INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

Requirements for Emergency Generators

General Requirements
· Exhaust termination shall comply with section 506.9 of the California Mechanical Code.
· The noise level shall not exceed the levels prescribed based on the zone or location of the installation as specified in SMMC 4.12.
· Fuel supply, storage and fueling requirements shall comply with the International Fire Code or other Fire Department requirements based on the occupancy type.
· Electrical installations shall comply with the California Electrical Code.
· AQMD approval is required for diesel and gas-fired generators.

Permit Submittal Requirements
· Plans shall include the following: Site Plan, Line Diagram, Noise Decibel Level, Screening and/or Physical Protection, Exhaust Termination Location, Manufacturer’s Installation Instructions and Fuel Tank Supply or Natural Gas Line.
· ARB packet for review of generator and any proposed screening. Generator may require ARB review, in which case an ARB Application, plan and other material will also be required.

Noise Tests
The Santa Monica Municipal Code requires a noise test for all new mechanical equipment placed outdoors or when it may be heard outdoors. Before any final inspection request for such equipment, the property owner or contractor must submit a report showing that the equipment meets the allowable sound levels for the Noise Zone and proposed hours of operation (SMMC 4.12.160 (c)).

Prohibited Locations
Generators are not allowed in front or side yard setbacks, unless fully enclosed below grade i.e., within a subterranean parking garage or vault.

Requirements for Roof Installations
Mechanical equipment may be installed on the roof when the following conditions are met:

Engineered plans are submitted and approved for the construction of the screening and adequacy of the roof support and equipment anchorage. Screens and anchorage shall be designed for all California requirements for structural design including wind and seismic loads. Adequacy of the roof support and equipment anchorage shall consider the vertical and lateral load capacities of the proposed building (SMMC Article VIII) and California Building Code, latest edition. Generator slab or footing supports must be designed to resist all vertical and lateral loads.
The properties hereinafter described are hereby assigned to the following noise zones:

Noise Zone I. All noise or vibration sources located within any residential (“R” or “OP”) district created by prior Municipal Code Section 9103 or any revisions thereto.
Noise Zone II. All noise or vibration sources located within any commercial district (any “C” district), including any neighborhood commercial district, created by prior Municipal Code Section 9103 or any revisions thereto.
Noise Zone III. All noise or vibration sources located within any manufacturing or industrial district (any “M” district) as created by prior Municipal Code Section 9103 or any revisions thereto. (Prior code Sec. 4304; added by Ord. No. 1638CCS Sec. 1, adopted 7/28/92)


(a) The following noise standards, unless otherwise specifically indicated, shall apply to all property with a designated noise zone during the times indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noise Zone Districts</th>
<th>Days of the Week</th>
<th>Time Interval</th>
<th>Allowable Exterior Noise Equivalent Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I-Residential</td>
<td>Monday through Friday</td>
<td>7 a.m. to 10 p.m.</td>
<td>60 dBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-Residential</td>
<td>Saturday and Sunday</td>
<td>8 a.m. to 10 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-Residential</td>
<td>Monday through Friday</td>
<td>10 p.m. to 7 a.m.</td>
<td>50 dBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-Residential</td>
<td>Saturday and Sunday</td>
<td>10 p.m. to 8 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II-Commercial</td>
<td>Every Day</td>
<td>7 a.m. to 10 p.m.</td>
<td>65 dBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II-Commercial</td>
<td></td>
<td>10 p.m. to 7 a.m.</td>
<td>60 dBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III-Manuf./Indust.</td>
<td>Every Day</td>
<td>All times</td>
<td>70 dBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) For each Noise Zone, the allowable exterior median noise level shall be reduced by 5 dBA for impulse or simple tone noises, or for noises consisting of speech or music. If the ambient noise level exceeds the allowable exterior noise level standard, the ambient noise level shall be the standard.

(c) Except as provided for in this Chapter, it shall be unlawful for any person at any location within the City to create any noise, or to allow the creation of any noise on property owned, leased, occupied or otherwise controlled by such person, which causes the noise level to exceed:
(1) The noise standard for the applicable Noise Zone for a cumulative period of more than 15 minutes in any half-hour; or
(2) A maximum instantaneous noise level equal to the value of the noise standard plus 20 dBA at any time and for any period of time. (Prior code Sec. 4305; added by Ord. No. 1638CCS Sec. 1, adopted 7/28/92)

4.12.130 Location, screening and noise measurements of mechanical equipment.

In addition to satisfying the requirements of Section 9.04.10.02.390, all development project applications must contain the following information:
(a) A list of all permanent mechanical equipment to be placed outdoors and all permanent mechanical equipment to be placed indoors which may be heard outdoors.
(b) Mechanical equipment shall not be located on the side of any building which is adjacent to a residential building on the adjoining lot. Roof locations may be used when the mechanical equipment is installed within a sound-rated parapet enclosure.
(c) Final approval of any mechanical equipment installation will require a noise test in compliance with Section 4.12.040. Equipment for the test shall be provided by the owner or contractor and the test shall be conducted by the owner or contractor. A copy of noise test results on mechanical equipment shall be submitted to the Community Noise Officer for review to ensure that noise levels do not exceed maximum allowable levels for the applicable noise zone. (Prior code Sec. 4315; added by Ord. No. 1638CCS Sec. 1, adopted 7/28/92) Rev 5/30/08 jg