

Ashley Wayman

From: Brook Brown
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 10:28 AM
To: Ashley Wayman; Desiree Adair
Subject: Fw: pickleball dB limits (city council agenda item #14)

Dear Ashley and Desiree,

Would you circulate Glen's letter below to the full Council and Mayor, and if not too late, post to the agenda for item #14? I have asked him and he's given his OK to circulate and post.

Thanks,

Brook

From: Glen Harris <alfaspdr@gmail.com> on behalf of Glen Harris [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 12:25 AM
To: Kevin Glasheen <kglasheen@rollingwoodtx.gov>
Subject: pickleball dB limits (city council agenda item #14)

Hi Kevin.

You've received an email from Ashley Wayman that contains my response to several pickleball-related assertions from Jay Howard, one of Mr. Logue's pickleball club members. I hope you've had an opportunity to read that.

What I did not address in that email is Mr. Howard's assertion that the 47 dB limit in the ordinance is unachievable. I'd like to address that here, and intend to do so also in my public comments tomorrow night if necessary.

I proposed 47 dB as the limit based on international & national standards recommendations for impulsive category noises vs. continuous noises. The Centennial CO sanctioned noise study stated: "Research has indicated that highly impulsive sound should receive a 12 to 13 dB adjustment". That adjustment is vs. continuous sound. Our city ordinances specify 60 dB as a continuous noise limit, so 60 dB – 13 dB gives you 47 dB as an impulsive sound limit. That 47 dB limit is consistent with scientific research, international standards recommendations, and with Centennial CO's pickleball ordinances. That number also emphasizes a fundamentally different human perception of impulsive category noises - they are simply more impactful to human ears than other types of noise.

The helpful body of literature that has been researched and summarized by Councilwoman Brown under agenda item #15 suggests 50 dBA as an appropriate limit. In terms of perceived volume, 50 dBA is 23% louder than 47 dBA. If council believes that a 50 dBA number is more appropriate for Rollingwood, I understand there is scientific literature and Park City UT precedent around that number. I do think we need to draw a clear line in the sand that anything above 50 dBA is unacceptable.

I'm not sure who's agenda item #14 is, I understand that Councilwoman Brown didn't request it on the agenda so either another council member did or the executive branch did, perhaps in response to Mr. Howard's email.

Lastly, I'd like to assert that the question of whether the ordinance's noise level is *achievable* in the specific circumstances of Mr. Logue's courts is fundamentally the wrong question. The question to ask is "what is the noise level that is *acceptable* to those who are impacted?". The close proximity of Mr. Logue's courts to neighboring homes, the vast area of highly reflective surfaces (the court itself and concrete walls on one and a half sides), and the sloping topology of the land all play a role in noise levels at surrounding properties.

Thanks for your time,

Glen Harris