBA)		
Paver	No	50		77.2	50.0	0.0
Drum Mixer	No	50		80.0	50.0	0.0
Roller	No	20		80.0	50.0	0.0

Results

Equipment	Calculated (dBA)		Noise Limits (dBA)						Noise Limit Exceedance (dBA)					
			Day		Evening		Night		Day		Evening		Night	
	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq	Lmax	Leq
Paver	77.2	74.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drum Mixer	80.0	77.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Roller	80.0	73.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	80.0	79.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

GGSD-05.5 - Construction Noise Modeling Attenuation Calculations

Levels in dBA Leq

Phase	RCNM				
	Reference Noise Level	Receptor to North	Receptor to East	Receptor to South	Receptor to West
<i>Distance in feet</i>	50	375	225	175	100
Demolition	85	67	72	74	79
Site Prep	85	67	72	74	79
Grading	85	67	72	74	79
<i>Distance in feet</i>	50	300	235	175	100
Building Construction	80	64	67	69	74
Architectural Coating	74	58	61	63	68
<i>Distance in feet</i>	50	355	165	150	100
Paving	80	63	70	70	74
<i>Distance in feet</i>	50	275	200	100	100
Finish/Landscaping	80	65	68	74	74
Other					

Attenuation calculated through Inverse Square Law: $L_p(R2) = L_p(R1) - 20\text{Log}(R2/R1)$

GGSD-05.5 - Vibration Damage Attenuation Calculations

Levels, PPV (in/sec)

<i>Distance in feet</i>	Vibration Reference Level	Receptor to North	Receptor to East	Receptor to South	Receptor to West
	at 25 feet	<i>300</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>85</i>
Vibratory Roller	0.21	0.005	0.056	0.087	0.033
Static Roller	0.05	0.001	0.013	0.021	0.008
Large Bulldozer	0.089	0.002	0.024	0.037	0.014
Loaded Trucks	0.076	0.002	0.020	0.031	0.012
Jackhammer	0.035	0.001	0.009	0.014	0.006
Small Bulldozer	0.003	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.000

TRAFFIC NOISE MODELING

Traffic Noise Calculator: FHWA 77-108			Mark Twain/ATP School Improvements (GGSD-05.5) Existing 2024 Traffic Noise																				
Output			Inputs																Auto Inputs				
dBA at 50 feet			Distance to CNEL Contour			Roadway		Segment From - To		ADT	Posted Speed Limit	Grade	% Autos	% Med Trucks	% Heavy Trucks	% Daytime	% Evening	% Night	Number of Lanes	Site Condition	Distance to Receiver	Ground Absorption	Lane Distance
ID	L _{eq,24hr}	L _{dn}	CNEL	70 dBA	65 dBA	60 dBA																	
1	51.0	53.8	54.3	4	10	21	Loara Street	School Site	to the North	1,690	25	0.0%	93.2%	1.5%	1.0%	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20
2	52.7	55.5	56.0	6	13	27	Main St	School Site	to the South	1,870	25	0.0%	93.2%	1.5%	2.0%	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20

Traffic Noise Calculator: FHWA 77-108																							Mark Twain/ATP School Improvements (GGSD-05.5) Existing Plus Project Traffic Noise																						
		Output					Inputs															Auto Inputs																							
		dBA at 50 feet			Distance to CNEL Contour		Roadway			Segment From - To			ADT	Posted Speed Limit	Grade	% Autos	% Med Trucks	% Heavy Trucks	% Daytime	% Evening	% Night	Number of Lanes	Site Condition	Distance to Receiver	Ground Absorption	Lane Distance																			
ID	L _{eq,24hr}	L _{dn}	CNEL	70 dBA	65 dBA	60 dBA																																							
1	51.2	54.0	54.5	5	10	21	Loara Street	School Site	to the North	1,770	25	0.0%	93.2%	1.5%	1.0%	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20																					
2	55.2	57.9	58.4	8	18	39	Loara Street	School Site	to the South	2,170	25	0.0%	93.2%	1.5%	4.0%	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20																					

Traffic Noise Calculator: FHWA 77-108			Mark Twain/ATP School Improvements (GGSD-05.5) Future Traffic Noise																				
Output			Inputs																Auto Inputs				
dBA at 50 feet			Distance to CNEL Contour			Roadway		Segment From - To		ADT	Posted Speed Limit	Grade	% Autos	% Med Trucks	% Heavy Trucks	% Daytime	% Evening	% Night	Number of Lanes	Site Condition	Distance to Receiver	Ground Absorption	Lane Distance
ID	L _{eq,24hr}	L _{dn}	CNEL	70 dBA	65 dBA	60 dBA																	
1	51.1	53.9	54.3	5	10	21	Loara Street	School Site	to the North	1,720	25	0.0%	93.2%	1.5%	1.0%	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20
2	53.4	56.2	56.6	6	14	30	Loara Street	School Site	to the South	2,170	25	0.0%	93.2%	1.5%	2.0%	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20

Traffic Noise Calculator: FHWA 77-108																							Mark Twain/ATP School Improvements (GGSD-05.5) Future Plus Project Traffic Noise																						
		Output						Inputs														Auto Inputs																							
		dBA at 50 feet			Distance to CNEL Contour			Roadway		Segment From - To		ADT	Posted Speed Limit	Grade	% Autos	% Med Trucks	% Heavy Trucks	% Daytime	% Evening	% Night	Number of Lanes	Site Condition	Distance to Receiver	Ground Absorption	Lane Distance																				
ID	L _{eq,24hr}	L _{dn}	CNEL	70 dBA	65 dBA	60 dBA																																							
1	51.3	54.1	54.5	5	10	22	Loara Street	School Site	to the North	1,800	25	0.0%	93.2%	1.5%	1.0%	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20																					
2	55.2	58.0	58.5	9	18	40	Loara Street	School Site	to the South	2,210	25	0.0%	93.2%	1.5%	4.0%	80.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20																					

STATIONARY NOISE MODELING

GGSD-05.5 Parking Lot Noise Prediction Model							
<u>Ref SEL: 71</u>				<u>Metric: Leq</u>			
Description	# of Stalls	Trip Multiplier	Trips /Period	Lp @ 50'	Distance to Rec.	Shielding Offset	dBA Leq
Residence-South	190	2	380	61.2	190	5	44.6
Residence-West	190	2	380	61.2	235		47.8
Residence-East	190	2	380	61.2	450		42.1