



Jo Ann Hardesty, *Commissioner*  
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[portlandoregon.gov/civic/noise](http://portlandoregon.gov/civic/noise)

**Noise Review Board**  
**December 10, 2020**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Kerrie Standlee, Destiny Wright, Mary Sipe, Ernest Harris, Paul van Orden

**Absent:** Michael Wallace

**Minutes:** Katherine Couch

**Call to Order-6:00 pm**

**General Public Comments**

None

**NRB November 12, 2020 Zoom Meeting Summary (Minutes)**

Mary Sipe moved to **approve the minutes as written**. Destiny Wright seconded the motion.  
**Vote results:** Mary Sipe “Aye” Destiny Wright “Aye” Kerrie Standlee “Aye” Ernest Harris “Aye” The motion passed 4-0.

**Noise Variance Request Hearing**

**Portland BES: SW Macadam Ave Sewer Rehabilitation & Reconstruction Project**  
**Request for 25 nights of work along SW Macadam Ave between SW Mitchell & SW Sweeny**  
**between 05/01/2021 & 12/31/2021.**

Yang Zhang BES, Emily Newhouse and Matt Gough from BES attended, with Yang Zhiang presenting.

The Caroline Trunk Rehab Project consists of spiral wound lining of sewers between May 2021 and December 2021. The reason night work is requested is due to ODOT traffic limitations.



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SPR is a trenchless sewer repair method using a winding machine to build the PVC liner inside of the pipe. It's installed through an existing manhole. The space will be grouted if needed. Then the lateral pipe will be reinstated. Equipment used for this method includes:

- Equipment truck
- Vacuum truck
- Front-end loader
- Generators
- Pumps
- Hose reel,
- Hydraulic power pack,
- Spool skate
- Lights

The location of the work taking place is S Macadam between Mitchell and Sweeney, encompassing 760 feet. The variance request is for twenty-five nights of work.

#### Matt Gough- Outreach

Neighbors are predominantly commercial, with the nearest residence one block away. Kerrie Standlee found nearby residents to the west, called Johns Landing condos, that are located within 375 feet of the work on Macadam. Postcards were sent out in October to 650 residents within 500 feet and there was a posting on Next Door going to 800 recipients. They received one comment with questions about scheduling. This person was added to their e-mail list. BES will send out another update closer to the project beginning.

In response to a question about equipment locations, BES indicated that S Mitchell will have the spiraling equipment there, and smaller equipment at the boundary of the activity. Installation will take six weeks, along with mobilization and demobilization of the equipment. The contracting period is longer, and they are requesting a quick turnaround in order to put the contract out for bid to choose a contractor to do the work.

#### **Public Comment**

None given



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Mary Sipe made a motion to approve the request as submitted for twenty-five nights of work along S Macadam Ave between S Mitchell & S Sweeny between 05/01/2021 & 12/31/2021, adopting the BES proposed mitigation measures with the addition of the standard guidelines for community input and complaints received being submitted to the Noise Office.

#### Mitigation measures

- Sound barriers will be used if necessary, to reduce noise level
- Smart alarm back-up beepers instead of a standard reverse alarm to be used from 6:00 pm until 10:00 pm for all equipment activity
- Back up alarms to be disconnected between 10:00 pm and 7:00 am and spotters to be used to safely back up vehicles
- Direct connection to power is required to be used whenever possible. Use of gasoline or diesel generators or other stationary equipment will be placed away from residential neighbors with the safe use of a ¾ inch plywood enclosure that does not impact the need for of the unit to be properly ventilated

Destiny Wright seconded the motion. There were a handful of friendly amendments:

- Kerrie Standlee wanted the addition of sound mitigation curtains as an option to reduce the sound impact on the nearest neighbors.
- Paul van Orden asked that hospital generators be used.
- Kerrie Standlee wanted to have any complaints submitted to the Noise Office within twenty-four hours. He also asked for photos of mitigation measures used when complaints are received.
- Paul van Orden requested that if any dates are changed neighbors be re-notified.

Mary Sipe accepted all the friendly amendments.

**The vote was called, and results are as follows: Mary Sipe “Aye”, Destiny Wright “Aye”, Ernest Harris “Aye”, Kerrie Standlee “Aye”. The motion passed unanimously, with four members present all voting “aye”**

#### Noise Variance Request Hearing

##### **ODOT: Centerline & Shoulder Rumble Strip Installation Project**

**Request for an estimated 46 nights of work to grind rumble strip grooves at centerline and shoulder areas of various roadways around the metro area between 01/21/2021 & 08/10/2021.**



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Those present from ODOT: Kyle Crate, Project Manager, Lili Boicourt, Community Affairs Specialist, Robert Schiavone, Noise Specialist, Matt Freitag, Area Manager, and Daniel Burgin, Statewide Noise Coordinator

This variance request is for a safety project installing rumble strips after a five-year analysis of road departure crashes. The work will take place at specific locations on various highways with higher crash histories. There is a high volume of traffic on area highways. This is a request for nighttime work due to traffic impact and worker safety.

Altogether, this project will have work done on seventeen highways, but eight of these highway locations are within Portland.

ODOT mailed postcards to everyone within 500 feet of all project areas, totaling approximately 2,300 households. The postcards included information about the project, locations, as well as information about contacts for noise concerns, and the URL for their twenty-four-hour per day hotline. There was information on this hearing included. ODOT heard from one person who raised concerns and the remaining calls were general questions.

The equipment being used: rumble strip grinder, dump truck, conveyor sweeper, and mechanical sweeper

The loudest piece of equipment is the rumble strip grinder. It will be moving approximately three miles-per-hour and the projected decibel levels are 96 dBA at fifty feet. The other equipment is projected to be between 80-84 dBA.

The closest residences are twenty-five feet away on the Sandy Blvd portion of the work.

Highways affected will be I-5, I-84, I-205, I-405, US26, US-30 bypass, OR 99E, and OR99W

Anticipated miles per day are between three and eight miles completed per day. Five hours per day will be the work itself, and the remaining hours are for set up. Due to the time it takes to set up, the contractor can't do more than one location per night.

A request was made to break down how many nights work for each project area.

## Public Comment

Natalie- Pearl District resident. Natalie doesn't live near the locations where work is being done but said that the sounds from I-405 traffic echoes in the condos nearby. Other concerns were how loud setup sounds will be, and how many nights in that general location.

ODOT responded that the sound would be a truck putting down traffic cones, with no back-up alarms, and they are looking for up to four nights. Two of the nights being requested are for



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contingency plans. Since the condos in question are 700 feet away Natalie rescinds all questions.

Destiny Wright moved to approve forty nights of work to grind rumble strip grooves at centerline and shoulder areas of various roadways around the Metro area between 01/21/2021 & 08/10/2021.

#### Mitigation measures

- All equipment used shall have sound control devices no less effective than those provided on the original equipment. No equipment shall have an unmuffled exhaust.
- All equipment shall comply with pertinent equipment noise standards of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- The contractor shall install temporary or portable barriers around stationary construction noise sources if there are complaints. ODOT shall contact the Noise Control Officer should complaints occur to discuss mitigation measures if they will be working in the same area in the future.
- Idling equipment will be turned off when not in use.
- ODOT Consultant's JLA and WSP will be responsible for communicating and gathering public outreach and complaint information
- There shall be a 24-hour hotline used to capture complaints.
- The 40 nights shall be broken down to nights per site to be filled in by the Noise Control Officer once the data is supplied
- 

#### Friendly amendments

- There shall be two-week advance notice prior to the start of work activities.
- Any complaints shall be submitted to the Noise Control Officer within 24 hours to ascertain if there is a need to revisit the variance conditions.
- There shall be dBA readings done in residential areas to ensure the contractor is complying with the variance conditions
- Actual sound data from the equipment shall be supplied to be used for future projects

Friendly amendments were accepted. Mary Sipe seconded the motion

**Final vote: Ernest Harris "Aye", Mary Sipe "Aye" Destiny Wright "Aye", Kerrie Standlee "Aye"**  
**The motion passed unanimously, four to zero.**



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## Board Business

### General public comments review

There were no public comments to review

### Noise Control Officer enforcement operations – Update

- Civic Life reopened field operations again after being closed since the pandemic began. The field position has not been filled yet. Specific complaints and resolutions:
  - Celio Apartment rooftop equipment should be fixed soon. They are waiting for two dry nights in a row, since the work involves cutting holes in the roof. The work should be accomplished within a week at most. The case will be left open until a measurement is taken.
  - A citation was issued to the car wash on NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd. (Splash & Dash) The Noise Control Officer is trying to get measurements on the vacuums by coordinating with the owners and have them turn on two units at once.
  - Washman Car Wash on SE 118<sup>th</sup> & Division received a warning letter for loud vacuums. They then worked with the manufacturer to order new vacuums with silencers that should be 82 dBA at the property line.
  - Three citations went out to property owners for stereos and bands playing music above the Noise Code. One was appealed and one paid the fine. With a single Noise Control Officer on staff, and the reduced ability of the police to investigate noise issues, there isn't an effective tool for playing loud music at intermittent times. With a reminder that he was a national expert on noise, the Noise Control Officer indicated that the office can't open a case from a video sent. Unlike the past, there are not eight inspectors to investigate.
  - Regarding appeals, it takes time for the Supervisor to get information to determine the outcome of an appeal. The Noise Control Officer indicated that the most effective way to advocate for staff increases is to explore as a board the issues to focus on.

### New Business

The Board Chair and the Noise Control Officer spent time working on a policy for early morning concrete pours. There will be more time at the January meeting to discuss.

### Next Meeting – Wednesday, January 13, 2021



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**Adjourn-** Kerrie Standlee called for adjournment at 8:19 pm. At this time, the Board Chair clarified that the start time for this meeting was 6:00 pm.



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