

Sec. 13-2-3. - Definitions and Standards.

All terminology used in this chapter and not defined in this section shall be in conformance with applicable American National Standards Institute Publications, including, but not limited to, SI.1-1960, R 171, or those from its successor publications or bodies. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

- (1) *A-weighted sound pressure level* means the sound pressure level as measured with a sound level meter using the A-weighting network. The standard notation is dB(A) or dBA.
- (2) *Ambient sound pressure level* means the sound pressure level of the all-encompassing noise associated with a given environment, usually a composite of sounds from many sources. Ambient sound pressure level is also the A-weighted sound pressure level exceeded 90 percent of the time based on a measurement period which shall not be less than ten minutes.
- (3) *Continuous sound* means any sound which exists essentially without interruption, for a period of ten minutes or more.
- (4) *Cyclically varying noise* means any sound which varies in sound level such that the same level is obtained repetitively at reasonably uniform intervals of time.
- (5) *Decibel* means logarithmic and dimensionless unit of measure often used in describing the amplitude of sound. The term "decibel" is denoted dB.
- (6) *Device* means any mechanism which is intended to produce or which actually produces noise when operated or handled.
- (7) *Dynamic braking device (commonly referred to as Jacobs brake)* means a device used primarily on trucks for the conversion of the engine from an internal combustion engine to an air compressor for the purpose of braking without the use of wheel brakes.
- (8) *Emergency vehicle* means a motor vehicle used in response to a public calamity or to protect persons or property from an imminent exposure to danger.
- (9) *Emergency work* means work made necessary to restore property to a safe condition following a public calamity, or work required to protect persons or property from an imminent exposure to danger.
- (10) *Impulsive noise* means a noise containing excursions usually less than one second, or sound pressure level using the fast meter characteristics.
- (11) *Motor vehicle* means any vehicle which is self-propelled by mechanical power, including, but not limited to, passenger cars, trucks, truck-trailers, semi-trailers, campers, motorcycles, minibikes, go-carts, snowmobile and racing vehicles, **but does not include "motor assisted scooters" as defined in Title 10, Chapter 9.**
- (12) *Muffler* means an apparatus consisting of a series of chambers of baffle plates designed for the purpose of transmitting gases while reducing sound emanating from such apparatus.
- (13) *Noise* means any sound which is unwanted or which causes or tends to cause an adverse psychological or physiological effect on human beings.
- (14) *Noise disturbance* means any sound which annoys or disturbs any reasonable person with normal sensitivities, or which injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, hearing, peace and safety of other persons.
- (15) *Percentile sound pressure level.*
 - a. *Tenth percentile noise level* means the A-weighted sound pressure level that is exceeded ten percent of the time in any measurement period (such as the level that is exceeded for one minute in a ten minute period) and is denoted L10.

- b. *Ninetieth Percentile Noise Level* means the A-weighted sound pressure level that is exceeded 90 percent of the time in any measurement period (such as the level that is exceeded for nine minutes in a ten minute period) and is denoted L90.
- (16) *Person* means any human being, firm, association, organization, partnership, business, trust, corporation, company, contractor, supplier, installer, user, owner or operator, including any municipal corporation or its officers or employees.
- (17) *Plainly audible noise* means any noise for which the information content of that noise is unambiguously transferred to the listener, such as, but not limited to, understanding of spoken speech, comprehension of whether a voice is raised or normal, or comprehension of musical rhythms.
- (18) *Property boundary* means an imaginary line exterior to any enclosed structure, at the ground surface, and its vertical extension, which separates the real property owned by one person from that owned by any other person.
- (19) *Public right-of-way* means any street, avenue, boulevard, highway, or alley or similar place which is owned or controlled by a public governmental entity.
- (20) *Pure tone* means any sound which can be distinctly heard as a single pitch or a set of single pitches. For the purpose of measurement, a pure tone shall exist of the one-third octave band sound pressure level in the band when the tone exceeds the arithmetic average of the sound pressure levels of the two contiguous one-third octave bands by five dB for frequencies of 500 Hz and above, by eight dB for frequencies between 160 and 400 Hz, and by 15 dB for frequencies less than or equal to 125 Hz.
- (21) *Repetitive impulse noise* means any noise which is composed of impulsive noises that are repeated at sufficiently slow rates such that a sound level meter set at "fast" meter characteristic will show changes in sound pressure level greater than ten dB(A).
- (22) *Sound* means a temporal and spatial oscillation in pressure, or other physical quantity, in a medium with interval forces that causes compression and rarefaction of that medium and which propagates at finite speed to distant points.
- (23) *Sound level meter* means an instrument, including a microphone, amplifier, RMS detector and integrator, time average, output meter and/or visual display and weighting networks, that is sensitive to pressure fluctuations. The instrument reads sound pressure level when properly calibrated and is of type 2 or better as specified in American National Standards Institute Publication S1.4-1971 or its successor publication.
- (24) *Sound pressure* means the instantaneous difference between the actual pressure and the average or barometric pressure at a given point in space due to sound.
- (25) *Sound pressure level* means 20 times the logarithm to the base 10 of the ratio of the RMS sound pressure to the reference pressure, which shall be 20 micropascals, denoted LP or SPL.
- (26) *Stationary noise source* means any device, fixed or movable, which is located or used on property other than a public right-of-way.
- (27) *Steady noise* means a sound pressure level which remains essentially constant during the period of observation (i.e., does not vary more than six dB(A) when measured with the "slow" meter characteristic of a sound level meter).
- (28) *Use district* means those land use districts as established by the Land Development Code or, in those cases in which the actual use differs from the use as established by the Land Development Code, the land use to which the land in question is actually subjected.

(Revised Ords. 1978, § 7-2-3)