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STRENGTHENING NOISE ORDINANCE

In the year Two Thousand Ten.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, the residents of Burlington Vermont often find it hard to enjoy their peace in the evenings, weekends and holidays and are subject to a barrage of excessive and unhealthy noise from the following types of activities:

- Vehicles with improperly functioning mufflers
- Racing vehicles
- Motorcycle revving at intersections
- Groups of motorcycles revving engines and/or improperly functioning mufflers
- High-decibel stereos in vehicles
- Heavy construction noise on weekends and holidays
- Late night pedestrians and parties
- Loud music
- Delivery vehicles
- And the like; and

WHEREAS the enforcement of the current noise ordinance pertaining to some of these issues is tenuous and difficult;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council refers to the Ordinance Committee a review of the Noise Ordinance and recommends that the Committee consider whether the current noise ordinance shall be revised to follow the guidelines published by the EPA in their Model Noise Control Ordinance found at http://www.nonoise.org/epa/title_M.htm and to specifically study the following concepts:

- An expansion of the definition of noise to include construction, vehicular, industrial, animal and human

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STRENGTHENING NOISE ORDINANCE

- Establishment of a healthy maximum allowable decibel level per zoning district or land use type
- A maximum decibel level allowable for vehicles
- Properly functioning mufflers on all vehicles
- Ability for enforcement agencies to freely enter a property and inspect the noise source
- Curfew for noise including heavy construction noise on Weekends and Federal Holidays and between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ordinance Committee request that staff explore some successful noise ordinances such as the cities of Denver CO, Boulder, CO and Mesa, AZ and fashion ours similar to theirs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ordinance Committee report back to the City Council by the second meeting in May with a report and proposed Ordinance changes.