

**ARTICLE 9: NOISE CONTROL**

Section

- [9-9-1](#) Short title and declaration of intent
- [9-9-2](#) Definitions
- [9-9-3](#) Decibel measurement criteria
- [9-9-4](#) Sound amplifying equipment
- [9-9-5](#) Drums, bells and other musical instruments
- [9-9-6](#) Schools, hospitals, religious institutions and libraries
- [9-9-7](#) Machinery, equipment fans, and air conditioners
- [9-9-8](#) Construction or demolition of buildings and projects, excavation and grading
- [9-9-9](#) Motor vehicles
- [9-9-10](#) Aircraft-related noise
- [9-9-11](#) Refuse collection
- [9-9-12](#) General noise
- [9-9-13](#) Temporary permits (amplified sound/ construction noise)
- [9-9-14](#) Variances
- [9-9-15](#) Cross-references
- [9-9-16](#) Administration
- [9-9-17](#) Violations; additional remedies; injunctions
- [9-9-18](#) Review
  
- [9-9-99](#) Penalty

§ 9-9-1 SHORT TITLE AND DECLARATION OF INTENT.

(A) This article may be cited as the "Noise Control Ordinance."

(B) A substantial body of scientific research has shown that exposure to excessive sound and vibration is a serious hazard to the public health, welfare, safety and quality of life. It is therefore declared to be the intent of the City Council (through this ordinance and through other City regulations) to minimize the exposure to the physiological and psychological dangers of excessive noise, and protect, promote and preserve the public health, safety and welfare. It is the express intent of the City Council to control the level of noise in a manner that promotes the use, value and enjoyment of property, conduct of business, sleep and repose and an environment free from unnecessary and excessive sound.

('74 Code, § 6-22-1) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

§ 9-9-2 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this article, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

***AMBIENT NOISE LEVEL.*** The sound pressure level of the all encompassing noise associated with a given environment, being usually a composite of sounds from many sources and excluding the specific noise under investigation; the A-weighted sound pressure level equaled or exceeded 90 percent of the time (L<sub>90</sub>) and based on a maximum one-hour sample period.

***ANSI.*** American National Standards Institute.

***APARTMENT.*** This term shall be as used in the Zoning Code (Chapter 14, Article 16, Albuquerque Code of Ordinances).

***APPROVED SOUND-LEVEL METER.*** An instrument sensitive to pressure fluctuations and meeting the standards of the ANSI S1.4-1983 Type 1 or Type 2 or those of IEC Publication 651 or those of the latest respective revisions thereof.

***A-WEIGHTED SOUND PRESSURE LEVEL.*** The sound pressure level as measured on an approved sound-level meter using the A-weighting network. Instrument response shall be "fast" for motor vehicle measurements and "slow" for all other measurements.

***DAYTIME.*** From 7:00 a.m. (0700 hours) to 10:00 p.m. (2200 hours).

***DEPARTMENT.*** Albuquerque Environmental Health Department or its subsequent

designation.

**EMERGENCY WORK.** Work made necessary to restore property to a safe condition following a public calamity, work to restore public utilities or work required to protect persons or property from an imminent exposure to danger.

**EPA.** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**GVW.** Gross Vehicle Weight.

**HELIPAD.** Facility intended for the takeoff and/or landing of helicopters at a location other than an airport or other general aviation facility.

**HOLIDAYS.** Those days established by the federal government as official holidays.

**IEC.** International Electrotechnical Commission.

**MAYOR.** The Mayor or his designated representative.

**MOTORCYCLE.** Every motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for use by the rider and designed to travel with not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, including every motorscooter, motor-driven cycle and moped, but excluding a tractor.

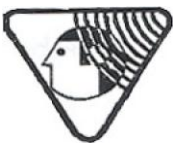
**MOTOR VEHICLE.** Every vehicle which is self-propelled, but excluding off-highway construction equipment, or unlicensed construction equipment or equipment operated upon rails.

**MRGCOGLRMSP.** Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments Long Range Major Street Plan, as amended.

**NIGHTTIME.** From 10:00 p.m. (2200 hours) to 7:00 a.m. (0700 hours).

**NOISE-SENSITIVE PROPERTY.** Property containing an occupied: dwelling unit or units, school, hospital, religious institution, child-care facility, or adult-care facility.

**NOISE SYMBOL.**



**PERSISTENTLY OR CONTINUOUSLY.** A 10-minute period during which animal noise is discerned in each of the ten one-minute intervals therein.

**PERSON.** A person, firm, association, copartnership, joint venture, corporation, or any other entity, public or private in nature.

**PLAINLY AUDIBLE SOUND.** Any sound for which the information content of that sound is distinguished by the listener, such as, but not limited to, understandable spoken speech which need not be wholly discernible, or comprehension of whether a voice is raised or normal, or bass reverberations, or comprehensible musical rhythms.

**REFERENCE PRESSURE.** The reference pressure for all sound level measurements shall be 20 micropascals (20 uPa). This shall be further defined as 0 dB(A).

**RESIDENTIAL, OFFICE/COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL.** These terms shall be as used in the Zoning Code (Chapter 14, Article 16, Albuquerque Code of Ordinances).

**SAE.** Society of Automotive Engineers.

**SOUND AMPLIFYING EQUIPMENT.** Any machine or device for the sound amplification of the human voice, music, or any other sound. "Sound amplifying equipment" shall not include warning devices on authorized emergency vehicles or horns or other warning devices on any motor vehicles used only for traffic safety purposes.

('74 Code, § 6-22-2) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001; Am. Ord. 5-2002)

§ 9-9-3 DECIBEL MEASUREMENT CRITERIA.

Unless otherwise indicated, any decibel (dB) measurement made pursuant to the provisions of this article shall be based on the reference sound pressure and measured with a sound-level meter using the A-weighting network. In this ordinance, the terms dB and dBA are synonymous unless otherwise stated.

('74 Code, § 6-22-3) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

§ 9-9-4 SOUND AMPLIFYING EQUIPMENT.

(A) No person shall practice, play, or conduct live band activities using sound amplifying equipment or operate a radio, television, stereo or other sound amplifying equipment resulting in sound levels more than 5 dB above the ambient noise level when measured on any receiving noise-sensitive property or, if an apartment, within any dwelling unit or common area accessible to residents of the apartment, or to conduct such activities or operate any such device in the nighttime so as to be plainly audible within

any dwelling unit which is not the source of sound. At no time shall such amplified sound be allowed to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the limits set forth for the receiving property as established in Table 1, [§ 9-9-12](#). Vehicular sound amplification equipment is further subject to the requirements of § 9-9-4(D). Outdoor sound amplification equipment used for broadcasting to employees or customers is further subject to the requirements of § 9-9-4(F). Direct, two-way point-of-service amplified sound speaker equipment is further subject to the requirements of § 9-9-4(G).

(B) No person shall operate or allow the operation of any portable self-contained music or sound amplification equipment in the daytime on a public space or right-of-way in such a manner as to be plainly audible 25 or more feet from the operator. No person shall operate or allow the operation of such equipment in the nighttime in such a manner that is plainly audible by any person other than the operator.

(C) Provisions in (A) and (B) above shall not apply to any person who has obtained a temporary amplified sound permit as described in this ordinance.

(D) Vehicular sound amplification equipment. No person operating or occupying a motor vehicle on a street, highway, alley, parking lot, off-street parking area or driveway shall operate or allow the operation of any sound amplification equipment from the vehicle resulting in plainly audible sound 25 or more feet from the vehicle. Commercial vehicles including, but not limited to, ice cream trucks with amplified sound used for commercial advertisement, shall comply with this ordinance within 1 year of the effective date of this ordinance. During the 1-year compliance attainment period, no person operating or occupying a commercial motor vehicle including, but not limited to, ice cream trucks with amplified sound used for commercial advertisement shall cause or allow such amplified sound to result in sound levels more than 5 dB above the ambient noise level on any receiving noise-sensitive property. At no time shall such amplified sound be allowed to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the limits set forth for the receiving property as established in Table 1, [§ 9-9-12](#).

(E) No person shall allow, at an indoor or outdoor facility owned and/or operated by the City of Albuquerque, the exposure of any person to amplified sound over 90 dB.

(F) (1) Outdoor sound amplifiers, loudspeaker systems or similar broadcasting devices for the purpose of communicating with employees or customers shall not produce sound levels exceeding 5 dB above the ambient noise level at any property line of a facility using the device. At no time shall such amplified sound be allowed to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the limits set forth for the receiving property as established in Table 1 in this ordinance.

(2) Volume controls for such outdoor sound amplifiers, loudspeaker systems or similar broadcasting devices, once calibrated to meet the volume restrictions provided

above, must be mechanically limited to prevent their being overridden.

(3) Operation of such outdoor sound amplifiers, loudspeaker systems or similar broadcasting devices is limited to daytime hours as defined in this ordinance.

(4) If, notwithstanding observance of the above volume restrictions, any outdoor sound amplifier, loudspeaker system or similar broadcasting device is plainly audible at any residence or other noise sensitive property, then use of the outdoor sound amplifier, loudspeaker system or similar broadcasting device at that facility shall thereafter be prohibited as provided herein. If the user of a facility is determined to have violated any requirement in this division (F) on two or more occasions in any 24-month period, then the user of the outdoor sound amplifier, loudspeaker system or similar broadcasting device shall thereafter immediately remove such device from use at that facility. A subsequent user of a facility at which use of an outdoor sound amplifier, loudspeaker system or similar broadcasting device has previously been prohibited pursuant to this division (F) may not use such a device at that facility unless and until:

(i) the subsequent user establishes to the reasonable satisfaction of the Department that the device can be used in compliance with this Section; and

(ii) the subsequent user is not affiliated by common ownership or control with the user of the facility at the time use of the previous device was prohibited.

(5) Any trade association of Albuquerque businesses whose members engage in the same type of business, and at least 50% of whose members generally use such outdoor sound amplifiers, loudspeaker systems or similar broadcasting devices, shall implement and maintain a procedure for receiving and attempting to resolve complaints from the public about the outdoor sound amplifier, loudspeaker system or similar broadcasting device used by any member of that association. The Department may, at its option, refer applicable public complaints against members of such an association to the association pursuant to such procedure.

(6) Outdoor sound amplification equipment used for broadcasting to public utility employees is exempt from the requirements of this section if required to comply with OSHA or national utility industry safety standards.

(7) This subsection shall not apply to organized community sporting events.

(G) (1) No person shall, at any time, operate two-way point-of-service amplified sound equipment installed after the effective date of this ordinance in such a manner that, on noise-sensitive property, the sound is plainly audible anywhere on noise-sensitive property; and

(2) No person shall, at any time, operate two-way point-of-service, amplified sound equipment in place at the effective date of this ordinance, in such a manner that the sound is plainly audible within a dwelling.

('74 Code, § 6-22-6) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001; Am. Ord. 5-2002; Am. Ord. 40-2002; Am. Ord. 30-2003)

§ 9-9-5 DRUMS, BELLS AND OTHER MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

No person shall use any drum, bell or other musical instrument resulting in sound levels more than 5dB above the ambient noise level when measured on any receiving noise-sensitive property or, if an apartment, within any other dwelling unit or common area accessible to residents of the apartment, or to conduct such activities in the nighttime so as to be plainly audible within any dwelling unit which is not the source of sound. At no time shall such sound be allowed to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the limits set forth for the receiving property as established in Table 1, [§ 9-9-12](#). This section shall not apply to any person who is participating in a school band or duly licensed parade nor does this section apply in the daytime to bells or chimes used by schools or religious institutions.

('74 Code, § 6-22-7) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001; Am. Ord. 5-2002; Am. Ord. 40-2002; Am. Ord. 30-2003)

§ 9-9-6 SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS AND LIBRARIES.

No person shall create any unnecessary noise on any street, sidewalk, or public place adjacent to any school, library, or other institution of learning, or religious institution, while the same is in use; or adjacent to any hospital, which noise unreasonably interferes with the workings of such institution or which disturbs or unduly annoys patients in the hospital, provided conspicuous signs are displayed in such street, sidewalk or public place indicating the presence of a school, hospital, religious institution or library.

('74 Code, § 6-22-8) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

§ 9-9-7 MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT FANS, AND AIR CONDITIONERS.

(A) Except for emergency work as defined in this article, no person shall operate or allow the operation of any stationary machinery, equipment, fan, air-conditioning apparatus, or similar permanently installed mechanical device in any manner so as to create noise which results in exceedance of the Table 1 limits specified in § 9-9-12.

(B) Except for emergency work as defined in this article, no person shall operate or allow to be operated outdoors, any power equipment, including, but not limited to, sweepers, power mowers, leaf blowers, rototillers, power saws or other power equipment used to sweep parking areas or other surfaces or perform gardening, property repair or other functions, within 500 feet of any noise-sensitive property:

- (1) during the nighttime; or

(2) between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. on a Sunday or holiday. Power mowers at golf courses are exempt from the requirements of this subsection.

(C) No person shall install or allow the installation of any mechanical equipment, such as, but not limited to, air conditioning or freezer compressors, evaporative coolers, exhaust fans or other noise-producing machines, on commercial property with such equipment on a side adjacent to noise-sensitive property or a side separated from noise-sensitive property only by an alley. Roof locations may be used when the mechanical equipment is installed and maintained so as to not result in an exceedance of the sound-level limits in Table 1, § 9-9-12. Mechanical equipment legally installed or for which official final approval for installation was received before the effective date of this ordinance is specifically exempt from this location requirement.

(D) No person shall place or allow the placement of any garage door used for entry or exit of vehicles from an automotive repair facility on a side of any building adjacent to noise-sensitive property or a side separated from noise-sensitive property only by an alley. Garage doors legally installed or for which an official final approval for installation was received before the effective date of this ordinance are specifically exempt from this location requirement.

(E) Public Utilities. Public utility generation, transmission or distribution sites, facilities or substations shall be deemed compliant with this section if operated so as not to exceed the noise limits of any applicable City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Facility Plan: Electric Service Transmission and Subtransmission Facilities. In the absence of applicable Facility Plan noise limits, the Table 1, § 9-9-12, noise limits corresponding to the land use designation of the receiving property at the time of the equipment installation shall govern. If a subsequent land use designation is less restrictive, the limits for that land use shall apply.

('74 Code, § 6-22-9) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

§ 9-9-8 CONSTRUCTION OR DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS AND PROJECTS, EXCAVATION AND GRADING.

Except for emergency work as defined in this article, no person shall, on or within 500 feet of any noise-sensitive property, operate or cause to be operated any equipment used in construction, repair, alteration, excavation, grading or demolition work on buildings, structures, streets, alleys or appurtenances thereto:

(A) with sound-control devices less effective than those provided on the original equipment; and

(B) without using noise mitigation measures as approved by the Department and the Public Works Department for projects exceeding:



(1) 80 dB during any calendar day for more than 3 consecutive or non-consecutive calendar days. Noise determination tests shall be for at least 10 minutes, with any 4 tests in consecutive or non-consecutive clock hours above the 80 dB level constituting an exceedance for that day; or

(2) 90 dB during any clock hour for more than 4 consecutive or non-consecutive clock hours. Tests shall be for at least 10 minutes, with any single test above the 90 dB level constituting an exceedance for that hour.

(3) The location for sound level measurements shall be on any receiving noise-sensitive property other than the project property, provided that each test is taken from the same property, and the provisions in this section shall apply to that specific test location.

(4) The mitigation measures specified in this § 9-9-8(B) shall be used at all times on Sundays and holidays and between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

(C) No person shall construct a building, including foundation work, on Sundays or holidays or between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., without first obtaining a Temporary Noise Construction Permit as described in § 9-9-13 of this ordinance.

('74 Code, § 6-22-10) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

§ 9-9-9 MOTOR VEHICLES.

(A) No person shall operate or allow to be operated within the city, at any speed including idle, either a motor vehicle or combination of vehicles of a type subject to registration at any time or under any condition of grade, load, acceleration or deceleration in such a manner as to exceed the following sound level limits when measured 25 feet from the center of the vehicle path:

<i>Sound Level Limit</i>		
Type of Vehicle	Time Period	Maximum dB
Any motor vehicle with a manufacturer's GVW rating of 10,000 lbs. or more, and any combination of vehicles towed by such motor vehicle on roadways classified as:	daytime	88 dB
	nighttime	80 dB
	all times	88 dB

<p>- minor arterials and collectors in residential areas by the MRGCOGLRMSP:</p> <p>- principal arterials and collectors in office/commercial and industrial areas by the MRGCOGLRMSP:</p>		
<p>Any motor vehicle with a GVW rating under 10,000 lbs. or more except motorcycles</p>	<p>all times</p>	<p>80 dB</p>

The requirements in §9-9-9(A) apply to the total sound from a vehicle or combination of vehicles and shall not be construed as limiting or precluding the enforcement of any other provisions of this article relating to motor vehicle mufflers for noise control.

(B) Motorcycles. No person shall operate a motorcycle: which exceeds 99 dB, measured in accordance with SAE stationary test method J1287 or similar Department-approved method.

(C) No person shall operate a motor vehicle having a manufacturer's gross vehicle rating of less than 6,000 lb., except a motorcycle, which exceeds 95 dB measured 20 in. (508 mm) from the exhaust outlet. The measured exhaust system sound level of a stationary vehicle shall be the highest reading obtained during the test, disregarding unrelated peaks due to extraneous ambient noise. When there is more than one exhaust outlet, the reported sound level shall be for the loudest outlet. When there is more than one exhaust outlet extending from a single muffler, separated by less than 12 in. (305 mm), measurements shall not be made on the outlet furthest from the side of the vehicle.

(D) No person shall operate a motor vehicle having a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of at least 6,000 lb. which exceeds 93 dB, measured 25 ft. (7.6m) from the side of the vehicle. The sound level meter shall be observed during the full cycle of engine acceleration-deceleration, and the measured sound level reading shall be the highest value obtained during this cycle, excluding unrelated peaks due to extraneous ambient noise. When there is more than one outlet, the sound level for each side of the vehicle shall be measured, and the reported sound level shall be the average of the two highest readings within 1 dB of each other on the louder side.

(E) Except when necessary to provide a warning signal, no person shall, within any 7-day period, cause or allow the sounding of any security alarm on or in any vehicle owned, leased or otherwise held by that person:

- (1) on more than 2 occasions; or
- (2) during more than 5 consecutive minutes.

(F) All motor vehicles shall have a ninety-day grace period from the date of publication of this ordinance to comply with the vehicle noise emission regulations herein.

('74 Code, § 6-22-12) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001; Am. Ord. 26-2002)

§ 9-9-10 AIRCRAFT-RELATED NOISE.

(A) No person shall operate or run up, or cause to be operated or run up, for testing, repair or maintenance purposes, an aircraft engine which creates a sound level more than 5 dB above the ambient sound level, when measured on any receiving noise-sensitive property during the nighttime hours.

(B) Any aircraft engine operating within an aircraft during a landing, takeoff or while moving upon the ground surface of an airport shall be exempt from the provisions of this section. Noise from helicopter takeoff and landing operations is regulated in § 9-9-10(D).

(C) The intent of this section is to regulate the noise levels produced in the testing, maintenance and repairing of aircraft engines and aircraft in the nighttime hours to the extent such levels exceed 5 dB above the ambient noise level when measured on any receiving noise-sensitive property.

(D) Helicopter Noise. While on the ground with engines running at approved helipads within the city limits, helicopters shall not exceed the following sound levels for the indicated time period as measured on any receiving noise-sensitive property:

- 65 dB for more than 5 minutes;
- 70 dB for more than 90 seconds;
- 80 dB for more than 15 seconds;
- 90 dB for any length of time.

Helicopters shall not take off or land at approved helipads in the city limits during the nighttime. Sound level/duration limit compliance shall be determined with an approved sound level meter which measures and records at least 16 distinct readings per second. This §9-9-10 does not apply to helicopters used for:

- (1) law enforcement;
- (2) emergency medical transport;
- (3) emergency search and rescue; or
- (4) public utility restoration.

('74 Code, § 6-22-13) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

§ 9-9-11 REFUSE COLLECTION.

No person shall collect refuse with a refuse collection vehicle except during the following hours:

(A) Noise-sensitive property or property adjacent to noise-sensitive property or separated by an alleyway from noise-sensitive property:

Monday through Friday: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday, holiday: 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

(B) Areas not specified in (A):

Monday through Friday: 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday, holiday: 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

(Ord. 9-2001)

§ 9-9-12 GENERAL NOISE.

(A) Except as otherwise provided in this article, no person shall make or continue, cause to be made or continued, or allow to be made or continued, any sound resulting in an exceedance of the following limits as measured on any other property receiving the sound:

<b>Table 1</b> General Sound-Level Limits		
<i>Land Use Category</i>	Time	Maximum dB
Residential	Daytime	55
	Nighttime	50
Office/Commercial	Daytime	65
	Nighttime	60
Industrial	Daytime	75
	Nighttime	70

Sound projecting from property of one land use category onto property of another land use category having a lower sound-level limit shall not exceed the limits for the property of the land use category onto which it is projected.

(B) No person shall allow an animal in his possession or control to persistently or

continuously bark, howl or make noise common to its species, or otherwise to disturb the peace and quiet of the inhabitants of the city, or otherwise endanger the health and welfare of the inhabitants of the city. This provision shall not apply to public zoos and approved and properly zoned animal shelters as defined in the Animal Control Ordinance.

('74 Code, § 6-22-14) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

§ 9-9-13 TEMPORARY PERMITS (AMPLIFIED SOUND/CONSTRUCTION NOISE).

(A) The Mayor may grant a temporary permit which allows non-compliance with the limitations prescribed in this article for the purpose of amplified sound or construction noise activities of short duration.

(B) Permits shall be granted upon application, at no cost to applicant, provided an initial evaluation indicates that the permit will not result in a condition injurious to health or safety.

(C) The following factors shall be considered in the initial evaluation to determine whether granting the permit will result in a condition injurious to health or safety:

(1) Temporary Amplified Sound Permits:

- (a) Distance of proposed activities from noise-sensitive property;
- (b) Number of amplification devices to be used in the proposed activities;
- (c) Anticipated direction of amplification devices;
- (d) Anticipated length of proposed activities; and
- (e) Whether the activity will be held within or without a structure.

(2) Temporary Construction Noise Permits:

- (a) Distance from noise-sensitive property;
- (b) Type of activity and equipment;
- (c) Estimated noise level and duration;
- (d) Noise mitigation measures to be used; and
- (e) Health and safety benefits to be realized as a result of the completed project.

(D) Upon a determination that the granting of a permit will not result in a condition injurious to health or safety, the permit shall be issued specifying place, duration, and any requirements appropriate to the proposed activity site.

(E) Issued permits will be surrendered to any city police officer or any Department representative authorized to enforce this article upon request when it is determined that any requirement contained in the permit has been violated.

(F) A subsequent permit application may be denied upon substantiated complaint(s) by a resident(s) in the locality of the permitted activity or if an applicant has in the past been required to surrender a permit as described in division (E).

(G) This section shall not apply to any person who has been granted a variance as prescribed by § 9-9-14.

(H) Any person aggrieved by the disposition of an application for a temporary permit may appeal such disposition by filing a written petition with the Mayor within 30 days of the disposition.

('74 Code, § 6-22-5) (Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

§ 9-9-14 VARIANCES.

(A) The Mayor may grant an individual variance from the limitations prescribed in this article whenever it is found, after a public hearing before a Hearing Officer and upon presentation of adequate proof, that compliance with any part of this article will impose an undue economic burden upon any lawful business, occupation or activity, and that the granting of the variance will not result in a condition injurious to health or safety.

(B) Any variance, or renewal thereof, shall be granted within the requirements of division (A) of this section and for time periods and under conditions consistent with the reasons therefore, and within the following limitations:

(1) If the variance is granted on the grounds that compliance with the particular requirement or requirements will necessitate the taking of measures which, because of their extent or cost, must be spread over a considerable period of time, it shall be for a period not to exceed such reasonable time as, in the view of the Mayor, is requisite for taking of the

necessary measures. A variance granted on the ground specified in this division shall contain a timetable for taking of action in an expeditious manner and shall be conditioned on adherence to the timetable; or

(2) If the variance is granted on the ground that it is justified to relieve or prevent hardship of a kind other than that provided for in division (1) of this division (B), it shall be for not more than one year.

(C) Any person seeking a variance shall file a petition for variance and a \$50 filing fee with the Mayor. The Mayor shall submit the petition to the Hearing Officer to conduct a public hearing after notice has been provided in accordance with this section and to make the final decision regarding the granting of the variance. The Hearing Officer shall conduct the hearing and accept documentary and testimonial evidence in accordance with accepted administrative hearing procedures.

(D) Written notice of the public hearing shall be mailed by the Hearing Officer at least 10 days prior to the hearing to:

(1) the petitioner;

(2) the petitioner's agent;

(3) the owners as shown by the records of the County Assessor of lots comprising the site of the variance and lots within 100 feet, excluding public right-of-way, of the site of the variance;

(4) any neighborhood association that is "recognized" by the city in accordance with the Neighborhood Association Recognition Ordinance if the site of the variance is within the neighborhood association's boundaries or within 100 feet of the neighborhood association's boundaries, excluding public right-of-way.

(5) any other person or entity that has filed with the Mayor a request to receive a notice of the variance proceeding.

(E) The notice of hearing shall set forth the name and address of the petitioner, the location of the site of the variance, that the petitioner has requested a variance from this ordinance, the nature of the requested variance, and that part of the ordinance that would be waived if approved.

(F) Following the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall render a written final decision including findings of fact and conclusions of law. The Hearing Officer shall mail the decision to all parties of record. The exclusive remedy for any parties to the administrative proceedings described in this paragraph shall be a petition for writ of certiorari to the State District Court. The petition for review shall be limited to the record made at the public hearing described herein.

('74 Code, § 6-22-4) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

#### § 9-9-15 CROSS-REFERENCES.

The following sources of noise are specifically governed within the indicated Article of the Albuquerque Code of Ordinances:

(A) animal noise: Animal Control Ordinance (Chapter 9, Article 2);

(B) alarm system noise (structure/facility): Alarm Systems Ordinance (Chapter 9, Article 3);

(C) vehicular horn noise: Traffic Code (Chapter 8, Article 6);

(D) vehicular engine muffler noise: Traffic Code (Chapter 8, Article 6); and

(E) "unreasonable noise": Criminal Code (Chapter 12, Article 2).

(Ord. 9-2001)

#### § 9-9-16 ADMINISTRATION.

The Mayor shall be responsible for the administration of this article. Rules, regulations, and test and compliance procedures to carry out the intent and purpose of this article shall be promulgated by the Mayor.

('74 Code, § 6-22-15) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

#### § 9-9-17 VIOLATIONS; ADDITIONAL REMEDIES; INJUNCTIONS.

As an additional remedy to the penalty set forth in § 9-9-99, the operation or maintenance of any device, instrument, vehicle, or machinery in violation of any provision of this article, which operation or maintenance exceeds the limitations of this article, may be subject to abatement summarily by a restraining order or injunction issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

('74 Code, § 6-22-17) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 30-1981; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

**§ 9-9-18 REVIEW.**

This ordinance shall be reviewed by the City Council within five years of its effective date.

(Ord. 9-2001)

**§ 9-9-99 PENALTY.**

Any person who violates any provision of this article shall be subject to the following penalties for offenses during any 36-consecutive-month period:

- (A) fine of \$100 for the first offense;
- (B) fine of \$250 for the second offense;
- (C) fine of \$500 for the third and subsequent offenses.

Each calendar day during which the violation occurs shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

('74 Code, § 6-22-16) (Ord. 21-1975; Am. Ord. 9-2001)

**Disclaimer:**

This Code of Ordinances and/or any other documents that appear on this site may not reflect the most current legislation adopted by the Municipality. American Legal Publishing Corporation provides these documents for informational purposes only. These documents should not be relied upon as the definitive authority for local legislation. Additionally, the formatting and pagination of the posted documents varies from the formatting and pagination of the official copy. The official printed copy of a Code of Ordinances should be consulted prior to any action being taken.

For further information regarding the official version of any of this Code of Ordinances or other documents posted on this site, please contact the Municipality directly or contact American Legal Publishing toll-free at 800-445-5588.

© 2003 American Legal Publishing Corporation  
[techsupport@amlegal.com](mailto:techsupport@amlegal.com) 1.800.445.5588.