

Update: Implementation Review of the Noise By-law

Toronto Music Advisory Committee (TMAC)
Municipal Licensing and Standards (MLS)
February 15, 2024



Purpose

Provide an overview of changes adopted by City Council to Chapter 591, Noise (the Noise By-law) on **February 7, 2024**, including amendments to amplified sound and exemption permits, timing of By-law changes, and additional direction from City Council to assess additional By-law regulations.

Toronto City Council listens to public and adopts Noise Bylaw updates

News Release

February 7, 2024

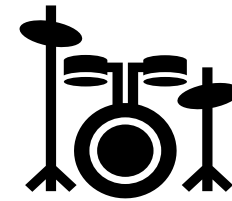
Today, City Council adopted updates to the Noise Bylaw, which balances the city's vibrancy with the needs of residents and visitors and provides time restrictions and sound level limits for various types of noise.

591-2.1: Amplified sound

Changes will take effect on **June 1, 2024**



Reduction in indoor
overnight (11 p.m. to 7 a.m.)
amplified sound level limits
to **42 dB(A)** and **57 dB(C)**
(a 3 dB reduction)



Clarify that
“instrument sound”
is part of this section,
and introduce a related
definition into the
By-law

591-3.2: Exemption permits

Changes will take effect on **September 1, 2024**

Activity-based exemption permits introduced based on impact

→ Specific criteria to be assessed to determine impact and whether additional requirements are needed (distribution of the permit, specific orientation of sound equipment, etc.)

Decibel condition changed for amplified sound permits

→ 85 dB(A) or 105dB(C) measured from the lot line, instead of from the source

Online notice of exemption permit to be permitted, if unable to post at a physical location

Non-profit organizations to be exempt from permit application fee

Require that applications be submitted 28 days before event/activity

Additional direction from Council

Consultation and engagement

MLS to:

- Continue to consult with the Toronto Music Advisory Committee (TMAC) on noise regulations
- Conduct public education initiatives upon implementation of By-law changes; leveraging other city programs to disseminate information
- Consider hosting public sessions during implementation of By-law changes

By-law provisions

MLS to report to the Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC) in Q4 2023 on:

- Consideration of amendments to the amplified sound section to set specific decibel ranges for sound levels that exceed the ambient sound level
- An exploration of defining and exempting grassroots cultural organizations from noise exemption permit application fees (work led by EDC)

Next Steps

