

STAFF REPORT: BUILDING & BY-LAW DEPARTMENT



REPORT TO: Finance & Administration
Committee

MEETING DATE: September 23rd, 2008

REPORT NO.: SRB.08.41

SUBJECT: Draft Noise By-law

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A. Recommendations

THAT the Finance & Administration Committee receive Staff Report No. SRB.08.41 “Draft Noise By-law” and the related Draft Noise By-law for information purposes and that the Director, Building & By-law, report back to the Committee following a public consultation process related to the Draft Noise By-law.

B. Background

1. On January 28th, 2002, Council approved Noise By-law No. 2002-9 and has subsequently approved two amendments thereto.
2. Over the past number of months, the number of requests for exemption to the Noise By-law has become more frequent and problematic for both Staff and Council.
3. In the spring of this year, through dialogue with Council, it was determined that it was time for the municipality to review the Noise By-law and to develop more quantifiable criteria as it relates to noise.
4. The Ministry of the Environment has released a number of publications related to noise. Publication NPC-205 specifically addresses “Stationary Sources in Class 1 & 2 Areas (Urban)” and includes specific quantifiable criteria expressed in dB for stationary sources such as industrial and commercial establishments or ancillary transportation facilities, affecting points of reception in Class 1 and 2 Areas (Urban).
5. Over the past two years, the Town’s By-law Division has acquired a sound level meter and a member of staff has been trained in its use.
6. Significant research has been conducted with respect to the type/nature of municipal noise by-laws and the attached draft is based heavily on the City’s of Toronto and Barrie Noise By-laws.

7. It is recommended that the Finance & Administration Committee receive this Report and Draft By-law and that the Director, Building & By-law, report back to the Committee following a public consultation process.

C. Environmental Impacts

Potential mitigation of noise related issues/concerns.

D. Budget Impact

Additional costs will be incurred in future years related training and equipment and, an increased awareness of the Town's role in Noise By-law Enforcement may create additional demands on By-law Enforcement.

D. Strategic Plan

Providing a strong, well managed municipal government.

E. Addendums

- A. Draft Noise By-law
- B. Publication NPC - 205

Prepared by:

Respectfully submitted:

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