

January 22, 2019
File No.: TS 6280-1



Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners
c/o Saskatoon City Clerk
222 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon SK S7K 0J5

Dear Secretary:

Re: Traffic Noise due to Vehicle Mufflers

The City of Saskatoon (City) regularly receives concerns from residents regarding traffic noise and modified mufflers. In an effort to improve quality of life and health of Saskatoon residents, there is a desire from our residents to reduce noise pollution in our community.

At a municipal level, the City has approved Bylaw No. 8244, The Noise Bylaw, which states:

Motor Vehicle Noise Prohibition

5.1 Without limiting the generality of section 5, for the purpose of regulating motor vehicle noise, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) no person shall operate a motor vehicle in such a manner that it makes, continues, causes to be made or continues or suffers or permits to be made or continued any unreasonably loud or excessive noise;
- (b) in determining whether the noise from a motor vehicle is unreasonably loud or excessive, a justice may consider any of the factors mentioned in subsection 5(2); and
- (c) no person shall operate a motorcycle within the City that is capable or emitting any sound exceeding 92 dB(A), as measured by a sound level meter at 50 centimeters from the exhaust outlet while the engine is at idle; or emitting any sound exceeding 96 dB(A), as measured by a sound level meter at 50 centimeters from the exhaust outlet while the engine is at any speed greater than idle.

Despite the approval of the Noise Bylaw, enforcement of traffic noise violations remains a challenge.

Based on our review, the following provincial regulations appear to be related to vehicle muffler equipment and traffic noise:

Type A Vehicles (Car, truck, van, motorhome, bus)
18 The vehicle shall have a muffler that effectively reduces combustion noise.

PART VIII

Type M Vehicles (Motorcycle)

223 (1) The vehicle shall have one or more mufflers that:

- (a) Ensure that exhaust gases are cooled; and
 - (b) Effectively reduce combustion noise.
- (2) Every muffler shall be adequately shielded to prevent excessive heat transfer to the fuel and brake system or to the operator or passenger.

The Highway Traffic Act, 2004

PART VI

46 No person shall create or cause the emission of any loud and unnecessary noise from a motor vehicle, a part of a motor vehicle or any thing or substance that the motor vehicle or a part of the motor vehicle comes into contact with.

Our residents have requested that the Board of Police Commissioners work with SGI to revisit the application of amendments to include a decibel limit for all vehicles in general.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Your response to this request will be forwarded to City Council in a follow-up report in November. In order to meet the deadline for the Council report, I would appreciate a response by September 15, 2019.

Sincerely,



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NB:gs