

Pamela Martin

From: daniel aire <[REDACTED]>
Sent: January 20, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Council Secretary
Subject: Submission for request to address council

Hello,

I just submitted a request (1130 am @ Jan20/2020) on the City of Victoria's website to address council regarding the cities noise by-laws. I requested to be present at the Feb 13th/ 2020 meeting.

I did not submit a supporting document on the application but was given the option to send it to this address instead.

Here it is:

Hello,

I am a homeowner and resident of Fernwood. I have lived here with my family for the last 5 years. We love the neighbourhood, our home and garden. We live at 1225 Queens Ave.

For the past 5 years I have endeavoured to dialogue with our immediate neighbours who rent a home on Princess Ave. They are 2 young guys whose hobby is working on vehicles. For the past 4 years, my family (my wife and young kids included) have attempted to make the case to them that the fairly regular construction noise on their vehicles (grinding of metal, welding (fumes), sawing etc..) has been regularly disruptive to our ability to spend time in our garden, which abuts their yard. They have been willing from time to time to heed our pleas for temporary peace but invariably have resumed their activities. Occasionally an entire weekend has been spent listening to loud and disruptive noise. During the week is common too.

I finally had enough and contacted by law services for assistance. I have been assisted by Mr. Adam Sheffield in a most courteous and professional manner for the last many months. He has tried to balance the needs and rights of both ourselves and the neighbours and has done what he can to request compliance for certain by law infractions. I believe they have complied with these requirements, for the most part.

My issue is not just with these 2 individuals and their casual disregard of our many requests for limiting their activities but more with the, in my opinion, excessive permissible sound limits which are allowed by the cities bylaws. As well as the time frame which the city allows for construction noise. 7 days a week. Weekdays from 8-8. We have literally been forced inside our home by the grinding of metal but we were informed that the permissible noise limit of 75DbA has not been exceeded.

I was also informed that the noise limits were set by a professional sound company with the assumption that the construction noises would be limited by normal, typical, specific projects (ie: building a shed, house, etc). It seems that the idea that an individual could literally spend all the allowable times for construction (7 days, 12 hours a day) reaching the permissible noise limits did not occur to the sound technicians when they determined their findings.

In our case, for 5 years we have been subjected to dozens of weekends and weekdays of loud construction noise by these 2 men.

My plea to the council is to revisit the noise parameters and times of day in which construction can be performed with obvious exceptions. I can appreciate that this is unlikely due to the subjective nature of these matters and the potential blow back from citizens but I ask you to appreciate what it would be like for your selves and your families to have your home sanctuary constantly disrupted by a neighbour who cares not for his or her fellow citizens need and right to have a peaceful environment for their families to exist.

I have experienced much stress because of this situation and have done everything in my power to be civil and to have enforcement assistance. Yet, the construction continues unabated.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

I would like to request a response from the Mayor and any or all of the councillors who might have an opinion to illuminate my thinking.

Regards,

Dan Aire

1225 Queens Ave

Victoria,BC

Thanks for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from your office to confirm receipt of this message.

Regards,

Dan Aire