



Memorandum

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: Town Manager’s Office (and Police, Community Development, Economic Development, Town Clerk Offices)

Date: April 6, 2021

Subject: Review Ordinance No. 8, Series of 2021, Amending Section 5-1-7(D) of the Vail Town Code Concerning Noise Regulations in Certain Zone Districts

I. SUMMARY

Town staff have presented a proposal for amending the Town Code related to noise standards and allowable decibel limits. The Town Council is asked to consider Ordinance No. 8, Series of 2021, An Ordinance Amending Section 5-1-7(D) concerning noise regulations in certain zone districts between the hours of 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm. The ordinance would amend the Town Code as it relates to amplified sound regulations in Vail Village and Lionshead. The ordinance would increase the allowable maximum decibel level from the current 65 dB to 80 dB between the hours of 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. The intent of the ordinance is to balance the desire to create entertainment activations in the villages while being respectful of commercial and residential neighborhoods.

II. BUSINESS POINTS

Objectives of proposed code amendment include:

- Provide regulations that help balance the desire to create entertainment activations in the villages while being respectful of the combination of commercial and residential neighborhoods,
- Provide regulations that are easy to understand by those who enforce the code and by those who must abide by the code,
- Address the time and zone for use of amplified sound as a means of creating the needed balance between residential and commercial neighborhoods. The Code addresses “allowable decibel limits” as noted in the table below:

Proposed table addressing allowable limits for specified time periods and zones:

Zoning Designation of Property on Which Source of Noise is Located	Maximum Number of Decibels Permitted from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.	Maximum Number of Decibels Permitted From 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.
All residential zones excepting HDMF	55 decibels	50 decibels
Commercial plus HDMF	65 decibels	60 decibels
Industrial service zones	80 decibels	75 decibels

Zoning Designation of Property on Which Source of Noise Is Located	Maximum Number of Decibels Permitted from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Maximum Number of Decibels Permitted at All Other Times
Lionshead Mixed Use 1, Public Accommodation, Commercial Service Center, Commercial Core 1, Ski Base/Recreation 2	80 decibels	Refer to above table

III. ACTION REQUESTED

Town Council is asked to consider Ordinance No. 8, Series of 2021 as a code amendment to Section 5-1-7(D) and suggest modifications if appropriate. This is first reading of the ordinance.