

City of Minneapolis

Request for Committee Action

RCA #: RCA-2026-00896

TO COMMITTEE(S):

#	Committee Name	Meeting Date	Submission Deadline
1	Public Health, Safety & Equity	Aug 19, 2026	Aug 6, 2026

FROM: Health

LEAD STAFF: Patrick Hanlon, Deputy
Commissioner

PRESENTED BY: Kelly Muellman, Director
Environmental Programs

SUBJECT:

Noise regulations ordinances

ACTION ITEM(S)

#	File Type	Subcategory	Item Description	Public Hearing
1	Ordinance	Code Amendment	Passage of Ordinance amending Title 15 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Offenses—Miscellaneous, amending provisions related to noise regulations to remove irrelevant content, organize the structure in a more logical format, clarify language, add a clause regulating	Yes

#	File Type	Subcategory	Item Description	Public Hearing
			the sounding of motion-sensor devices on private property, and to amend a clerical error referencing Chapter 389 that should be referring to an earlier subsection in Chapter 399: 1. Chapter 389 Noise 2. Chapter 399 Control of Invasive Species Tree Pests	
2	Ordinance	Code Amendment	Passage of Ordinance amending Title 3, Chapter 45 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Air Pollution and Environmental Protection: Environmental Program Fees, amending provisions referring to Chapter 389 to correct reference numbers.	Yes
3	Ordinance	Code Amendment	Passage of Ordinance amending Title 12, Chapter 244 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Housing: Maintenance Code, amending provisions referring to Chapter 389 to correct reference numbers.	Yes
4	Ordinance	Code Amendment	Passage of Ordinance amending Title 13, Chapter 259 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Licenses and Business Regulations: In General, amending provisions referring to Chapter 389 to correct reference numbers.	Yes

#	File Type	Subcategory	Item Description	Public Hearing
5	Ordinance	Code Amendment	Passage of Ordinance amending Title 14, Chapter 360 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Liquor and Beer: In General, amending provisions referring to Chapter 389 to correct reference numbers.	Yes

WARD / NEIGHBORHOOD /ADDRESS

#	Ward	Neighborhood	Address
1.	All Wards		

BACKGROUND ANALYSIS

The City's noise ordinance, Chapter 389. - NOISE, spells out the City's authority for regulating undesirable noises that can create a threat to the health and welfare of the people of Minneapolis.

Chapter 389 covers the following:

1. Noise limits, set by the State and the City, to be protective of health and welfare
2. Penalties for violating the noise limits
3. Activities exempt from noise limits
4. Amplified sound permits
5. Vehicular noise control, and
6. Noisy and unruly assemblies

Proposed changes to the Chapter 389 ordinance will constitute a complete revision to accomplish the following objectives:

- Reorganize sections to improve logical flow
- Simplify language, improve consistent use of terms, and cut unnecessary language
- Move Noisy and Unruly Assemblies to its own article

- Add language under Alarms regulating the sounding of motion-sensors on private property so that the audio is not audible from adjacent residential properties

With the reorganization of Chapter 389, other ordinances in the City code that reference Chapter 389 need to have those references updated to reflect the new numbering. The following ordinances will be updated for that purpose:

- Chapter 45
- Chapter 244
- Chapter 259
- Chapter 360
- Chapter 399 Control of Invasive Species Tree Pests

Racial Equity Impact Analysis (REIA)

SECTION 1: BACKGROUND

DOES THIS IMPACT ONE OF THE CITY'S GOAL AREAS?

Policy Goals

- PUBLIC SERVICES
- PUBLIC HEALTH

Operational Goals

- WORKFORCE

DESCRIBE THE IMPACT ON SELECTED GOAL AREAS.

The purpose of Chapter 389 - Noise is to protect the people of Minneapolis from certain loud, avoidable, unnatural and unnecessary noises, which under certain circumstances and conditions, constitute a serious threat to health, welfare, contentment and the feeling of well-being. The changes proposed to Chapter 389 will make the rules more clear for the public and for Health Inspectors conducting enforcement activities. This will improve public health and the efficiency and effectiveness of public service.

WHO PARTICIPATED IN COMPLETING THIS ANALYSIS?

Kelly Muellman, Director, Environmental Programs

SECTION 2: DATA

LIST THE SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIES THAT WILL BE IMPACTED AND THE RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF CONSTITUENTS IN THOSE AREAS:

All Minneapolis geographies and demographics are impacted by Chapter 389. We strive for fair and equitable enforcement of Chapter 389 to ensure that the environment is protected for all residents of the City of Minneapolis regardless of their neighborhood, Ward or Zip Code, or the racialized identities of their community.

WHAT DOES AVAILABLE DATA TELL YOU ABOUT HOW CONSTITUENTS FROM BIPOC COMMUNITIES CURRENTLY RELATE TO THE DESIRED OUTCOME COMPARED TO WHITE CONSTITUENTS?

Most constituent data comes from the opt-in system of 311 complaints, which is unevenly used based on geography and demographics. Service requests do not include the demographic information of callers, so we cannot break down 311 calls to understand how BIPOC communities related to the noise ordinance and regulations as compared to white communities.

WHAT DATA IS UNAVAILABLE OR MISSING? HOW CAN YOU OBTAIN ADDITIONAL DATA?

NA

SECTION 3: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

USING THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (IAP2) [PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SPECTRUM](#), WHICH PARTICIPATION STRATEGY(S) WAS USED WHEN ENGAGING THOSE WHO WOULD BE MOST IMPACTED?

- INFORM
- CONSULT

DESCRIBE THE ENGAGEMENT AND WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED?

The driver for updating Chapter 389 was internal. Environmental Inspectors responsible for enforcement of the ordinance had raised numerous questions about conflicting information within the ordinance and desired clarity. The Director of Environmental Programs worked with Environmental Inspectors to rewrite the ordinance. The Director also engaged other Department leaders and staff who rely on sections of Chapter 389 for their work to understand if they desired any changes or wanted to keep certain language untouched. There was no specific engagement with residents, businesses or contractors of Minneapolis. However, the regular back-and-forth of communication with these parties and Environmental Inspectors did influence the ordinance rewrite.

SECTION 4: ANALYSIS

HOW DOES THE OUTCOME FOR THIS ORDINANCE, AMENDMENT, OR POLICY HELP THE CITY ACHIEVE RACIAL EQUITY?

The amendments to Chapter 389 are unlikely to have an impact on racial equity in Minneapolis.

SECTION 5: EVALUATION

HOW WILL IMPACTS BE MEASURED? WHAT ARE THE SUCCESS INDICATORS AND PROCESS BENCHMARKS?

Success indicators for the Chapter 389 rewrite will be measured in fewer questions raised by staff regarding interpretation and implementation of the noise ordinance.

HOW WILL THOSE WHO ARE IMPACTED BE INFORMED OF PROGRESS OVER TIME?

The Departments outside of Health that had code references changed have been notified.