

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 08-0024R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Henry, Cole, Kraft, Branch, Young, Curran, Clarke, D'Adamo,
Middleton, Welch, Reisinger, Conaway, Holton
Introduced and read first time: March 3, 2008
Assigned to: Community Development Subcommittee

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Adopted: September 8, 2008

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Task Force on Noise Laws and Enforcement

FOR the purpose of establishing the Baltimore City Noise Law Task Force to study the potential for an overhaul of the City's current noise laws and the feasibility of creating a more defined, easily enforced, and encompassing noise law for the City of Baltimore.

Recitals

The noise laws can currently be found in numerous places in the Baltimore City Code which include the Health, Zoning and Transportation, and Building Code. This separation of statutes not only makes enforcement very difficult, but also creates a situation where citizens who may be in violation of the law cannot know what law they are violating due to the multiple statutes that are in place. This task force will investigate how to overhaul these noise laws to provide the citizens of Baltimore and City agencies a uniform and more easily enforceable noise statute.

The goal of this task force is to organize the current statutes in such a way that they will come together as one single section that covers all of the current noise laws in the City. These would include a proactive standard for land development and use as well as reactive standards that will enable easier enforcement.

This task force will study the issues of noise in the City from an objective standpoint and make suggestions on how to better regulate them. It will also study the current laws and work to remove possible issues in them, such as the status of certain vehicles and how the laws can be enforced without proper sound detecting equipment. The objective of the task force will be to devise a uniform noise law that can be implemented and easily enforced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Baltimore City Noise Law Task Force be established to study the potential for an overhaul of the City's current noise laws and the feasibility of creating a more defined, easily enforced, and encompassing noise law for the City of Baltimore.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Task Force members include but not be limited to the following representatives or their respective designees:

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken by amendment.

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- 1 ● The Mayor
- 2 ● The President of the Baltimore City Council
- 3 ● The City Solicitor
- 4 ● The Director of Planning
- 5 ● The Health Commissioner
- 6 ● The Commissioner of the Baltimore City Police Department
- 7 ● The Director of Public Works
- 8 ● The Chief of the Baltimore City Fire Department
- 9 ● The Director of Transportation
- 10 ● The Chair of the Public Safety and Health Committee
- 11 ● The Chair of the Land Use and Transportation Committee
- 12 ● The Chair of the Community Development Subcommittee
- 13 ● The Director of the Baltimore City Housing Authority
- 14 ● The Executive Director of the Board of Municipal Zoning Appeals
- 15 ● The Director of Housing and Community Development
- 16 ● The Executive Director of the Maryland Stadium Authority
- 17 ● The General Manager of the Baltimore Arena
- 18 ● A member of the Police Community Relations Council
- 19 ● A representative of the Mass Transit Administration
- 20 ● A representative of the Community Law Center
- 21 ● Five community representatives chosen by the Council President, at least one
- 22 of whom must be an expert in noise assessment or abatement
- 23 ● A City Councilmember appointed by the President to serve as Chair

24 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to those individuals
25 or entities named to the task force and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the Council.