

June 30, 2026

«AddressBlock»

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Sound Level Variance

Irish Fair of MN – Twin Cities Irish Fest

«GreetingLine»

This is to inform you of a request for a variance from the sound level limitations as indicated in the St. Paul Noise Ordinance (Chapter 293 of the St. Paul Legislative Code). Property owned by you and located near the noise source, may be affected by this variance request. Rental property owners must provide a copy of this notice to all renters or post a copy in a common area of the building so it can be viewed by the occupants.

Description of Variance:

Location: 200 Dr. Justus Ohage Blvd – Harriet Island Regional Park

Noise Source: Sarah VanSickle, Irish Fair of MN, Event Manager, has requested a sound level variance, for 90 decibels (dBA) at fifty (50) feet, to present amplified sound with use of a sound system for the Twin Cities Irish Fest event August 7, 8, and 9, 2026, at 200 Dr. Justus Ohage Blvd – Harriet Island Regional Park. The variance is requested for the hours of 3:00 pm to 11:00 pm Friday, August 7, 10:00 am to 11:00 pm Saturday, August 8, and 10:00 am to 8:00 pm, Sunday, August 9, 2026, with a pre-event sound check at 8:00 am on the event days.

The Department of Safety and Inspections will be recommending the following conditions:

- 1)** The Variance shall be for the hours of 3:00 pm to 11:00 pm, Friday, August 7, 10:00 am to 11:00 pm, Saturday, August 8, and 10:00 am to 8:00 pm, Sunday, August 9, 2026, with a pre-event sound check for up to no more than two specific-hour periods between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm on event days, for the Twin Cities Irish Fest event.
- 2)** Celtic Junction/Guinness Stage (Tent): All electronically powered equipment, PA systems, loudspeakers, or similar devices used in conjunction with the event must not exceed 90 dBA at 50 feet from the sound source. Amplified sound on the Celtic Junction Stage must end at 11:00 pm on Friday, August 7, Saturday, August 8, and 8:00 pm on Sunday, August 9, 2026, in accordance with Parks Department end-time Policy.
- 3)** All other stages: All electronically powered equipment, PA systems, loudspeakers, or similar devices used in conjunction with the event must not exceed 90 dBA at 50 feet from the sound source. Amplified sound on stages other than the Celtic Junction Stage must end at 10:00 pm on Friday, August 7 and Saturday, August 8, and 8:00 pm on Sunday, August 9, 2026, in accordance with Parks Department end-time policy.
- 4)** The applicant shall monitor the decibel level from the variance approved distance of each noise source and create a report that records the general operating decibel levels within 15 minutes of the start of each performing act and at intervals no greater than 60 minutes apart thereafter. The report shall be made available for viewing by city staff upon request during the variance and within 30 days thereafter. The Applicant shall also conduct a decibel reading during the variance upon request of city staff.
- 5)** All electronically powered equipment, PA systems, loudspeakers, or similar devices located on the event grounds must be turned off no later than the above identified times at the specific locations on the event dates.

Submit comments for Public Hearing electronically:

The public may comment on public hearing items in person, in writing or via voicemail. Any comments and materials submitted by 12:00 pm on the day before the meeting, Tuesday, July 14, 2026, will be attached to the public record and available for review by the City Council.

Comments may be submitted as follows:

Written public comment on public hearing items can be submitted to Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us or CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us. Submit a comment by voicemail at 651-266-6805.

Live testimony will be taken in person in the Council Chambers and by telephone by registering to speak by noon on the day before the meeting. The registration link is located on the City Council website at www.stpaul.gov/council or <https://forms.office.com/g/TD3xN7WHy5>.

Members of the public may view City Council meetings online at <https://stpaul.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> or on local cable Channel 18.

A public hearing before the City Council on this variance request will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Time: 3:30 pm

Location: 3rd floor, City Hall Council Chambers

After the public hearing, the Council may grant, deny, or modify the variance request.

If you have questions about the sound level variance, please contact: Barb McMonigal-St. Dennis, Environmental Health Specialist at 651-266-9137 or barb.mcmonigal-st.dennis@ci.stpaul.mn.us