



Amendments to Redmond Municipal Code Chapter 6.36 Noise Standards and Related RMC Amendments

Staff Report

Project Name: Noise Standards Update

Date: April 20, 2026

Project Description: RMC 6.36 Noise Standards regulates noise for the purpose of public health, safety, and general welfare. Among other things it establishes maximum noise levels by noise zone, prohibitions, exemptions, and measurement techniques. This project addresses several issues related to noise regulations, including:

- Addressing property maintenance activities.
- Removing duplicative items.
- Addressing proper location in the RMC to ensure enforcement.
- Addressing noise from gun ranges.
- Addressing the assembly and dismantling of tower cranes.
- Updating obsolete zoning district names.
- Re-organizing the exemptions section.
- Establishing requirements to post construction noise hours at construction sites.
- Other organizational updates for clarity.

City staff are proposing updates to RMC 1.01 Code Adoption, RMC 1.14 Enforcement and Penalties, RMC 6.34.070 Loading Operations, and RMC 6.36 Noise Standards to accomplish the above and to carry-out the purpose of the Noise Standards.

Staff: Jeff Churchill, Long Range Planning Manager
Travis Salley, Dev. Services Center Manager
Sherri Jones, Code Enforcement Officer

Recommendation: Approval

Analysis and Findings:

Legal Authority for Noise Standards

The Washington state legislature enacted the Noise Control Act in 1974, finding that, “inadequately controlled noise adversely affects the health, safety and welfare of the people, the value of property, and the quality of the environment” (now codified as RCW 70A.20.010). The law as subsequently amended authorizes municipalities to adopt local noise control regulations, provided that the Department of Ecology reviews and approves or takes no action to disapprove. WAC 173-60-110(1) states that, “The department [of Ecology] conceives the function of noise abatement and control to be primarily the role of local government and intends actively to encourage local government to adopt measures for noise abatement and control.” It is within this legal framework that Redmond has adopted noise standards in RMC chapter 6.36.

Finding: The City is authorized to establish local noise regulations.

Existing Noise Standards

Redmond last adopted a major update to noise standards in 1998 (Ord. 2006). In that time Redmond has grown significantly and is transforming from a largely suburban context to one of more density populated residential and mixed-use areas. Such changes warrants a review and recalibration of the code.

Since 1998 there have been some changes addressing specific topics or geographic areas. In 2011 the noise standards were recodified as RMC 6.36 (Ord. 2590) as part of the creation of the Redmond Zoning Code. Over 28 years, staff have identified several ways that the code should be amended to improve clarity, enforcement, and alignment with state law. This proposal would implement those amendments to better achieve the purpose of the noise standards.

Finding: Amending the noise standards is timely and provides an opportunity to update provisions to improve clarity, enforcement, and alignment with state law.

Summary of Proposed Amendments

The following describes current conditions, recommended amendments, and rationale for changes to regulations.

Topic	Existing Conditions	Recommendation	Rationale
1. Definitions	Definitions pertain to code as written.	Revise this section to pertain to code as proposed.	The definitions section should align with the rest of the chapter.
2. Applicability	Chapter applies to noise generated in Redmond.	Apply to noise generated and received in Redmond; refer to	Redmond staff do not have enforcement authority outside city limits; animal

Topic	Existing Conditions	Recommendation	Rationale
		RMC 7.04 for animal noise.	noise is already addressed in RMC 7.04.
3. Measurement of sound	Occurs late in chapter.	Move toward beginning of chapter.	This information is important to understand before reading the rest of the noise standards.
4. Environmental Designation for Noise Abatement (EDNA) classifications.	Classifications reflect allowed land uses in comprehensive plan adopted in 2011.	Update classifications. Of note: OBAT and Marymoor zones that allow mixed-use move from Class C to Class B.	Alignment with WAC 173-60-030.
5. Zone names	Some zone names are obsolete.	Update zone names as they were updated with Redmond 2050.	Using current zone names improves clarity and ability to enforce the code.
5. Prohibitions: recurrent or continuous noise.	Recurrent or continuous noise section contains redundant standards.	Eliminate this subsection and move any content that is still necessary to more appropriate sections.	Eliminate redundancy and improves clarity.
6. Prohibitions: outcry.	Sale by outcry is prohibited.	To the extent sale by outcry is a public disturbance, it is already prohibited by RMC 9.42.	Eliminate redundancy.
7. Prohibitions: off-street vehicle testing.	Prohibited in some circumstances.	Clarify that prohibition is only for non-right-of-way area.	On-street vehicle noise is separately regulated.
8. Prohibitions: unusually loud noises.	"Unnecessary or unusually loud noises" are sometimes prohibited.	This standard is vague. And, to the extent the noise is a public disturbance, it is already prohibited by RMC 9.42.	Eliminate redundancy.
9. Exemptions anytime.	HVAC systems not addressed.	Address HVAC systems and set limit	HVAC systems that supply cold air are

Topic	Existing Conditions	Recommendation	Rationale
		consistent with daytime limits for Class A EDNA zones.	more common and staff are receiving more complaints about them. Modern air condition units and heat pumps systems can meet the proposed standard.
10. Daytime exemptions: organizations	Organization of this section reflects layers of amendments over many years.	Reorganize around topics and add a table to cover the various hours restrictions for various types of noises.	Improve code clarity.
11. Daytime exemptions: property maintenance.	Not addressed.	Define property maintenance and provide daytime exemption.	Clear expectations for those conducting property maintenance and their neighbors.
12. Holidays	Noise allowances are curtailed on "Legal Holidays."	Create "Noise Holidays" that are a subset of Legal Holidays.	Align restrictions with community and industry expectations.
13. Daytime exemptions: shooting ranges.	Noise allowed from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. on weekends	Change to 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on weekends; no noise allowed on Noise Holidays.	Reduce conflict between shooting ranges and their neighbors.
14. Daytime exemptions: tower cranes.	Assembly and disassembly routinely requires, and is granted, a variance from noise code.	Build-in authorized hours of 5 a.m. - 10 p.m. for one day, which is typically what is required.	Provide realistic time window for assembling and disassembling tower cranes.
15. Daytime exemptions: notice.	Notice board required when expanded hours are	Set criteria that only the minimum number of hours will be approved; require	Ensures direct notice to nearby residents; allows Administrator to

Topic	Existing Conditions	Recommendation	Rationale
	authorized for construction.	that person responsible for noise will provide notice to nearby occupied residential structures according to the terms of the permit; change authorizing person to Administrator (Director of Planning and Community Development).	tailor notice requirements to impact of noise; sets expectation that expanded hours will only be minimum necessary; authorizes Administrator to approve requests since Administrator oversees permitting.
16. Gun range agreements.	Not addressed.	Create option for City and gun ranges to enter into noise mitigation agreements offer flexibility in operating hours (for example) in exchange for implementing noise mitigation strategies.	Noise mitigation strategies implemented by agreement can offer equivalent or better mitigation for nearby residents.
17. Arterial improvement requirements.	Regulates design of state highway improvement projects.	Eliminates such regulation.	WSDOT is subject to state and federal guidance on project design for noise. Minimal expansion of state highways is anticipated.
18. Generators	Regulated in separate section: RMC 6.36.090.	Integrate into the balance of RMC 6.36.	Simplifies chapter structure.

Finding: Updating the noise standards supports the purpose of the noise standards as described in RMC 6.36 and chapter 70A.20 RCW.

Environmental Review:

A State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist has been submitted and is under review. Comment and appeal opportunities will be provided per WAC 197-11-340(2).

Conclusion in Support of Recommendation:

Staff finds that the proposal complies with relevant state law and supports the purpose of the noise standards as described in RMC 6.36 and chapter 70A.20 RCW.

Attachments:

- A. Proposed Amendments to the Redmond Municipal Code
- B. Questionnaire Response Summary

Attachment A

Chapter 6.36 NOISE STANDARDS

Sections:

- 6.36.005 Definitions.
- 6.36.010 Purpose.
- 6.36.020 Applicability.
- 6.36.030 Identification of noise environments and maximum permissible noise - levels.
- 6.36.040 Prohibited noise.
- 6.36.050 Exceptions.
- 6.36.060 Restrictions on residential development adjacent to arterials.
- 6.36.070 Arterial improvement requirements.
- 6.36.080 Measurement of sound.
- 6.36.090 Testing of generators.

6.36.005 Definitions.

A. For the purposes of this chapter, the following words shall have the meaning defined:

#. Administrator. The Planning and Community Development Director or their designee.

1. *Construction.* Any site preparation (including blasting), assembly, erection, demolition, substantial repair, maintenance, alteration, or similar action ~~for or of public or private rights-of-way, structures, utilities, or similar property.~~ on or for any structures, utilities, public or private right-of-way, or similar property. This includes any work using heavy equipment, including but not limited to backhoes, concrete mixing and pumping trucks, compactors/rollers, cranes, dozers, dump trucks, excavators, forklifts, graders, jackhammers, loaders, pavement breakers, pile drivers, portable crushers, tractors, trailer-mounted woodchippers, trenchers, or other pieces of equipment that generate similar levels of noise.

2. *Decibel or dBA.* A unit expressed on a logarithmic scale, for measuring the relative intensity of sounds, ranging from zero to 130 for the average pain level of the human ear.

~~#. *Domesticated Animal.* Any animal that is possessed and controlled by a person.~~

3. *Emergency Work.* ~~Any work performed for the purpose of preventing or alleviating the physical trauma or property damage threatened or caused by an emergency. Any work required to immediately restore property to a safe condition, work required to protect persons or property from imminent exposure to danger, or work by private or public utilities to provide or restore immediately-necessary utility service.~~

4. *Environmental Designation for Noise Abatement or EDNA.* An area or zones (environment) within which maximum permissible noise levels are established.

5. *Leq.* The equivalent A-weighted sound level which is the constant sound level that, in a given situation and time period, conveys the same sound energy as the actual time-varying A-weighted sound.

~~6. *Motorized Watercraft.* Those floating devices, which are designed to be propelled by the use of internal combustion engines or electric motors. Inflatable, motorized watercraft are included in this definition if they are propelled by the use of internal combustion engines or electric motors.~~

7. *Noise.* The intensity, duration, and character of sounds from any ~~and all~~ sources.

~~#. *Noise Holiday.* New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.~~

8. *Peak Hour Noise.* The noisiest hour within a 24-hour period where the primary source of noise is from traffic.

~~#. *Property maintenance.* Activities required for the regular upkeep of property, such as landscaping, lawn and tree maintenance, pressure washing, or minor repairs.~~

9. *Qualified Noise Consultant.* Person(s) to perform noise impact analysis of specific activities or land use, and prepares a written report of findings. Such person(s) shall be

professionally trained and qualified to perform the necessary tasks to identify, evaluate, manage and mitigate impacts related to noise.

10. *Receiving Property*. Real property within which sound originating from sources outside the property is received.

~~*#. Responsible party. See RMC 1.14.010.C.*~~

11. *Sound Level*. A-weighted sound pressure level measured by the use of a sound level meter using an A-weighted network and reported as decibels, dBA.

12. *Sound Level Meter*. An electronic instrument that includes a microphone, output meter, and amplifier, and measures sound pressure levels.

~~*#. Warning device. Any device intended to provide public warning of potentially hazardous, emergency, or illegal activities, including but not limited to security alarms, fire alarms, emergency alarms required by law, or vehicle reversing alarms.*~~

13. *Weekday*. ~~Any day, Monday through Friday, which is not a legal holiday.~~

14. *Weekend*. The days of Saturday, ~~and Sunday, and any legal holiday.~~

6.36.010 Purpose.

A. The purpose of this chapter is to:

1. Promote commerce, the use, value and enjoyment of property, sleep and repose, and the quality of the environment through the level of noise; and
2. Minimize the exposure of citizens to the physiological and psychological dangers of excessive noise and to protect, promote and preserve the public health, safety and general welfare.

B. It is also the City's intent to regulate noise as a nuisance or public disturbance in addition to any other means of regulation or enforcement established in this chapter. Regulation of nuisance and public disturbance noises is set forth in Chapter [9.42](#) RMC.

6.36.020 Applicability.

A. ~~These standards shall apply to all noise generated on lands located within the Redmond City limits. These standards only apply to noise generated and received on properties located within the Redmond city limits.~~

B. ~~Noise from domesticated animals is regulated pursuant to RMC 7.04.005.~~

6.36.025 Measurement of sound.

A. ~~*Sound Level Meter.* If the measurement of sound is made with a sound level meter, the instrument shall be in good operating condition and shall meet the requirements for a Type I or Type II instrument, as described in the current American National Standards Institute Specifications.~~

B. ~~*Location of Measurement.* The point of measurement is from the closest exterior point of the property boundary line of the receiving property or anywhere within the receiving property, but not within or on top of a structure.~~

C. ~~*Technical Corrections.* When the location, distance or technique prescribed in this chapter for measurement of sound is impractical or would yield misleading or inaccurate results, measurements shall be taken at other locations or distances using appropriate correction factors, as specified by the Administrator or a qualified noise consultant.~~

D. ~~The Administrator shall use their discretion when taking dBA readings to determine if a violation of this chapter has occurred. If other noise is altering dBA readings, causing the readings to exceed the maximum permissible levels and the other noise cannot be mitigated or silenced when the readings are taken, the Administrator will determine if the source of noise is in violation of this chapter.~~

6.36.030 Identification of noise environments and maximum permissible noise levels.

A. Environmental Designation for Noise Abatements (EDNA) are established based on consideration of historical, present and future land use of each zoning district.

~~B. No person shall cause or permit sound to intrude onto the real property of another person that exceeds the maximum permissible sound levels established by this chapter. The point of measurement shall be anywhere within the receiving property.~~

B. Where a receiving property lies within more than one EDNA, the maximum permissible noise level shall be determined by the most sensitive EDNA.

C. Maximum permissible noise levels are given below and are consistent with State requirements (Chapter ~~70A.20~~ ~~70.107~~ RCW and Chapter 173-60 WAC):

Table 1. Maximum Permissible Noise Levels

EDNA ¹ of Noise Source (Land Use Zones)	EDNA of Receiving Property ³ (Land Use Zones)			
	Class A (All Neighborhood R zones, MDD3, NDD1 <u>OUME, COS.</u> & RA-5)		Class B (UR, <u>CMU, MMC, MME, OBAT, UMU, NC,</u> GC, OV, DT, <u>NDD2</u>)	Class C (MP ⁴ , I, BP, OBAT, MMM, MDD1, MDD2, MDD4, MDD5, <u>NDD3</u>)
	Daytime 7:00 a.m. — 10:00 p.m.	Nighttime 10:00 p.m. — 7:00 a.m.		
Class A	55 dBA ²	45 dBA	57 dBA	60 dBA
Class B	57 dBA	47 dBA	60 dBA	65 dBA
Class C	60 dBA	50 dBA	65 dBA	70 dBA

Legend

1. EDNA = Environmental Designation for Noise Abatement

2. dBA = decibels

3. Receiving property = the property affected by noise

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4. Manufacturing Park land that is rezoned to a residential zone on or after April 14, 2007, shall be considered Class C receiving property and Class A source property for the purpose of calculating maximum permissible noise levels.

6.36.040 Prohibited noise.

A. *General Prohibition.* Unless otherwise specified, no person or thing shall make noise exceeding the maximum permissible noise levels required by this chapter. See RMC 6.36.050 Exemptions.

~~B. *Recurrent or Continuous Noise.*~~

- ~~1. For receiving properties within a Class A Environmental Designation for Noise Abatement (EDNA), noise from the recurrent or continuous use or operation of stationary equipment or appliances shall comply with the permissible noise levels in Section 6.36.030. This subsection applies whether the noise is generated within or outside a Class A EDNA if the receiving property is within a Class A EDNA. Commercial equipment, including emergency generators, shall comply with this subsection. Measures shall be taken to reduce noise, such as relocating, enclosing or screening the noise source, limiting the hours of operation, or other similar measures.~~
- ~~2. This subsection shall not apply to nonresidential emergency generators that existed on or before December 24, 1998. New or replacement nonresidential emergency generators shall comply with this subsection.~~
- ~~3. This subsection shall not apply to sounds listed in 6.36.050, Exceptions, or any sound that is less than a 55 dBA noise level between 7:01 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. or 45 dBA noise level between 10:01 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. This subsection also shall not apply to manufacturing or industrial uses that existed on or before December 24, 1998.~~

C. *Specific Prohibitions.* The following are examples of activities declared to be loud, excessively noisy and in violation of this section:

1. The use of any fixed or mobile device or loudspeaker outside a building for commercial advertising purposes or for the purposes of attracting attention to any performance, show, or sale or display of merchandise, where the sound may be heard from any public street,
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park, or public place. Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit incidental sounds emanating from a sports, entertainment, or public event or ice cream vending vehicles.

~~2. The sale of anything by outcry within an area of the City zoned primarily for residential uses.~~

~~3. The owning or keeping of any animal which that causes a noise disturbance by frequent or habitual howling, barking, or other noise making. This section also applies to all private or public facilities, including any animal pounds and kennels that hold or treat animals.~~

4. The repair, modification or testing of any motor vehicle, off-road motor vehicle, motorized watercraft in or near a Class A EDNA residential-use district and not in the public right-of-way in such a manner as to cause a noise disturbance or violate the provisions of this chapter.

5. The operation of any loudspeaker or other source of sound in a place of indoor public entertainment which exceeds 85 dBA at any point normally occupied by a person, without a conspicuous and legible sign located outside near the entrance which states:

Warning!

Sound Level Inside May Cause Permanent Hearing Impairment

~~6. The creation of unnecessary or unusually loud noises within the vicinity of a school, hospital, nursing home, court of law, or other areas where quiet is necessary to achieve the objective of this chapter.~~

6.36.050 Exemptions ~~Exceptions~~.

The following are exemptions from ~~exceptions to~~ the maximum permitted noise levels established in RMC [6.36.030](#):

A. ~~Exceptions~~ Exemptions at Any Time. The following sounds are exempt from ~~exceptions to~~ the provisions of this chapter at any time:

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1. The maximum permitted noise levels as established in [6.36.030](#) may be exceeded by five dBA for a total of 15 minutes in any one-hour period, or 10 dBA for a total of five minutes in any one-hour period, or 15 dBA for a total of 1.5 minutes in any one-hour period.
 2. Sounds originating from aircraft in flight and sounds that originate at airports which are directly related to flight operations.
 3. Sounds created by railroad trains engaged in interstate commerce or mass transit.
 - ~~4. Sounds created by truck loading or unloading operations not within 200 feet of a Class A EDNA zone.~~
 - ~~4. Sounds created by warning devices not operating continuously for more than five minutes.~~
 5. Sounds created by bells, chimes, and carillons.
 6. Sounds created by ~~warning devices operating as intended~~ safety and protective devices where noise suppression would defeat the intent of the device ~~or is not economically feasible.~~
 - ~~#. Sounds caused by residential generators when operating in an emergency.~~
 - ~~#. Sounds from nonresidential generators when operating in an emergency that existed on or before December 24, 1998. New or replacement nonresidential generators are not exempt.~~
 7. Sounds originating from City-approved ~~parades and other public~~ events.
 - ~~8. Sounds caused by natural phenomena and unamplified human voices. Sounds caused by natural phenomena, unamplified human voices, and undomesticated animals.~~
 9. Sounds caused by motor vehicles when regulated by Chapter [173-62](#) WAC.
 10. Sounds from the startup of refinery boilers.
 11. Sounds caused by emergency equipment and work necessary in the interests of law enforcement or for the safety, health or welfare of the community. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit law enforcement, ambulance, fire or other emergency
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personnel to make excessive noise in the performance of their duties when such noise is clearly unnecessary.

#. Sounds from HVAC systems or any equipment used for the heating ventilation, and air conditioning of a property if noise levels do not exceed 55 dBA and the equipment otherwise meets the manufacturing standards for dBA levels.

#. Recurrent or continuous sounds from manufacturing or industrial uses that existed on or before December 24, 1998.

#. Within Class A EDNA zones, sounds created by existing electrical substations and stationary equipment used to convey water, wastewater or natural gas by a utility.

~~12. Sounds caused by residential generators when operating in an emergency. Commercial generators are not included as an exception.~~

~~13. Sounds created by motor vehicles, licensed or unlicensed, when operated off public highways except when such sounds are received in residential zones (Class A EDNA).~~

~~B. Daytime Exceptions. The following may exceed the maximum permissible noise levels of 6.36.030 on weekdays between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., and on weekends between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.~~

~~1. Sounds originating from residential property related to temporary projects for the maintenance or repair of homes, grounds and appurtenances.~~

~~2. Sounds from new construction, additions or remodels of single-family homes and accessory structures in residential zones (Class A) caused by the homeowner. Sounds from construction by hired contractors shall be limited to the hours specified in subsection E.2 of this section.~~

~~3. Sounds created by the discharge of firearms at authorized shooting ranges.~~

~~4. Sounds created by motorized watercraft.~~

~~5. Sounds from the installation or repair of essential utility services.~~

~~6. Sounds originating from forest harvesting and silvicultural activities.~~

~~7. Sounds created by blasting.~~

~~C. Twenty-Four-Hour Residential Zone Exceptions.~~ Within residential zones (Class A EDNA), the following activities are subject to the daytime maximum permissible noise levels at all times (24 hours a day):

- ~~1. Sounds created by existing electrical substations and stationary equipment used to convey water, wastewater or natural gas by a utility.~~
- ~~2. Sounds created by sources in industrial and manufacturing districts which, over the previous three years, have consistently operated in excess of 15 hours per day as demonstrated routine or as a consequence of process necessity. Changes in working hours or activity, which would increase the noise allowed under this exception, require the approval of the Administrator.~~

~~D. Manufacturing Park Land Rezoned to Residential Zone Exceptions.~~ Manufacturing Park land that is rezoned to a residential zone on or after April 14, 2007, shall be considered Class C receiving property and Class A source property for the purpose of calculating maximum permissible noise levels. Interior portions (residences and associated indoor space) of a residential development shall be required to achieve noise attenuation to 45 dBA through insulation, site design, or other methods..

B. Exemptions with Limited Hours. The activities shown in Table 2 may exceed maximum permissible noise levels during limited hours.

~~E. Construction Noise Exceptions.~~

- ~~1. Sounds from temporary construction may exceed the maximum permissible noise levels between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. unless it impacts residential zones (Class A EDNA).~~
 - ~~2. Construction noise that impacts residential zones (Class A EDNA) has the following restricted hours unless it is for single-family home repair, maintenance or construction and meets the requirements set forth in subsections B.1 and B.2 of this section:~~
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Monday through-Friday:	7:00 a.m. to 7:00-p.m.
Saturdays:	9:00 a.m. to 6:00-p.m.
Sunday or Legal-Holiday:	Prohibited

~~(Legal holidays for enforcement of this subsection shall be limited to New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, the day after Thanksgiving and Christmas.)~~

TABLE 2 Exemptions with Limited Hours

<u>Noise Source</u>	<u>EDNA</u>					
	<u>Class A</u>			<u>Class B or C</u>		
	<u>Monday-Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday or Noise Holiday</u>	<u>Monday-Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday or Noise Holiday</u>
<u>Discharge of firearms at shooting ranges operating with a valid business license</u>	<u>10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.</u>	<u>10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</u>	<u>Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</u> <u>Noise Holiday: Prohibited</u>	<u>10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.</u>	<u>10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</u>	<u>Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</u> <u>Noise Holiday: Prohibited</u>
<u>Forest harvesting and silvicultural activities</u>	<u>7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>	<u>9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>		<u>7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>	<u>9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>	
<u>Construction¹</u>	<u>7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.</u>	<u>9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.</u>	<u>Prohibited</u>	<u>7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>	<u>9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>	<u>Prohibited</u>

<u>Property maintenance</u>	<u>7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>	<u>9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>	<u>7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>	<u>9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>
<u>Tower crane assembly and disassembly for a single day¹</u>	<u>5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</u>			
<u>Truck and Railroad Operations^{2,3}</u>	<u>6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. unless conducted entirely within an enclosed structure.</u>		<u>N/A</u>	
<u>Testing of Generators</u>	<u>8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.</u>			

¹ Unless a construction permit from the City or another agency establishes more restrictive hours. Deliveries to construction sites must occur during exempt hours.

² Within 200 feet of a Class A EDNA zone.

³ The restriction on hours only applies to uses established after December 24, 1998, or buildings constructed after December 24, 1998.

~~3. The point of measurement shall be at the property boundary of the receiving property or anywhere within the receiving property.~~

~~C 4. The Administrator Planning Director, or the Technical Committee for street and utility projects, may authorize expanded hours for of temporary construction that exceed those identified in Table 2 if at least one of the following criteria is met:~~

~~a. expanded hours are Construction is~~ necessary to accommodate transportation improvements, or other work within the right-of-way, or construction on schools and essential government facilities ~~which that~~ cannot be undertaken during exempt hours. In considering expanded construction hours ~~for street and utility projects~~, the Administrator Technical Committee shall evaluate the project duration, potential noise impacts, traffic and safety impacts and cost of the project with and without expanded hours. If expanded hours are necessary, only the minimum hours required to accommodate the work will be authorized during non-exempt hours. The person responsible for the construction-related noise must provide notice of the extended

~~hours to nearby occupied residential structures in accordance with the terms of the expanded hours approval document. the Director of Public Works shall cause a public notice board to be posted to inform neighboring property owners of the scope and duration of the construction project. The size, shape, and other characteristics of the public notice board shall be reasonably calculated to provide the required notice, as determined by the Public Works Director.~~

~~b. Emergency work.~~

~~c. Sounds caused by construction will not exceed the maximum permissible noise levels contained in 6.36.030.~~

D. The Administrator may authorize hours for noise from shooting ranges that exceed those identified in Table 2 as part of a noise mitigation operating agreement. The Administrator is not required to enter into such an agreement on behalf of the City.

1. Procedural requirements for owner or operator. The owner or operator of a shooting range must follow these procedures in developing the agreement:

a. Notify the Administrator in writing of their intent to enter into an agreement. In the case of a new range, the notification must occur six months prior to the range opening.

b. Obtain the services of a acoustical consultant, engineer, or other qualified expert to assess the property and recommend noise mitigation strategies.

c. Host a neighborhood meeting at least four months before expiration of the range's business license, or four months prior to opening in the case of a new range. At the meeting the owner or operator of the range must share potential noise mitigation strategies that will be addressed in the proposed agreement and seek community feedback on noise issues of concern.

d. Provide a complete first draft of the agreement to the City at least three months before expiration of the range's business license, or in the case of a new range, three months prior to the range opening.

2. Procedural requirements for the City. The City must follow these procedures in developing the agreement:

a. Attend the required neighborhood meeting described in D.1.c.

b. Provide notice by U.S. mail or email as required below to any person who provides their name and either complete mailing address or email address.

c. Post the first complete draft of the agreement to the City's website and notify those who have provided contact information as described above within one week of receiving it.

d. Post the final draft of the agreement and notify those who have provided contact information as described above at least two weeks before taking action.

3. Substantive requirements. The agreement must include the following:

a. Hours of operation.

b. Noise mitigation methods.

c. Noise mitigation targets, expressed in dBA, for each mitigation method. The agreement must specify the measurement methodology for each mitigation strategy.

d. Designated contact person for the range whose responsibility is to receive, disseminate, and respond to communication concerning the agreement.

e. Length of initial term.

The agreement may contain other elements to the extent they do not conflict with the requirements of subsection D.

4. Decision criteria. The Administrator may approve the operating agreement if it meets the following criteria.

a. It provides for equivalent or better noise protection to receiving properties as adherence to the hours shown in Table 2. In making this determination, the Administrator must consider the number of hours of noise exposure and the level of noise exposure. For example, the Administrator may approve an agreement that allows extended operating hours for a range that mitigates noise for receiving properties to levels shown in Table 1.

b. It complies with all other applicable elements of the Redmond Municipal Code and Redmond Zoning Code, such as but not limited to dimensional requirements

c. Development of the agreement met the procedural requirements of subsection D.1 above.

5. Effect of approval.

a. Approved noise mitigation operating agreements become enforceable components of the range's business license upon the effective date of the agreement.

b. The Administrator's decision has no administrative appeal.

6. Term, expiration, and termination.

a. The initial agreement expires with the range's operational license. An evaluation of the agreement's effectiveness in mitigating noise must be conducted during the initial term. The evaluation must be conducted by an acoustical consultant or engineer or other qualified expert hired by the range with the approval of the City. The effectiveness evaluation must make findings concerning the effectiveness of each mitigation strategy with respect to noise mitigation targets stated in the agreement. The City or range may request changes to the agreement arising from the evaluation.

b. Subsequent terms may not exceed five years and must expire at the same time as a range's operational license. All renewals must follow the same procedures as those required for the initial agreement.

c. Agreements automatically expire at the end of their term unless a renewal process is commenced at least six months prior to the agreement's expiration date, in which case the City may in its sole discretion choose to extend the term of the agreement six months in order to conclude the renewal process.

d. The Administrator may terminate the agreement prior to the end of the agreement's term for the following reasons:

i. Failure to implement any of the substantive requirements of the agreement.

ii. Failure to abide by other applicable elements of the Redmond Municipal Code or Redmond Zoning Code.

e. The range owner or operator may terminate the agreement for convenience. Termination for convenience requires three months' written notice to the Administrator.

7. The City may establish fees for processing agreements not to exceed the estimated cost of processing the agreement. Such fees shall be part of a fee schedule adopted by the City Council and made available to the public.

E. Construction Posting Requirements. A sign providing notice of the limitation on construction hours shall be posted on construction sites prior to commencement of any new construction or addition project for a commercial or mixed-use building. The Administrator shall establish standards for size, color, layout, design, wording and placement of the signs.

1. The sign shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the source property where the construction work is occurring.

2. The sign shall provide project contact information, including a regularly monitored phone number for noise concerns to be reported.

6.36.060 Restrictions on residential development adjacent to arterials.

A. This section applies to all residential short plats, subdivisions, and multifamily projects (five or more units) proposed after December 24, 1998.

B. For all residential short plats, subdivisions, and multifamily projects proposed within 100 feet of an arterial or state highway that has an existing or projected traffic volume of 20,000 or more average daily trips, the applicant shall include sound attenuation measures in the site design and/or the design and construction plans of the structure(s).

C. The applicant shall demonstrate that proposed measures provide sound attenuation and that the methods go beyond standard building construction practices. Measures that reduce noise at the site, such as building location, design, berms, noise attenuating fences, and barriers, to help mitigate outside noise exposure shall be used whenever practical in preference to measures which only protect interior spaces. Noise walls over eight feet in height shall be avoided unless all other mitigation measures are determined infeasible and impractical. Blank walls shall be prohibited. The Technical Committee shall approve appropriate methods for reducing noise levels.

6.36.070 Arterial improvement requirements.

A. This section applies to arterial ~~and state highway~~ improvement projects in residential zones (Class A EDNA).

B. In residential zones (Class A EDNA), arterial ~~and state highway~~ improvement projects, not including the addition of walkways, bicycle lanes and minor widening (such as turn lanes), must include a noise analysis of the affected environment by a qualified noise consultant if:

1. The existing or projected noise level exceeds 67 dBA peak noise hour Leq; or
2. The projected exterior noise level as a result of the project is estimated to increase beyond 67 dBA peak noise hour Leq; or
3. The exterior noise level is expected to increase by five dBA or more as a result of the project.

C. The point of exterior noise level measurement for purposes of this section will be five feet above existing grade anywhere along a parallel line 60 feet on either side of the arterial centerline.

D. Noise mitigation measures intended to reduce exterior noise levels to 67 dBA peak noise hour Leq or lower shall be determined by the Technical Committee. Measures such as location, design, setbacks, earthen berms, landscaping and berm/wall barriers shall be used instead of tall, linear, blank walls. Use of noise walls shall be limited or avoided if other feasible measures are available. If noise walls are determined to be necessary, they shall be located to maximize effectiveness and designed to avoid a long, linear, blank appearance. Noise walls shall be limited to the lowest effective height, combined with earthen berms where feasible, screened by landscaping, modulated, and constructed with durable and decorative materials. If additional funding is necessary, the Technical Committee shall make a recommendation to the City Council. The criteria for evaluating noise mitigation measures are:

1. Whether reasonable noise mitigation measures are available which will reduce exterior noise levels by five dBA or more; and
 2. Whether the financial impacts of noise mitigation measures are not disproportionate to the overall cost of the arterial improvement project; and
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3. Whether benefited property owners contribute to the cost of mitigation; provided, that this factor only applies if existing exterior noise levels exceed 67 dBA peak noise hour Leq; and
4. Whether the benefited community is supportive of noise mitigation measures.

6.36.080 — Measurement of sound.

~~A. *Sound Level Meter.* If the measurement of sound is made with a sound level meter, the instrument shall be in good operating condition and shall meet the requirements for a Type I or Type II instrument, as described in the current American National Standards Institute Specifications.~~

~~B. *Location of Measurement.* Unless otherwise specified, the point of measurement shall be at the property boundary of the receiving property or anywhere within it.~~

~~C. *More than One Edna.* Where a receiving property lies within more than one EDNA, the maximum permissible noise level shall be determined by the most sensitive EDNA.~~

~~D. *Technical Corrections.* When the location, distance or technique prescribed in this chapter for measurement of sound is impractical or would yield misleading or inaccurate results, measurements shall be taken at other locations or distances using appropriate correction factors, as specified by the Administrator or a qualified noise consultant. (Ord. 2590 § 2, 2011).~~

6.36.090 — Testing of generators.

~~A. Sounds caused by residential generators when operating in an emergency are exempt from the maximum permissible dBA levels in 6.36.030.~~

~~B. Nonresidential generators must abide by the maximum permissible dBA levels in 6.36.030. Measures shall be taken to reduce noise, such as relocating, enclosing or screening the noise source, limiting the hours of operation, or other similar measures.~~

~~This shall not apply to nonresidential emergency generators that existed on or before December 24, 1998. New or replacement nonresidential emergency generators shall comply with this section.~~

~~C. Testing of generators shall be limited to after 8:00 a.m. and no later than 8:00 p.m.~~

Companion Amendments to Other Titles or Chapters of the RMC

RMC 1.01 Code Adoption

1.01.025 Definitions

Legal holiday. Any holiday observed by the City of Redmond where City Hall is closed.

RMC 1.14 Enforcement and Penalties

1.14.010.C "R – Z" Definitions.

Responsible party. Means, as applicable, the owner of the property upon which the noise disturbance is occurring, the current occupant of the property, and any other person, corporation or other entity responsible for creating or allowing the noise on the property.

RMC 6.34.070 Loading operations.

~~A. This section shall only apply to uses established after December 24, 1998, or buildings constructed after December 24, 1998.~~

~~B. Truck or railroad loading or unloading operations located within 200 feet of a residential zone shall not be conducted between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. unless conducted entirely within an enclosed structure. (Ord. 2589 § 2, 2011).~~

RZC 21.58.1600 High Traffic Corridors, BP, MP, and I Zones.

Administrative note: The intent is to integrate what is now RMC 6.36.060 into RZC 21.58.1600 because the provisions of RMC 6.36.060 are development regulations and properly belong in the RZC. Changes to RZC 21.58.1600 will be proposed in a separate process since changes to the RZC require review and recommendation by the Planning Commission.

Summary of Public Feedback on Proposed Noise Ordinance Amendments

December 2025 – January 2026

Executive Summary

Two major themes emerged: (1) Strong opposition from Interlake Sporting Association (ISA) members to proposed restrictions on shooting range hours, emphasizing collaboration and sound mitigation instead of time limits; (2) Strong support from nearby residents for limiting or eliminating weekend/evening shooting hours, citing impacts on family life, sleep, and outdoor use. Additional comments addressed citywide noise issues (traffic, landscaping equipment, park events) and enforcement concerns.

Topical Themes

- Process & Stakeholder Engagement: ISA members urge collaboration; residents note lack of HOA engagement.
- Hours vs. Sound Mitigation: ISA prefers engineering solutions; residents prioritize predictable quiet times.
- Fairness & History: ISA cites long-standing presence; residents argue standards must evolve with growth.
- Health & Well-being: Residents report sleep disruption, stress, and family impacts.
- Measurement & Enforcement: Calls for clear impulsive noise protocols, monitoring, and transparency.
- Environmental & Safety: Concerns about lead contamination and stray bullets.
- Other Noise Issues: Traffic/motorcycles, gas-powered landscaping equipment, and event noise raised by some respondents.

Frequently Repeated Feedback

From ISA Members (Opposed to Restrictions):

- ISA has operated since 1947; neighborhood grew around it.
- Restricting hours harms working families and youth programs.

Attachment B

- Closing Sundays/holidays disproportionately impacts observant Jews.
- City should collaborate and allow ISA-funded sound mitigation.
- Time compression may increase noise intensity.

From Nearby Residents (Supporting Restrictions):

- Gunfire noise disrupts family life, work-from-home, and outdoor activities.
- Support for clear limits: later starts, earlier ends, no Sundays/holidays.
- Requests for independent monitoring and enforcement.
- Concerns about environmental and safety risks.
- Some advocate relocation or indoor alternatives.

This summary was created with Copilot.