



# COMMUNICATION UPDATE

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members City Council
<b>DATE:</b>	December 5, 2022
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Noise Enforcement Team Update (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Monica Ciriello Director, Licensing and By-law Services Planning and Economic Development Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	<i>Monica Ciriello</i>

This update is to inform the Mayor and Members of Hamilton City Council on the discontinuance of the joint Municipal Law Enforcement (MLE) and Hamilton Police Service (HPS) Noise Enforcement Team.

## BACKGROUND

The joint Noise Enforcement Team was established in 2015 as a result of Report PED14254 - Establishment of a Specialized By-law Enforcement Unit. One MLE officer and one HPS officer would be dispatched to noise calls on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays (May to September) and Fridays – Saturdays (October to April) from 9 p.m. – 5 a.m.

As demonstrated by the chart below, the joint Noise Enforcement Team responded to most complaints during the summer months.

2022	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Grand Total
MLE/HPS Project	72	62	51	73	130	126	97	74	136	65	49	935

The chart below outlines the total number of Administrative Penalty Notice (APN) charges for contraventions of the Noise Control By-law No. 11-285 issued by MLE officers, inclusive of daytime and evening noise complaints. Each noise APN charge is a total of \$100.00.

<b>2022 Noise By-Law APS Charges</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
make noise likely to disturb inhabitants	3	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	4	13
make unreasonable noise	4	3	10	4	2	1	1	-	1	-	26
permit noise likely to disturb inhabitants	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	1	6
permit unreasonable noise to be made	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	-	-	2	8
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>53</b>

**MOVING FORWARD**

HPS has advised MLE of their ongoing staffing challenges, and as such, HPS is redeploying officers to the frontline to manage the increased demand for service.

Due to this development, beginning January 1, 2023, HPS will no longer be participating in the joint Noise Enforcement Team. HPS will only be responding to noise complaints for:

1. extenuating circumstances;
2. a public safety component; or,
3. if an MLE officer requires assistance.

To adapt to these circumstances, as of January 1, 2023, MLE officers will continue enforcement of evening noise complaints and proactive enforcement. Two MLE officers will log-on with HPS dispatch on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays (May to September) and Fridays – Saturdays (October to April) from 6 p.m. – 1 a.m. to address noise complaints. In addition to this shift, MLE will continue to take noise complaints from Monday – Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MLE will continue to maintain proactive noise monitoring and reporting of problem properties, which is conducted by officers during the aforementioned shifts.

Based on the findings of a consultation report in 2008, it was recommended that Municipal Law Enforcement Officers’ hours of operation should not exceed 1:00 a.m. due to safety reasons, as it was found that majority of noise calls beyond this time required police involvement. As such, MLE officers do not work past 1:00 a.m. unless part of a special project or in joint enforcement with HPS.

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Residents of the City can report noise complaints by contacting **905-546-2782 option 2** or the City of Hamilton Contact Centre **905-546-2489**. Noise complaints outside of scheduled shifts can be directed to the HPS non-emergency line **905-546-4925** and response times will be set by the HPS Priority Response System.

If you have any questions respecting this communication, please contact Monica Ciriello, Director, Licensing and By-law Services, by phone at Ext. 5809 or by email at [Monica.Ciriello@hamilton.ca](mailto:Monica.Ciriello@hamilton.ca).

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

N/A