

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

--MEMORANDUM--



The City Beautiful

**TO: Mayor Lago, Vice Mayor Mena, Commissioners Fors and Menendez,
City Manager and Assistant City Manager**

FROM: Commissioner Anderson

DATE: July 10, 2021

SUBJECT: Appropriate Amplified Music Levels

During our last Commission Meeting, I requested a workshop to address the appropriate level of amplified music for the Central Business District. For the up-coming Commission Meeting, I have sponsored the presentation and demonstration by the acoustical engineer the City Manager's Office retained for the workshop, Colby Leider.

On Friday, I had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Leider, and he shared articles and an Ordinance that Mount Dora enacted after 15 months of study and public input, which limits amplified music before 10 pm to 10 dBA lower than our current ordinance, and requires measurements to be taken at 10 feet from the property line as follows:

- (1) 75 dBA during the hours 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday.
- (2) 70 dBA during the hours 10:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. the following day, or 11:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m. the following day if the following day is a Saturday or a Sunday.

Mr. Leider also stated that some municipalities require the sub-woofer to be shut off automatically after a certain hour, because the vibration and thumping sounds from the sub-woofers is the source of most of the residents' complaints. Mr. Leider noted that the decibels needed for amplification of music can be lower if more speakers are used to distribute the music throughout the property rather than higher decibel levels amplified by fewer speakers. Mr. Leider additionally noted that excessive noise impacts health. An article Mr. Leider shared states that excessive or prolonged exposure to noise is linked to "heart disease, high blood pressure, low birth weight, and all the physical, cognitive, and emotional issues that arise from being too distracted to focus on complex tasks and from never getting enough sleep.

Residents who have complained directly to me about the current music levels permitted at certain businesses on the Mile shared that they stopped walking past those establishments because the noise level is too high.

A complete copy of the Mount Dora Ordinance and the articles Mr. Leider provided are attached, which I highlighted to assist with review. Based upon the foregoing, I would urge that this Commission lower the amplified music levels inside businesses in the CBD to no more than 75 dBA at 10 feet from the property line, and that we review the impact on residents and businesses within 6 months of implementation.