



Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: City Manager's Office
Date: January 27, 2026
Re: February 10, 2026, Regular Meeting: Work Study Session Item No. 2

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council,

The presentation materials for the February 10, 2026, Regular Meeting: Work Study Session Item No. 2 "Sound Ordinance Update" will be provided in the supplemental packet.

The attached Sound Ordinance Update memo outlines the city's efforts to revise its noise ordinance to balance quality of life for residents with the vibrancy of Scottsdale's entertainment and tourism sectors. Proposed changes are based on public feedback, business input and two noise studies, introducing specific decibel limits for Old Town and citywide. The goal is to create enforceable, reasonable standards that support public safety while maintaining Scottsdale's economic vitality.

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Borowsky and Members of City Council
From: Greg Caton, City Manager
Date: November 14, 2025
Subject: Sound Ordinance Update

This memo provides information on the update to the Sound Ordinance. Scottsdale is home to many restaurants, entertainment and nightlife and the sound associated with these activities can sometimes cause issues. The city needs an updated ordinance that protects quality of life for residents, ensures enforceability and maintains the vibrancy of our tourism, businesses and events.

Staff have drafted a revised Sound Ordinance, based on feedback from business owners, community groups, previous public feedback and a sound consultant.

- Current ordinance does not regulate low frequency noises (bass) and exempts Downtown areas.
- Staff used two noise studies in the Entertainment District from September 2024 and October 2025 to draft regulations.
- Proposed regulations for Old Town are 80 dB(a) and 90 dB(c), or low-frequency sounds such as bass, and 68 dB(a) and 70 dB(c) for the rest of the city.
- The ordinance will be presented to the City Council for consideration in December 2025.

If you would like to share your thoughts on the proposed ordinance, please communicate directly with me to ensure we adhere to open meeting laws.

Current Ordinance

- Limits noise to 68 dB(A) for businesses serving alcohol or providing live entertainment
- Does not regulate low-frequency noises (bass).
- Exempts Old Town

Timeline of the Ordinance Update

November 2022

The previous City Council identified an update of the ordinance as a priority at the May 11, 2021 City Council Retreat. They formally adopted the project in the Organizational Strategic Plan in November 2022.

Spring 2023

The Special Noise Ordinance Committee was formed to examine the existing ordinance. This group consisted of city staff from the City Manager's Office, City Attorney's Office, Police, Planning, Special

Events & Tourism, Office of Communication and Information Technology. The group worked together to identify opportunities for the city to improve monitoring and enforcement.

November 2023

Three in-person public feedback sessions addressed the current noise ordinance's challenges, scientific background and timeline. Participants emphasized the need for fair and reasonable regulations, considering residential impact and suggesting revisions such as decibel level criteria and sound mitigation efforts. Concerns about exemptions for specific events, unresolved complaints and the need for enforceable consequences were discussed. Overall, there was a consensus on revising the ordinance to better address the diverse noise issues in the city.

January 23, 2024

During a Work Study Session with City Council, staff received consensus to move forward with drafting an updated ordinance that would balance the rights of property owners and the business community when it comes to sound levels and events. In addition, staff received direction to continue enforcement of the existing ordinance while conducting further analysis of sound, garnering public feedback and identifying best practices for enforcement.

July 2025

City Manager's Office staff met with business owners from the Entertainment District to discuss ordinance updates, where they requested an additional noise study in fall 2025, which was completed in October 2025.

November 10, 2025

City Manager's Office and Police staff met with Entertainment District business owners on site to discuss enforcement, noise mitigation and hear feedback on the draft ordinance and how it would impact them.

Data Collection Efforts

The city's consultant, MD Acoustics, has conducted two baseline noise studies in the Entertainment District area of Old Town, one in September 2024 and in October 2025. The 2025 study is still in draft version and will be available shortly. On average in the 15 locations, the difference was one decibel higher than 2024, even when measuring on a Saturday night and later in the fall.

New Draft of the Ordinance

Staff in the City Manager's Office, City Attorney's Office and Police Department completed an updated version of the Sound Ordinance (Attachment 2). Staff also met with Coalition of Greater Scottsdale, business owners and consultant MD Acoustics.

This draft articulates reasonable regulations while still maintaining an environment appropriate to a vibrant city. The key updates are:

1. Specific regulations for areas previously exempted such as Old Town. The levels in Old Town will be set at levels appropriate for a vibrant downtown and supported by current sound measurements, 80 dB(a) and 90 dB(c) measured from the closest city owned property to the business.
2. The current ordinance as applied to the rest of the city will stay the same, except for dB(c) or bass levels added at 70 dB(c).

This would be a targeted approach that provides reasonable limits, addressing loud events while not impairing nightlife and other businesses from operating in a reasonable manner. The data supports this approach. Additionally, it would give police the ability to enforce major noise issues, benefiting our neighborhoods. Setting reasonable noise limits also enhances public safety by improving communication clarity and reducing the risk of hearing loss for police working in loud areas.

Next Steps

Staff aim to bring the ordinance before the City Council for consideration in December 2025. It is critical to draft an ordinance for Council consideration that addresses key concerns and is enforceable while maintaining the vitality of Scottsdale as a destination and vibrant economy.

Attachments

Sound Ordinance Draft

C: Charter Officers
Jeff Walther, Assistant City Manager
Chief of Staff to Mayor Borowsky

ORDINANCE NO.XXXX

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSDALE,
AMENDING CHAPTER 19, ARTICLE II, OF THE SCOTTSDALE REVISED CODE
CONCERNING SPECIAL NOISE VIOLATIONS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 19, Article II, of the Scottsdale Revised Code concerning special noise violations is amended as follows with eliminated language in strikeout format and new language in shaded format:

ARTICLE II. SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT-RELATED NOISE VIOLATIONS

Sec. 19-24. Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens and businesses of the city by protecting neighborhoods.

Sec. 19-25. Definitions

(A) The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- (1) *"A" band level* means the total sound level of all noise as measured with a sound level meter using A-weighting network. The unit is the dB(A).
- (2) *Ambient noise sound* means at a specified time, the all-encompassing noise sound associated with a given environment, being usually a composite of sounds from many sources from many directions, near and far, including the specific sound source(s) of interest. For the purpose of this article, ambient noise sound level is the level obtained when the noise sound level is averaged over a period of fifteen (15) five (5) minutes without inclusion of noise sound from isolated identifiable sources, at the location and time of day near that at which a comparison is to be made. Averaging may be done by instrumental analysis using a sound level meter in accordance with American National Standard Institute (ANSI) S1. 13-2020 or the most recent revision thereof. S. 13-1971, or may be done manually as follows:
 - (a) Observe a sound level meter for five (5) seconds and record the best estimate of central tendency of the indicator needle, and the highest and lowest indications.
 - (b) Repeat the observations as many times as necessary to ensure that observations are made at the beginning and the end of the fifteen (15) minute averaging period and that there are at least as many additional observations as there are decibels between the highest high indication and the lowest low indication.
 - (c) Calculate the arithmetical average of the observed central tendency indications.

- (3) *Business* means either a corporation, limited liability corporation, partnership, any other type of fictitious person or in the event the business is not owned by a fictitious entity, the individual owners. A business does not mean a governmental agency or entity.
- (4) *"C" band level* means the total sound level of all noise as measured with a sound level meter using C-weighting network. Measurements made with this weighting are designated dB(C).
- (45) *Decibel* means a sound pressure that is twenty (20) times the logarithm to the base 10 of the ratio of the pressure of sound to the reference pressure, 2×10^{-5} Newton/meter² a sound pressure level as measured by a sound level meter using the "A" or "C" weighting network and either the slow or fast meter response in a manner consistent with American National Standard Institute (ANSI) S1.13-2020 or the most recent revision thereof.
- (56) *Dwelling* means building, which is designed for residential purposes with the exception of any residential unit located within a hotel, resort, or other transitory lodging development.
- (6) *Frequency*. "Frequency" of a function periodic in time shall mean the reciprocal of the primitive period. The unit is the hertz and shall be specified.
- (7) *Impulse noise* means a noise of short duration, usually less than one (1) second, with an abrupt onset and rapid decay.
- (8) *Microbar* means a unit of pressure commonly used in acoustics and is equal to one (1) dyne per square centimeter.
- (9) *Period* means "Period" of a periodic quantity shall mean the smallest increment of time for which the function repeats itself.
- (10) *Periodic quantity* means oscillating quantity, the values of which recur for equal increments of time.
- (11) *Pure tone noise* means any noise which is distinctly audible as a single pitch (frequency) or set of pitches as determined by an enforcement officer.
- (7) *Old Town Area* has the same meaning as Section 3.100 of Appendix B of this Code.
- (128) *Residential District* means any property zoned Single-family residential district (R1-190, R1-130, R1-70, R1-43, R1-35, R1-18, R1-10, R1-7, R1-5), Two-family residential district (R-2), Multifamily residential district (R-3), Townhouse residential district (R-4), Multiple-family residential district (R-5), Manufactured home district (M-H), or any specific portion of a Planned community district (PCD) or Planned Residential Development District (PRD) with a comparable or underlying zoning district that consists exclusively of any of the aforementioned residential districts. For the purposes of this article, the definition of residential districts specifically excludes, but the exclusion is not limited to, properties or dwellings with the following Zoning districts or designations: Resort district (R-4R), Service residential district (S-R), Downtown district (D) and downtown sub-districts, Planned block development district (PBD), Planned unit development district (PUD).
- (139) *Sound level or noise level* means "Sound level" (noise level), in decibels (dB) is the sound measured with A-weighting or C-weighting and slow response by a sound level meter.
- (1410) *Sound level meter* means an instrument including a microphone, an amplifier, an output meter, and frequency weighting networks for the measurement of sound levels which satisfies the pertinent requirements in American National Standard Specifications

for Sound Level Meters S1.4 2014 S1.4-1971 or the most recent revision thereof.

(4511) *Unreasonable noise* means noise that a reasonable person of normal sensibilities would find excessive and that can be heard at least one hundred (100) feet from the business.

Sec. 19-26. Unreasonable noise created by businesses that serve alcohol or provide live entertainment prohibited.

- (A) It shall be unlawful for a business that serves alcohol or provides live entertainment to create unreasonable noise that through its operations disturbs the peace or quiet of a residential district that contains dwellings.
- (B) For making a determination that noise is unreasonable pursuant to this section, a reasonable person of normal sensibilities shall include Scottsdale police officer or other city employees designated by the City Manager to enforce this section.
- (C) A sound level meter may be used, but is not required, to assist in determining whether noise is unreasonable or not.
- (D) It shall be a rebuttable presumption under this article that noise levels over sixty-eight (68) db(A) or seventy (70) dB(C) are considered unreasonable.
- (E) The following activities are exempt from the provisions of this section:
 - (1) Non-amplified noises- sounds resulting from the activities of the patrons of a business.
 - (2) An event being held pursuant to a city issued special events permit provided that the business is operating in accordance with the conditions of that permit.

Sec. 19-27. Measurement criteria.

For the purpose of enforcement of the provisions of this article, if a sound level meter is used, noise level shall be measured on the A-weighted scale and C-weighted scale with a sound level meter satisfying at least the applicable requirement for Type 1 sound-level meters as defined in American National Standard S 1.4-1971 or the most recent revisions thereof. The meter shall be set for slow response speed, except that for impulse noises or rapidly varying sound levels, fast response speed may be used. Prior to measurement, the meter shall be verified, and adjusted to ± 0.3 decibel by means of an acoustical calibrator. The ambient sound level shall be verified and noted.

Sec. 19-28. Penalties for creating unreasonable noise created by businesses that serve alcohol or provide live entertainment.

- (A) It shall be a civil offense to violate either subsection A of section 19-26 above or subsection A of section 19-32 below.
- (B) The penalty for a first violation shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- (C) The penalty for a second violation within one (1) year shall be one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00).
- (D) The penalty for a third or subsequent violation within one (1) year shall be two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00).
- (E) The penalty for a business that violates the noise conditions of its city issued special events permit shall be two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00).

- (F) A judge or hearing officer may mitigate, suspend or reduce any fines required by this article if the business installs noise mitigation software or equipment, attends a best practices course on noise mitigation or completes any other measure the court deems as suitable for preventing future violations of this article.

Sec. 19-29. Authority to issue civil complaints.

- (A) The City Manager or designee, a code inspector, a Scottsdale police officer or the City Attorney may issue civil complaints to enforce ~~Section 19-26~~ this article.
- (B) Any person authorized pursuant to this section to issue a civil complaint may also issue a notice of violation specifying actions to be taken and the time in which they are to be taken to avoid issuance of a civil complaint.

Sec. 19-30. Habitual offenders.

- (A) Any business as defined in this article who commits a violation of subsection A of section 19-26 above or subsection A of section 19-32 below after having previously been found responsible by a court on four (4) or more separate occasions for committing a civil violation of this article within a twenty-four-month period, whether by admission, by default, or by judgment after a hearing shall be deemed a habitual offender and shall be guilty of a class one misdemeanor and punished by a minimum fine of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) and a maximum fine of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) pursuant to A.R.S. Section 13-305 except that the punishment for a non-fictitious person under this section requires in addition to any other penalties imposed by the court a fine of two thousand five hundred (\$2,500.00).

Sec. 19-31. Remedies non-exclusive.

The remedies provided for in this article are not exclusive and nothing shall preclude the City from pursuing other authorized legal remedies against violators of this article that may include but are not limited to conditional use permit revocation and enforcement of other applicable federal, state, county and city laws.

Sec. 19-32. Excessive noise created by businesses that serve alcohol or provide live entertainment prohibited within the Old Town Area.

- (A) It shall be unlawful for a business within the Old Town Area that serves alcohol or provides live entertainment to exceed noises levels over eighty (80) db(A) or ninety (90) dB(C) as measured from the closest city owned property to the business.
- (B) The following activities are exempt from the provisions of this section:
- (1) Non-amplified ~~noises~~ sounds resulting from the activities of the patrons of a business.
 - (2) An event being held pursuant to a city issued special events permit provided that the business is operating in accordance with the conditions of that permit.

Secs. 19-33—19-34. Reserved.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale this ____ day of _____, 2025

CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, an Arizona
municipal corporation

ATTEST:

Ben Lane, City Clerk

Lisa Borowsky, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Luis E. Santaella
Interim City Attorney

Noise Ordinance Work Study

City Council | February 10, 2026

Will Brooks, Assistant to the City Manager

Why Update the Noise Ordinance

- Ordinance was adopted in 2010
- City Council identified priority (November 2022, April 2025)
- Modernize ordinance
- Address ongoing sound concerns



Key Terms

A-weighted sound levels, measured in dB(A)

- The A-weighting filter de-emphasizes the very low and very high frequency components of the sound in a manner similar to the response of the human ear at low volumes.

C-weighted sound levels, measured in dB(C)

- The C-weighting filter provides a flatter frequency response that better addresses low frequency noise (e.g., bass, drums, rhythm section, etc.) similar to human hearing at moderate to high volumes.



Context for Decibel Levels

- 60 dB(A)-Heavy traffic
- 70 dB(A)-Vacuum cleaner
- 80 dB(A)-Garbage disposal or urban daytime
- 90 dB(A)-Diesel truck (50 feet)
- 100 dB(A)-Gas lawn mower (3 feet)
- 110 dB(A)-Jet flyer (1,000feet)
- 140 dB(A)-Threshold of pain



The Work Study tonight is to get the Mayor
and Council's feedback on the draft
ordinance for possible future adoption

Current Ordinance

1. Limits noise to 68 dB(A) for businesses serving alcohol or providing live entertainment
2. Does not regulate low-frequency noises- i.e. bass or dB(C).
3. Applies citywide but does not apply within commercial and mixed-use districts, including Old Town



Process and Community Engagement





Council adopted priority in Strategic Plan in 2022



Staff working group and three public feedback sessions in 2023



Ongoing engagement with key stakeholders



Two professional sound studies in 2024 and 2025



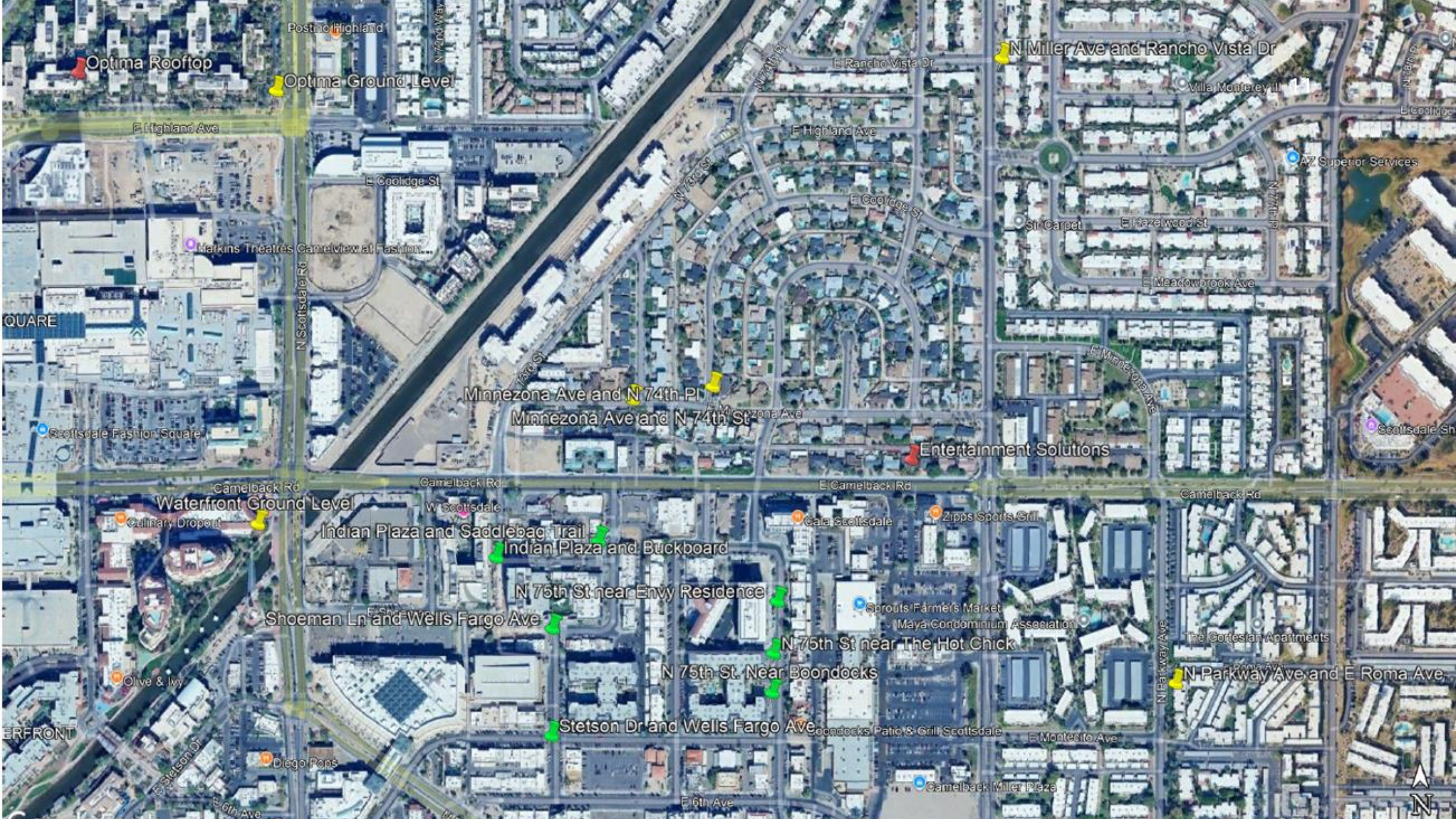
Goals in updating the ordinance

1. Address quality of life and unreasonable sound issues
2. Allow for vibrant nightlife and tourism
3. Ensure enforceability
4. Clear ordinance language and application
5. Modernize language



Sound studies provided objective and consistent data,
which allow for a more tailored ordinance





Optima Rooftop

Optima Ground Level

N Miller Ave and Rancho Vista Dr

Minnezona Ave and N 74th Pl

Minnezona Ave and N 74th St

Entertainment Solutions

Waterfront Ground Level

Indian Plaza and Saddlebag Trail

Indian Plaza and Buckboard

N 75th St near Envy Residence

Shoeman Ln and Wells Fargo Ave

N 75th St near The Hot Chick

N 75th St Near Boondocks

Stetson Dr and Wells Fargo Ave

N Parkway Ave and E Roma Ave

Table 2: Repeat Noise Survey Results

Site Number	Description	Duration	Sat Night (10/25/2025)		Fri Night (9/13/2024)		Saturday Minus Friday Delta	
			Noise Survey Results		Noise Survey Results			
			dBA	dBC	dBA	dBC	dBA	dBC
1	Indian Plaza and Saddlebag Trail	5 min	82	97	82	102	0	-5
2	Indian Plaza and Buckboard	5 min	71	88	69	86	2	2
3	Shoeman Ln and WellsFargo Ave	5 min	69	89	71	90	-2	-1
4	Stetson Dr and Wells Fargo Ave	5 min	65	79	68	85	-3	-6
5	N 75th St near The Hot Chick / Boondocks	5 min	75	90	77	85	-2	5
6	N 75th St near The Hot Chick / Boondocks 2	5 min	77	88	79	87	-2	1
7	N 75th St near Envy Residence	5 min	67	80	71	80	-4	0
8	N Parkway Ave and E Roma Ave	5 min	52	62	45	61	7	1
9	E Camelback Rd near N Miller Ave ¹	24 hrs	-	-	64	77	-	-
10	N Miller Ave and E Rancho Vista Dr	5 min	57	63	53	60	4	3
11	Minnezona Ave and N 74th Pl	5 min	53	72	50	70	3	2
12	Minnezona Ave and N 74th St	5 min	54	76	55	78	-1	-2
13	Waterfront Ground Level	5 min	65	76	64	73	1	3
14	Optima Ground Level	5 min	70	77	67	73	4	4
15	Optima Rooftop ¹	24 hrs	-	-	57	70	-	-

Notes:

1. Longterm noise measurements were performed at these locations. The value reported in this table is the hourly Leq from 11 PM to 12 AM.

Draft Ordinance

Proposed Changes to Current Ordinance

- Add in maximum bass levels into ordinance
- Add in specific regulations to Old Town (which was previously exempted from the ordinance)
- Leave the rest of the ordinance as is



Specific Guidelines for Old Town (New Language)

Sec. 19-32. Excessive noise created by businesses that serve alcohol or provide live entertainment prohibited within the Old Town Area.

(A) It shall be unlawful for a business within the Old Town Area that serves alcohol or provides live entertainment to exceed noises levels over eighty (80) db(A) or ninety (90) dB(C) as measured from the closest city owned property to the business.

New Decibel Levels

68 dBA, 70dBC*
for the city

80 dBA*, 90 dBC*
for Old Town

*New in draft ordinance



How does this compare to other cities?

Table 2: Noise Ordinance Limit for Various U.S. Cities

City/State	Ordinance	Land Use Type	Noise Limit (dBA)		Where Measurement is Taken for Enforcement
			Day	Night	
Tempe, AZ (Previous)	Chapter 20, Section 20-6	Commercial	65	55	Affected Area or Property Line
Tempe, AZ (New)	Chapter 20, Section 20-11	No Specific Limits provided. Instead, nuisance is defined by 11 items			
Tucson, AZ	Chapter 16-31	Commercial	72	65	Property Line
Boulder, CO	Chapter 9-3	Mixed Use and Other	65	60	Property Line
		Residential	75	75	Property Line
	Chapter 9-2-30	Outdoor Music Venue	85	85*	Property Line
Salt Lake City, UT	Chapter 9.28	Commercial	60**	55**	Property Line
Nashville, TN	Chapter 9-20-010.B.2	DTC/Downtown	85	85	50ft from Door
Los Angeles, CA	Section 111.03	Commercial	60	55	Property Line

Note: Tucson, Boulder, Austin, Los Angeles state that music that is plainly audible is not allowed, regardless of the limit.

* MD Acoustics, LLC was retained to work with City staff to provide input and help develop code.

** Noise level limit is based on the L90 metric or the noise level exceeded 90% of the time.



Friday Night – Measurement Summary

15) 64 dBA / 77 dBC

Optima Rooftop

Optima Ground Level

14) 67 dBA / 73 dBC

10) 53 dBA / 60 dBC

11) 50 dBA / 70 dBC

Minnesota Ave and N 74th Pl

Minnesota Ave and N 74th St

12) 55 dBA / 78 dBC

9) 64 dBA / 77 dBC

Entertainment Solutions

1) 82 dBA / 102 dBC

13) 64 dBA / 73 dBC

Waterfront Ground Level

2) 69 dBA / 86 dBC

Indian Plaza and Saddlebag Trail

Indian Plaza and Buckboard

3) 71 dBA / 90 dBC

4) 68 dBA / 85 dBC

7) 71 dBA / 80 dBC

6) 79 dBA / 87 dBC

5) 77 dBA / 85 dBC

8) 45 dBA / 61 dBC

18

Measured Noise Levels and Proposed Noise Limits

19

Description	dBA	dbc
Peak Hours - Measured at the Businesses	82-90	102-110
Peak Hours - Measured at the Residences	70-80	85-90
Proposed Limit A: Reasonable Safety/Liability Limits	80	90
Proposed Limit B: No Change at the Businesses	90	110



Estimated Impacts of Draft Ordinance

Additional Considerations

- Enforcement and Applicability
- Health and Safety of Police Officers in Old Town





Questions and Discussion

Lane, Benjamin

From: lisa bayer <lisakbayer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 5:27 PM
To: City Council

⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear City Council,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any increase in noise ordinances. I urge you to consider the well-being and peace of the residents of Scottsdale.

Furthermore, I want to address the issue of short-term rentals, which are negatively impacting our neighborhoods and schools. I ask that you do the right thing by ensuring that guests are directed toward hotels rather than our residential communities.

Thank you for your time and for considering the concerns of local residents.

Best regards,

Lisa Bayer

Lane, Benjamin

From: lisa bayer <lisakbayer@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 5:28 PM
To: City Council

⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Scottsdale Representatives (city council)

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the current environment in our community. I ask that you please ensure there is no increase in noise decibels; for once, please consider the citizens who live in Scottsdale.

Additionally, I would like to address the issue of short-term rentals. They are negatively impacting our neighborhoods and schools. It is my firm belief that these accommodations belong in hotels, not in our residential neighborhoods.

Thank you for your time and for considering the well-being of local residents.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bayer

Lane, Benjamin

From: Kim McGonagle <kim.mcgonagle@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 5, 2026 8:14 AM
To: City Council
Subject: SCOTTSDALE OLD TOWN AREA NOISE LEVELS WORK STUDY

 External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Scottsdale City Council PLEASE DO NOT RAISE THE NOISE LEVELS!!!! NOISE, TRAFFIC, GARBAGE IS ALREADY DISAPPOINTING AND FRUSTRATING! WE HAVE TRAFFIC, GARBAGE AND NOISE ALL DAY LONG AND DEAL WITH PEOPLE, CARS AND SIRENS ALL DAY LONG! WAYMOS, SCOOTERS STOPPING EVERYWHERE AND PARKING ANYWHERE AND SCOOTERS STREWN ABOUT. This is a residential area and we live here full-time. Please do not vote to raise noise levels. Thank you for your help. 85251 Noise/Sound Alert: If you live within the area south of Chaparral Rd to Osborn Rd and east of 68th Street to Miller Road aka Old Town, you will be interested in the Tuesday, February 10th City Council work-study session. City staff will announce "city efforts to revise the noise ordinance to balance quality of life for residents with the vibrancy of Scottsdale's Entertainment and tourism sectors." (1) The proposed human voice/unamplified music decibel level increases to 80 dB(a). (2) The proposed decibels that measure the bass sounds that penetrate walls and windows and cause vibrations would be 90 dB(c). Acoustic research states that 70 dB to 90dB is an increase of 4 times louder/intensity.

Note: OSHA requires hearing protection for work exposure at 85 dB over an 8-hour period. Consider the length of bar hour sound exposure to employees, patrons, area public safety officers, hotel guests trying to sleep, multi-residential owned units and apartments, and private homeowners in the Old Town area. The rest of Scottsdale will not change from the 68 dB(a) limit, but added will be 70 dB(c) for bass sound measurements if approved by City Council.

Lane, Benjamin

From: Elaine Shealy <elaineshealy@att.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 5, 2026 10:48 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Noise Ordinance

⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Thank you for finally addressing this issue. I live off Miller and Vista, and for years have listened to music and the boom, boom, boom into the early morning hours. It's a shame that residents, many 55 plus, do not have the right to peaceful sleep. If I had known this would be a problem, I may not have bought my villa when I was widowed. Thousands suffer for the sake of a few at a bar. I have often wondered about the hearing health of the bar patrons. Elaine Shealy, 5229 N 78th St, Scottsdale Sent from my iPad

Lane, Benjamin

From: George L. Wanner, III <geozona@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 8, 2026 11:59 PM
To: City Council
Subject: BAR NOISE

⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Good evening all: Please accept this email as a notice of disturbance of the peace and quiet in a residential district.

Section 19-26. Unreasonable Noise Created by Businesses that Serve Alcohol or Provide Live Entertainment Prohibited.

(A) It shall be unlawful for a business that serves alcohol or provides live entertainment to create unreasonable noise that through its operations disturbs the peace or quiet of a residential district that contains dwellings.

It is 12:58am and I'm waiting for the music to cease so I can try to sleep. While I am lying in bed with my windows closed on this beautiful, evening, my thought is, as it has been for years now,... "would people really stop frequenting the bars if the music wasn't so loud?"

Tonight I am trying to pretend the bass is rumbling thunder!

This has gone on long enough... way too much talk, way too little, if any, action.

As I have said in previous emails, if I played music this loud in front of any of your homes, you would certainly consider it disturbing the peace and would not stand for it. Why do we have to stand for it practically every evening?

I trust each of you is having a peaceful Sunday evening.

George Wanner
480.203.1506
geozona@aol.com

Lane, Benjamin

From: Roz Wattel <rozwattel@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 8, 2026 8:25 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Noise levels

⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

The problem with noise levels from Old Town is a REAL thing. Feeling the bass sounds thump your bed is horrible. Being kept awake by higher decibel allowance is unacceptable. Please keep residents in mind when voting about sound levels. Think about how you would feel being bombarded by deep bass and loud music. Thank you. Rosalind Wattel

Lane, Benjamin

From: Geoff Griffiths <gkgriffiths@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 9:14 AM
To: City Council
Cc: geoff Griffiths
Subject: public comment 85251 NOISE/SOUND Alert

⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

We've been homeowners on Camelback Rd, east of 82nd St, since 1997. We vehemently oppose this proposal. We did not buy next to an airport, then complain about the noise. We bought a home we love, in a good neighborhood with very little noise. Then the 101 was put in with no noise abatement. The tall trees along Pima road blocked some of the noise and dust, but most are gone now due to the new Pima Rd construction.

Next came the STRs and we're now flooded with noisy party houses, lights and music from party shuttle buses, and drunk drivers trying to access the 101 via Camelback , then speeding around the neighborhood trying to get out.

Now you want to raise the noise higher than anywhere else is Scottsdale. How is this fair to our Quality of Life? How will these decibels affect our pets, and wildlife on the Greenbelt? How about the effect on our property values? Why should business owners who don't live here be more important than the residents who voted for you? Please don't make us 2nd class citizens.
Geoff and Karen Griffiths