



R-27

Date: April 17, 2018
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
From: Councilmember Jeannine Pearce, District 2 *JP*
Subject: **Impact of Amplified Sound from City-Permitted Events on Residences**

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to request the City Manager to study the impact of amplified sound from city-permitted outdoor events in Downtown Long Beach on adjacent residences and neighborhoods. Additionally, request the City Manager to make recommendations which Long Beach may be able to implement to help address concerns associated with amplified volume on adjacent residences and nearby businesses by November 1st. Research should consider the regulation of amplified sound at Special Events in outdoor music venues in the downtown area and consider the following:

- Exploration of low-volume and less intrusive options for sound regulation including the use of acoustical barriers.
- Consider time periods, days, and frequency for amplified sound.
- Review of current and potential permit procedures.
- Review citing for noncompliance.
- Noise measurements, including measurements of bass (low frequency) sounds, at residential buildings adjacent to outdoor special events.
- Seek information from surrounding cities and review their procedures as it relates to outdoor events and amplified sound.
- Review existing compliance processes.
- Exploration of California Noise Law 46000 and its relation to Special Events and the current City of Long Beach Noise Ordinance, specifically LBMC 8.80.010; 8.80.150; 8.80.160; 8.80.280; and 8.80.320.

DISCUSSION

Long Beach is a vibrant city, a great attraction to businesses and residents. As part of this growth, outdoor special events along the waterfront have become a main attraction to the downtown area for people from other parts of the city and visitors. These activities range from runs, cultural activities, sporting competitions, and music festivals to name a few. As Long Beach continues to permit outdoor special events adjacent to high-rise residential buildings, it is important that the City remains current with all new technology

and research, to assist with noise reduction within special event areas. This will create a balance between those who live within the downtown area and those who visit for outdoor special events.

The purpose of this research is to review the current policies in place in Long Beach, as well as research neighboring cities, to explore various approaches to address amplified sound impacts on adjacent residences within a vibrant downtown. This research should consider how to manage/contain amplified sounds from city-permitted outdoor events and set up and take down for these events. This study will consider best practices on how to balance programming with resident and business considerations.

FISCAL IMPACT

Staff time and travel time will be required to complete this assignment. This study will be an extension to the work staff are completing with regards to the Downtown Music study currently underway. No other fiscal impact is expected because of the study.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.