

33.262 Off-Site Impacts

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33.262.010 Purpose

The regulations of this chapter are designed to protect all uses in the R, C, CI, IR, and OS zones from certain objectionable off-site impacts associated with nonresidential uses. These impacts include noise, vibration, odors, and glare. The standards ensure that uses provide adequate control measures or locate in areas where the community is protected from health hazards and nuisances. The use of objective standards provides a measurable means of determining specified off-site impacts. This method protects specific industries or firms from exclusion in a zone based solely on the general characteristics of similar industries in the past.

33.262.020 Applying These Regulations

Nonresidential uses in all zones which cause off-site impacts on uses in the R, C, CI, IR, and OS zones are required to meet the standards of this chapter. These standards apply to the operation of the use and are not reviewed for compliance at the time of building permit. Compliance with the standards is subject to enforcement once the operation of the use commences. Exempted equipment and facilities are stated in 33.262.030 below.

33.262.030 Exemptions

The off-site impact standards do not apply to machinery, equipment, and facilities which were at the site and in compliance with existing regulations at the effective date of these regulations. Any new or additional machinery, equipment, and facilities must comply with the standards of this chapter. Documentation is the responsibility of the proprietor of the use if there is any question about when the equipment was brought to the site.

33.262.040 Relationship to Other Regulations

The off-site impact standards are in addition to all other regulations of the City Code. The standards do not replace or supersede regulations of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), relevant county regulations, or standards such as the Uniform Fire Code.

33.262.050 Noise

The City noise standards are stated in Title 18, Noise Control. In addition, the Department of Environmental Quality has regulations which apply to firms adjacent to or near noise sensitive uses such as dwellings, religious institutions, schools, and hospitals.

33.262.060 Vibration

- A. **Vibration standard.** Continuous, frequent, or repetitive vibrations which exceed 0.002g peak may not be produced. In general, this means that a person of normal sensitivities should not be able to feel any vibrations.
- B. **Exceptions.** Vibrations from temporary construction and vehicles which leave the site (such as trucks, trains, airplanes and helicopters) are exempt. Vibrations lasting less than 5 minutes per day are also exempt. Vibrations from primarily on-site vehicles and equipment are not exempt.
- C. **Measurement.** Seismic or electronic vibration measuring equipment may be used for measurements when there are doubts about the level of vibration.

33.262.080 Glare

- A. **Glare standard.** Glare is illumination caused by all types of lighting and from high temperature processes such as welding or metallurgical refining. Glare may not directly, or indirectly from reflection, cause illumination on other properties in excess of a measurement of 0.5 foot candles of light.
- B. **Strobe lights.** Strobe lights visible from another property are not allowed.

33.262.090 Measurements

- A. Measurements for compliance with these standards are made from the property line or within the property of the affected site. Measurements may be made at ground level or at habitable levels of buildings.
- B. If the City does not have the equipment or expertise to measure and evaluate a specific complaint, it may request assistance from another agency or may contract with an independent expert to perform such measurements. The City may accept measurements made by an independent expert hired by the controller or operator of the off-site impact source. If the City contracts to have measurements made and no violation is found, the City will bear the expense, if any, of the measurements. If a violation is found, City expenses will be charged to the violator. Nonpayment of the costs is a violation of the Code, and enforced through the provisions of Title 22.

(Amended by: Ord. No. 165376, effective 5/29/92; Ord. No. 174263, effective 4/15/00; Ord. No. 174743, effective 7/21/00; Ord. No. 176469, effective 7/1/02; Ord. No. 188177, effective 5/24/18; Ord. No. 188958, effective 5/24/18; Ord. No. 191961, effective 3/1/25.)