



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**City Commission Agenda Memo**  
**CONFERENCE MEETING**

**#15-1414**

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

**FROM:** Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** November 3, 2015

**TITLE:** Discussion of Outdoor Event Requirements and the Noise Ordinance

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At the request of Commissioner Trantalis, the City Manager has placed this item on the Conference Agenda for further discussion by the City Commission.

During the March 3, 2015 Commission Conference Meeting the City Commission discussed the issue of late night noise emanating from outdoor events. Based upon that discussion, staff began instituting a policy of recommending for approval events that followed the following time frames for outdoor music:

- Sunday – Thursday: Music shall not be allowed after 9:00 pm
- Friday and Saturday: Music shall not be allowed after 10:00 pm
- Entertainment District: Music shall not be allowed after 11:00 pm

Additionally, due to concerns regarding road closures on the Barrier Island, staff's recommendation for outdoor events on the Barrier Island would require that roads would need to be open by 10:00 am.

This policy was memorialized in Commission Memorandum No: 15-055 attached as Exhibit 1.

Outdoor Events are covered by Section 15-181 et seq of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale (Exhibit 2). These events require City Commission approval and applications for events that are consistent with the above stated time frames are brought to the City Commission as motions for approval not on the consent agenda. This permits the City Commission to review the application for a final determination of approval.

There is nothing in the Outdoor Event approval which permits an applicant to vary from the City's noise control ordinance (Section 17-1 et seq of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale (Exhibit 3)). Section 17-7(1)(c) contains sound levels for the special entertainment overlay districts as follows:

*Special entertainment overlay district. When measured at a distance of five (5) feet from the building, structure or establishment from which the sound is emanating:*

- i. Sound shall not exceed:*
  - 1. Eighty-five (85) dBA or ninety-five (95) dBC Monday through Thursday from 12:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. the following day:*
  - 2. Seventy (70) dBA or eighty (80) dBC Monday through Thursday from 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.*
  - 3. Sixty-five (65) dBA or seventy-five (75) dBC Monday through Thursday from 2:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*
  
- ii. Sound shall not exceed:*
  - 1. Eighty-five (85) dBA or ninety-five (95) dBC Friday through Sunday and legal holidays (as provided by state law), from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. the following day:*
  - 2. Seventy (70) dBA or eighty (80) dBC Friday through Sunday and legal holidays (as defined by state law), from 1:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m.*
  - 3. Sixty-five (65) dBA or seventy-five (75) dBC Friday through Sunday and legal holidays (as defined by State law), from 3:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*

Exhibit 1 - Commission Memorandum No. 15-055 dated March 18, 2015

Exhibit 2 - Outdoor Events (Section 15-181 et seq of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale)

Exhibit 3 - Noise Control (Section 17-1 et seq of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale)

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