



# *City of Stevenson*

*Leana Kinley, City Administrator*

Phone (509)427-5970  
FAX (509) 427-8202

7121 E Loop Road, PO Box 371  
Stevenson, Washington 98648

To: City Council  
From: Leana Kinley, City Administrator  
RE: Noise Ordinance  
Meeting Date: September 16, 2021

## **Executive Summary:**

Council discussed revisions to the current noise ordinance at the August 12<sup>th</sup> council meeting. Consensus was to closely mirror Skamania County's code, remove the reference to the Russell Avenue railroad crossing and to address engine braking. The result is the draft ordinance presented, except for the engine braking which is further explained below.

## **Overview:**

The revised code closely mirrors the Skamania County code, which will aid in enforcement. It does not include the engine braking for a couple of reasons. The first is engine or compression braking would be addressed as part of the traffic code and need to have a separate ordinance.

The second reason it was not included is for further direction on how the council wants to proceed. RCW 46.37.395 (enclosed) already prohibits the use of unmuffled compression brakes. This RCW was adopted in 2005 and revised in 2006. Most city codes prohibit the use of unmuffled compression brakes and were adopted prior to the RCW. Council can go one step further and prohibit the use of compression brakes outright, which raises concerns over safety as Stevenson is at the bottom of a long hill where brakes heat up. An email from Sheriff Dave Brown is enclosed for further perspective on the matter.

## **Action Needed:**

Direction to staff on how to move forward with addressing engine braking.

Direction to staff on any changes discussed as part of the public hearing.