



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#25-0696

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: D'Wayne M. Spence, Interim City Attorney

DATE: June 30, 2025

TITLE: Second Reading - An Ordinance of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida,
Amending Chapter 17, Noise Control of the Code of Ordinances of the City
of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Specifically Section 17-7 entitled "Specific
Restrictions" Related to the Public Waterways– **(Commission Districts 1,
2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

The City Commission consider adoption of the attached proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 17, Noise Control of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, specifically Section 17-7 entitled "Specific Restrictions" to establish standards for sound emanating from motorboats or any other sound source being operated, docked, moored, or wharfed in or abutting the public waterways of the City.

Background

Section 17-7 of the Code of Ordinances provides specific restrictions on sound levels within the City of Fort Lauderdale. The code provision restricts different sound sources, however, does not impose any restrictions on sound emanating from vessels within the public waterways with the exception of subsection 17-7.8, which codifies Florida Statutes § 327.65, which specifically addresses engine noise from vessels.

The proposed ordinance amendment restricts sound emanating from vessels within the public waterways of Fort Lauderdale such as loud music. This sound restriction is similar to the sound restrictions in subsection 17-7.1.b that pertain to noise emanating from motor vehicles or any other sound source within the rights-of-way in Fort Lauderdale.

Resource Impact

The adoption of this Ordinance has no direct fiscal impact on the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2029* initiative, specifically advancing:

- Goal 1: Be a safe community that is proactive and responsive to risks.

This item advances the *Fast Forward 2035 Vision Plan*: We are Prosperous.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Business Impact Estimate

Exhibit 2 – Ordinance

Prepared by: Julie Steinhardt, Assistant City Attorney
Charter Officer: D'Wayne M. Spence, Interim City Attorney