

Bryant, Shellie

From: Jim McClements [REDACTED]
Sent: May 04, 2020 11:11 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Email - Communication - Jim McClements - Vehicle Noise and 8th Street - CK 375-2

Submitted on Monday, May 4, 2020 - 11:11

Submitted by anonymous user: 142.165.218.221

Submitted values are:

Date Monday, May 04, 2020

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name Jim

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City Saskatoon

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Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable)

Subject Noise Bylaw and Eighth Street

Meeting (if known)

Comments

I have tried to frame this with some potential solutions. I think there are long-term and short-term solutions.

Hopefully the City of Saskatoon can acknowledge the short-term issue and address it but also look for a more proactive collaborative solution that is less costly.

The examples are meant not to limit the discussion but the opposite to expand and to look for creative, effective and cost effective options.

Having said that something has to be done immediately without bureaucratic delays

There is excessive traffic noise from both 8th Street and Circle Drive

• Frequency and Duration:

- o This used to be twice a year: "cruise weekend" and the "car show" but now is every night.
- o We have lived here since 1974 and it is the worst it ever has been.
- o On weekend it starts before noon and lasts until midnight.
- o During the week every night until at least 11:00pm.
- o On weekends all day and evening
- o This appears to have been made worse by Covid19 regulations

▪ but has been getting much worse over the last decade

- Consequences for Tax Payers:

- o One can hardly have a conversation in a back yard & therefore are not enjoyable
- o Sleep is difficult (closed triple glazed windows and noise minimizing shutters).
- o Some vehicle sound systems actual rattle thermo-pane windows.

- Cause:

- o I am confident many of the vehicles violate the noise bylaw.
- o Much of it caused by aftermarket modifications so it is assumed to be deliberate.
- o It is hard to imagine these drivers are not aware:
they do not comply with the bylaw and are impinging on the quality of other's lives.
- o These folks are likely deliberately making the noise for personal gratification
- o These folks show no little or no concern for others.

- What is happening:

- o It is easy to identify vehicles as modified (many are pimped out cars and pickup trucks).
- o After a while you start to see repeat vehicles.
- o Almost every motor cycle is very noisy.
- o It has been called street racing
 - I see no evidence of that,
- o But what it is for sure is high RPM accelerations both from traffic lights, the U turn and the exit ramp for Circle Drive.

- o It is also high revs gearing down at the stop lights and U turns.
- o To be clear we have at least 8 opportunities for excessive sound:
 - east and west at Arlington traffic light,
 - the two U turns between Circle and Arlington,
 - east and west at the light at Circle Drive and
 - the north and south on ramps for Circle Drive.

Why is this happening?

- o The noise serves no useful purpose other than self-gratification.
- o Sometimes the questions are more important than the answers:
 - Why does Saskatoon have a noise bylaw? (and not enforce it)
 - Why do people do this? Because they:
 - Are not aware of the bylaw (unlikely but possible)
 - Are unaware of the consequences they have on others, (possible)
 - don't care about other people,
 - because they think they are above the law,
 - and because they are allowed to by the City of Saskatoon (limited enforcement)).

- What does the City of Saskatoon allow this? (it is happening.)
- Are the penalties serve enough to serve as deterrents? (obviously not)
- What can Saskatoon do to address these options?

If the City of Saskatoon wants to stop this what can they do?

o Is there any way other than significantly more policing or more severe penalties to change people's behaviour?

▪ Is there some way to enlist the one's breaking the bylaws not to do this?

- A media campaign about the bylaw and imposition on others
- Signage on high frequency areas stating:

o The bylaw will be enforced
o Impact on residents

o As a condition of "cruise weekend" enlist the Car Clubs to be proactive in controlling this illegal behaviour

o Other groups?

o Have other jurisdictions found a self-compliant solution?

o Significantly ramp up policing:

- The Saskatoon Police Services have other more important priorities!
 - A one-time blitz will have likely minimal effects
 - Targeting specific roads will only lead to short term avoidance or changing location (NIMBY solution not really appropriate)
 - Could a ghost car work the streets every night? (too expensive?)
 - Can bylaw officer or others enforce this?
- o Change Ramifications (last resort)
- Make the penalties a significant deterrent:

o If the cause is equipment that does not meet bylaw limits is there a follow up?

o Zero tolerance (absolutely no warnings)

o Larger fines and consequences for each incidence of offense

o Allow it somewhere else – say in industrial areas

o Many are young people –

- Could not doing this - be a condition of having a licence?
- Do it get and caught then lose licence or have driving privileges be specifically limited (e.g. between 7:00 am and 9:00 pm)

o Could there be implications for minor's parents

o Could the violators names be published?

o If a vehicle is ticketed is the driver allowed to drive it home?

- If the mufflers are illegal: Why would driver be allowed to drive it away?

An aside but relevant I wonder how this cruising every night fit with climate change actions?

Attachments

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

