

EX10.18 - Open Data Centralization and Policy Update

Ingrid Buday

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- I live in Ward 4
- I suffer from health impacts from excessive vehicle noise aka: vanity noise
- Founder of No More Noise Toronto to advocate for a better sounding Toronto through the Noise Bylaw Review.
- We are working to remove emotion from the noise discussion and focusing on data for good decision making.

My Story

- I started going to Civic Tech Toronto over two years ago.
- I've been learning how the city collects noise complaints from the public and feel that the resulting data isn't an accurate representation of the problem.
- I also started researching noise and found that the heat maps showing the sound level averages (LeQ) didn't tell the whole story
- This has created two data sets that could be good candidates for citizen curated data.
- My story is on the Knowledge Centre of the Open Data Portal:
<https://open.toronto.ca/measuring-sound-from-the-bedroom-window/>

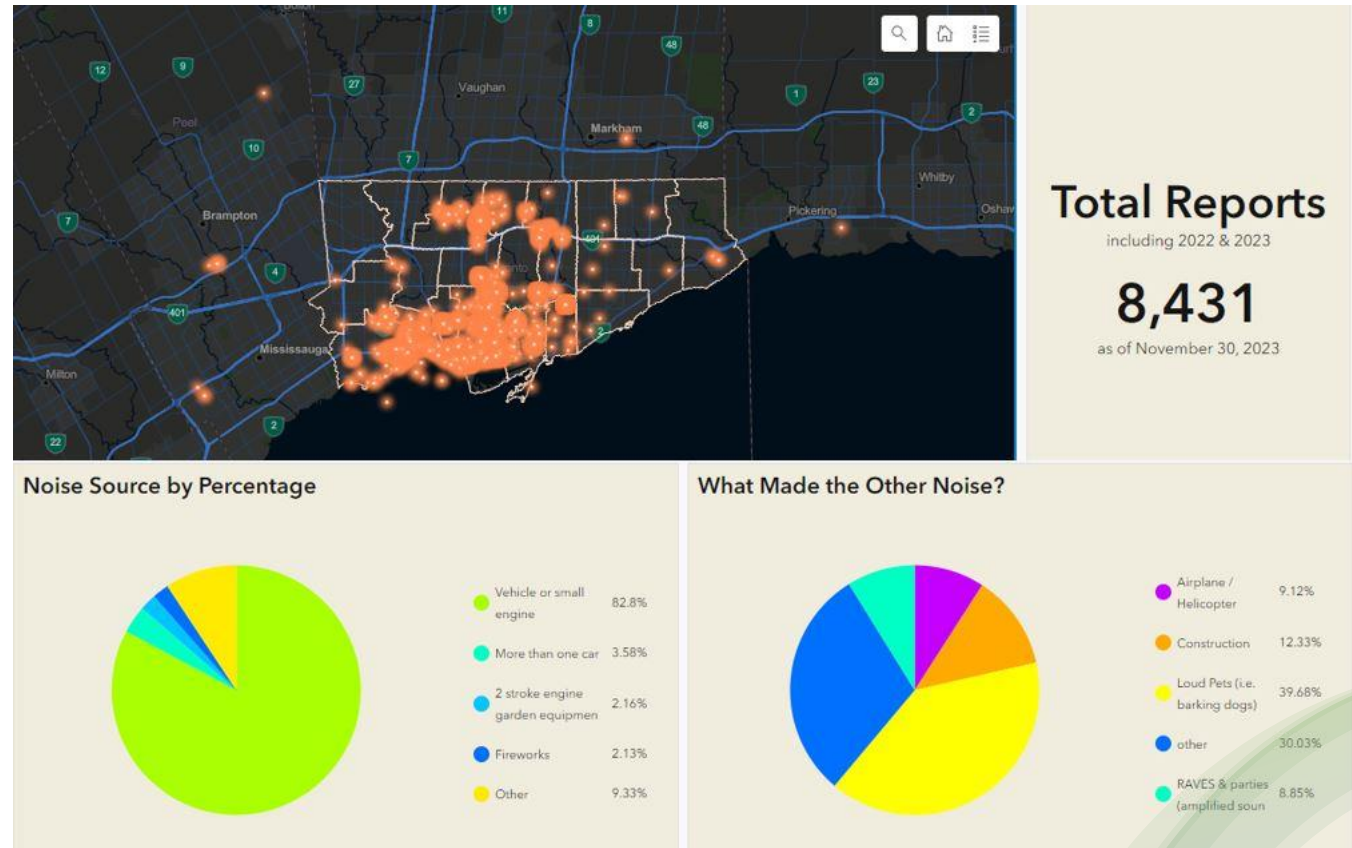
Measuring Sound from the Bedroom Window

Published on May 2, 2023 by Ingrid Buday (local citizen)



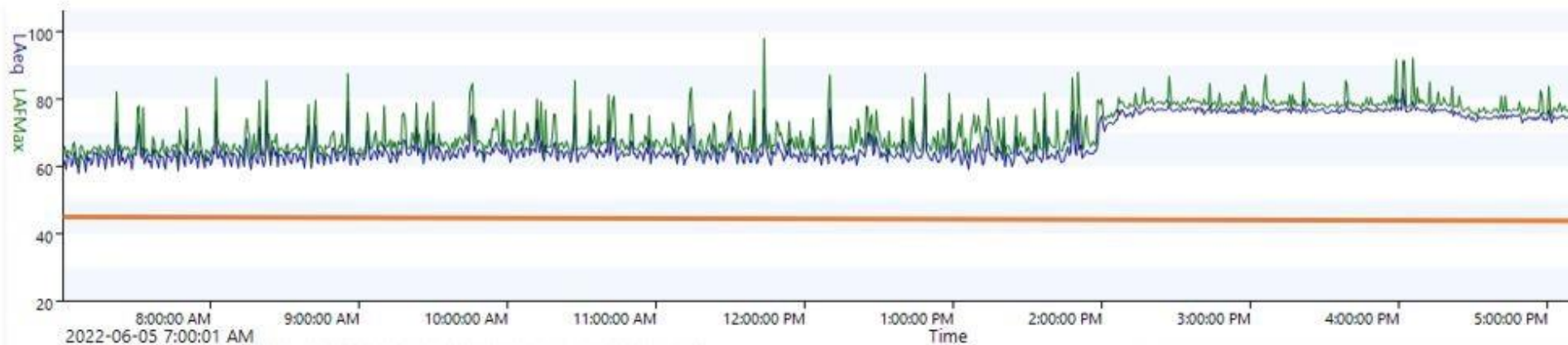
“Not 311” Noise Report

- This is an alternate report, not a replacement
- Takes all noise reports, all the time
- Crowdsourced
- Hosted on ESRI Servers
- No confidential information gathered



Sound @ the Bedroom Window

- I've been measuring sound for over 2 years with meters from people's homes
- This data is allowing me to count the number of noise spikes that occur.
- Able to estimate exposure levels with data and spatial analysis.



Noise is a global health issue

- From a 2017 TPH report, How Loud is Too Loud? over 92% of residents are over the WHO recommended level of 45 decibels for a restorative, restful sleep.
- Suffer long term health impacts (sleep disturbance, chronic fatigue, annoyance, reduced cognitive functioning, anxiety and depression, ischemic heart disease, strokes, induced hopelessness, etc.)
- This needs to be addressed as a public health issue.

Toronto Public
Health Report



Can't be everywhere all the time

- By creating a space for the tech community to contribute you access a talented and motivated group of individuals and organizations.
- Develops contextual data that can augment what you already collect.
- May aid in understanding the problems, identify solutions and mitigating health impacts
- There are plenty of citizen curated datasets already out there and this would give them additional life and purpose
- Stimulates a new level of engagement and advocacy with residents of Toronto

Mitigating Risks

Risks

- There are always risks when working with data
- Are well known
- Good processes can mitigate many, if not all of them.

Mitigation

- Develop relationships with trusted groups in the community
- Collaborate to create workflows and guidelines
- Bring in corporate partners to support and fund

Rewards

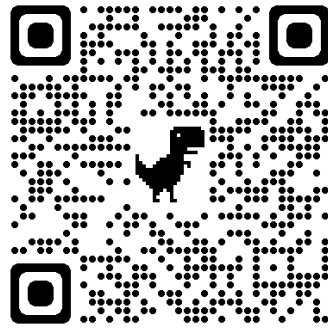
- You have better data for better decision making.
- By accepting crowdsourced data sets you are giving others a way to make their voice heard. This is more inclusive
- When information is more accessible you are working towards equity and equality.
- By improving the delivery of services, you rebuild public trust and engagement.

Please Support

- The City of Toronto is one of the Canadian pioneers of municipal Open Data.
- Continue pushing forward, exploring new ground
- We need to find new ways of engaging residents and allowing them to participate in our democratic processes.

Creating a Better Toronto by Reducing Noise

www.nomorenoisetoronto.com



NoMoreNoise *Toronto!*