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July 3, 2024

City Council
City of Madison Heights
300 W. 13 Mile Road
Madison Heights, Michigan 48071

RE: Address: 28245 John R Road
Applicant: Wash Pointe Car Wash
Case No.: PSP 24-03

Dear Council members,

On behalf of Wash Pointe Car Wash, I am providing this letter in support of its request for a single variance relative to the removal of the current 4 outdoor canister style vacuums, to be replaced by indoor vacuum equipment connected to 9 vacuum arches totaling 8 spaces.

Wash Pointe Car Wash has been a member of the Madison Heights community for over 20 years. During this time, Wash Pointe has supported/sponsered local events, including little leaque teams. They have operated their business without any ordinance violations, or other complaints from neighboring residents. Washpointe has been a good community member and maintains a spotless facility.

The Zoning Board of Appeals previously approved a variance for the applicant to allow for exterior vacuuming without a condition relating to the total number of vacuums. Currently, the Applicant has 4 outdoor style canister style vacuums. Applicant is proposing to install new vacuum equipment which will be located entirely within the car wash facility. The new equipment would be connected to 9 vacuum stations through external overhead piping in place of the current cannister vacuums. The 9 stations provide for 8 vacuum spaces, with vacuum hoses on each side of the station to permit users to vacuum on either side of their vehicle. At the recomondation of Council, the site plan for each vacuum parking space was revised to be at a 90° angle, promoting 2-way traffic.

Most importantly though, is that the new vacuum equipment will be entirely within the wash facility which greatly reduces the typical noise that exists with the current outdoor canister vacuums. Provided with this correspondence are examples of Noise Study Projections from other car wash facilites utilizing the same equipment being proposed by Wash Pointe. The new indoor vacuum system is significantly quieter than the current cannisters, and will be less noisy than the carwash equipment itself. In addition, the vacuums will only be operational during normal business hours- 7:30 am-8:00 pm M-S, and 9:00 am-6:00 pm Sunday.

The concerns raised by the City Planner related to noise and hours of operation have been addressed by the Applicant as discussed above. Notably, the new vacuum system creates less of a noise impact on the surrounding area than the 4 outdoor cannister vacuums it is replacing. Included with this correspondence is a site plan of the proposed new vacuums with current decibel readings taken by applicant at various points around the car wash. Currently, with the wash tunnel blowers running as well as the the 4 cannister vacuums, the decibel level around the property is 60 dBA, and 95 dBA inside the wash tunnel. The new vacuum equipment will not exceed the current decibel readings depicted on the site plan drawing as the equipment is quieter than the wash tunnel itself. Using the Comparative Noise Level chart referenced on page 3 of the City Planners June 27, 2024 Memorandum, the current noise level is comparable to an air conditioner at 100 feet. The new vacuums also fit within the character of the neighborhood which is consistent with current B-3 zoning as evidenced by the approval granted to El Carwash for the same type of vacuum equipment.

Lastly, the conditions recommended by the City Planner on page 5 of their memorandum will be adopted by the Applicant as a condition of Council approving the Special Approval Application.

Based on the foregoing, I believe the facts support that Applicants proposed modifications satisfy the Special Approval Review Standards and criteria listed in Section 10.201(4), and Council is respectfully requested to approve the application.

Very Truly Yours,

ROBERT L. STEFANI, P.C.

Robert L. Stefani

Robert L. Stefani

RLS/dim
cc: Steve Gunn (via email)

July 8th, 2013

Re: Vacutech Sound Study Projections for South Coast Speedwash, Santa Ana, CA.

To: City of Santa Ana / Planning Commission/ Plan Review

Project: South Coast Speedwash, Santa Ana, CA

Vacutech has no formal data available that covers vacuum sound projections beyond fifteen feet. I am sending this sound study that was performed at Lakewood Car Wash on Lakewood Blvd. in Lakewood, CA. It provides decibel readings at a maximum of 15'.

The chart below shows a cumulative average of the data collected and is presented in an incremental form based on the worst case scenario of the vacuum hoses being off their nozzle hanger. The table below is an average of the 5 foot through the 15 foot readings.

Vacutech Noise Study Projections	
Average of all ten hoses off	77.24 db
Average @ 25'	74.53 db
Average @ 35'	71.82 db
Average @ 45'	69.11 db
Average @ 55'	66.40 db
Average @ 65'	63.69 db

Refer to attached Vacutech Sound Study for All readings
The data from the Vacutech Sound Study also shows an ambient noise level of 74.4 – 82.3 db which is conclusive with the sound study that was performed by ACS on the existing parcel of the Bristol Speedwash. These numbers are all based on averages but do not appear to be out of line.

Below you will find the Vacutech sound study performed at the Lakewood Carwash. After reviewing the data provided by Vacutech there is no apparent reason that noise from the vacuum system would reach above ambient sound levels at the property line of the proposed project. Any questions or comments please feel free to call.

Tom Tucker Jr.
President

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VACUTECH

July 17, 2017

Re: Vacutech Sound Study Projections

To: Buck Buckner

The chart below shows a cumulative average of that data taken from express car washes of this type and size. It is presented in an incremental form based on the worst case scenario of the vacuum hoses being off the hook, so to speak. Based on the collective average of the 45' reading to the 85' reading and is presented in the chart below:

Vacutech Noise Study Projections	
Average of all 8 hoses off and in use	
Average @ 45'	52.3 db
Average @ 55'	54.6 db
Average @ 65'	52.1 db
Average @ 75'	49.2 db
Average @ 85'	49.0 db

SOUND LEVEL METER USED: SIMPSON MODEL #40003 – MSHA APPROVED. MEETS OSHA AND WALSH-HEALY REQUIREMENTS FOR NOISE CONTROL. CONFORMS TO ANSI S1.4 1983, IEC 651 SPECS FOR METER TYPE.

NOTE: Typical outside vacuum system with 1.5" x 15' vacuum crevice tools (1" wide by ¾" opening) in use with customer vacuuming.

VACUTECH

February 10th, 2016

Re: Vacutech Sound Study Projections for Bella Terra Car Wash in Huntington Beach, CA

To: Chase Russell – Owner of Bella Terra Car Wash 16061 Beach Blvd. Huntington Beach, CA

The chart below shows a cumulative average of that data taken from express car washes of this type and size. It is presented in an incremental form based on the worst case scenario of the vacuum hoses being off the hook, so to speak. Based on the collective average of the 45' reading to the 85' reading and is presented in the chart below:

Vacutech Noise Study Projections	
Average of all 19 hoses off and in use	
Average @ 45'	52.3 db
Average @ 55'	54.6 db
Average @ 65'	52.1 db
Average @ 75'	49.2 db
Average @ 85'	49.0 db

SOUND LEVEL METER USED: SIMPSON MODEL #40003 – MSHA APPROVED. MEETS OSHA AND WALSH-HEALY REQUIREMENTS FOR NOISE CONTROL. CONFORMS TO ANSI S1.4 1983, IEC 651 SPECS FOR METER TYPE.

NOTE: Typical outside vacuum system with 1.5" x 15' vacuum nozzles (4" wide by ¾" opening) in use with customer vacuuming.

VACUTECH

SOUND LEVEL METER READINGS

MODEL: **FT-DD-T440HP3** (40hp T4 VACSTAR TURBINE VACUUM PRODUCER)

READING ONE: 73 DB-A, 3 FEET FROM TURBINE @ 45° ANGLE
AND NO BACKGROUND NOISE OR OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE.

READING TWO: 69 DB-A, 10 FEET FROM TURBINE @ 45° ANGLE
AND NO BACKGROUND NOISE OR OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE.

READING THREE: 54 DB-A, 20 FEET FROM TURBINE @ 45° ANGLE
AND NO BACKGROUND NOISE OR OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE.

READING FOUR: 38 DB-A, 30 FEET FROM TURBINE @ 45° ANGLE
AND NO BACKGROUND NOISE OR OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE.

NOTE: THESE READINGS WERE TAKEN OUTSIDE OF 8'x10'x8' CINDER BLOCK ENCLOSURE WITH CONCRETE SLAB AND NO ROOF.

SOUND LEVEL METER USED:

SIMPSON MODEL #40003 – MSHA APPROVED.
MEETS OSHA & WALSH-HEALY REQUIREMENTS FOR NOISE CONTROL.
CONFORMS TO ANSI S1.4-1983, IEC 651 SPECS FOR METER TYPE.

Vacutech
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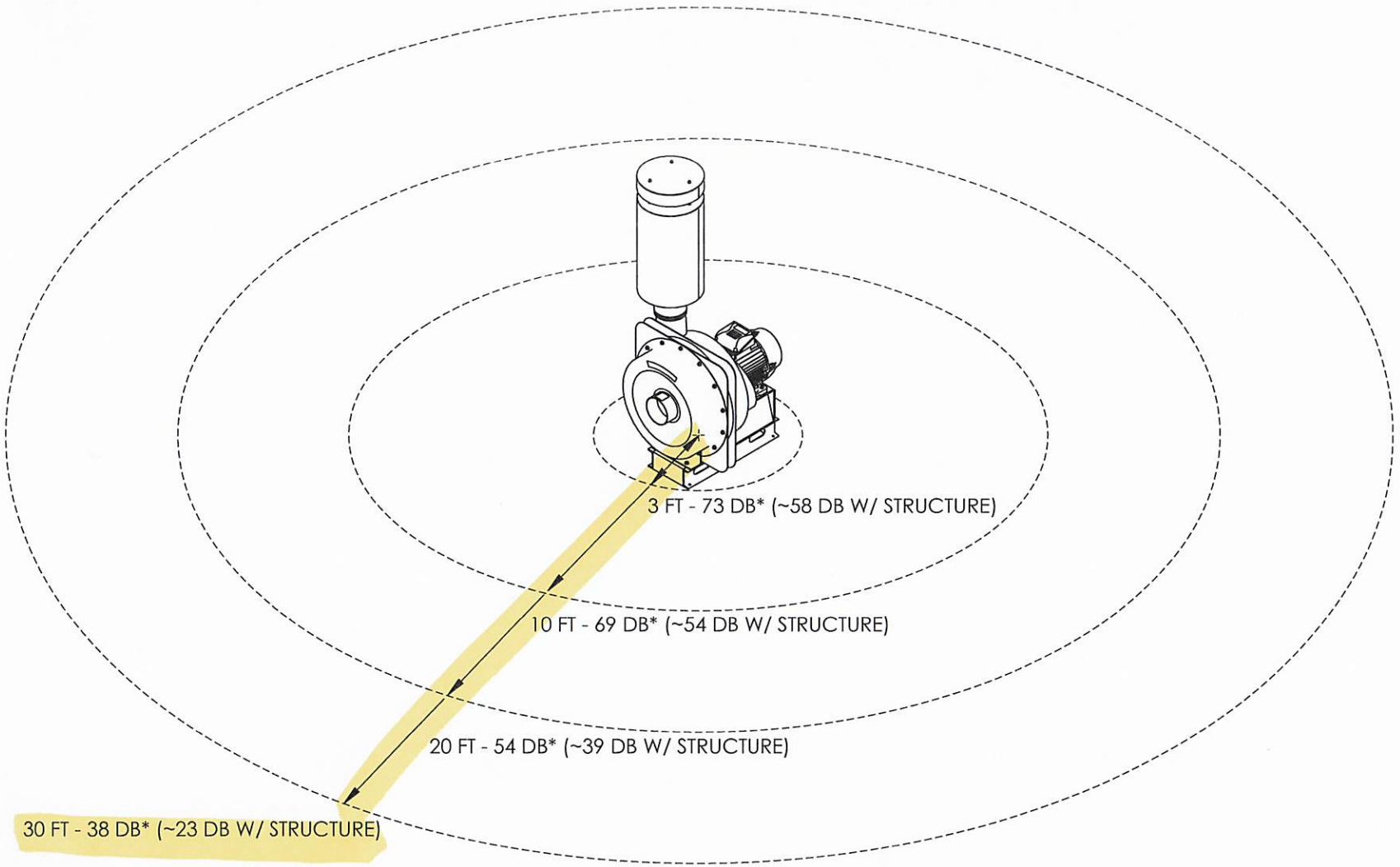
SOUND INTENSITY VACUTECH T4, 40HP, DD TURBINE



TYPICAL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC MEASURES 60-75 DB ON MOST CITY STREETS

*SOUND LEVELS REPORTED ARE FROM ACTUAL FIELD MEASUREMENTS AND WILL VARY BASED ON ACTUAL CONDITIONS