

INC Resolution on Revising Neighborhood Noise Ordinance

WHEREAS, the City of Denver Noise Ordinance, Section 36 sets the limit for sound in neighborhoods at 55 dB(A), and

WHEREAS, Sec. 36-6(b) (17) gives an exemption to festivals and raises the limit for sound to 80 dB(A), and

WHEREAS, under the current ordinance definitions, only dB readings at (A) levels are required which does not measure the different frequencies, and

WHEREAS, low frequency sound waves dB(C) are long, can actually travel through buildings and be heard and often can be felt, and

WHEREAS, the current ordinance was promulgated some years ago before the advent of the Admission Based Event policy and the significant increase from a few hundred to more than 800 events a year in Denver, including in Denver parks, and

WHEREAS, at the time this ordinance was promulgated 80 dBs(A) was interpreted to be an acceptable level for sound in residential area when there were few permitted events in parks, and

WHEREAS, the 80 dB(A) sound level associated with these frequent events in parks has become the norm, has disrupted the quality of neighborhood life on a regular basis and has created an ongoing and intolerable condition. which the 55 dB level was intended to address, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that INC calls upon the City of Denver to begin a collaborative, thorough, and thoughtful public process in order to revise the Noise Ordinance so that it is specified how sound pressure is measured, by whom, and when during an event, and to state the maximum level of sound pressure is 55 dB(A) & (C) in neighborhoods in order to maintain

and improve the quality of life for Denver's residents.