NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE

Police Code Section 2907(b) - It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any powered construction equipment, regardless of age or date of acquisition, if such equipment emits noise at a level in excess of 80 dBA when measured at a distance of one hundred feet from such equipment, or equivalent sound level at some other convenient distance;

Police Code Section 2907(c) - Requirements of Section 2907(b) need not be applied to impact tools and equipment, provided that such impact tools and equipment shall have intake and exhaust mufflers recommended by the manufacturers thereof and approved by the Director of Public Works as best accomplishing maximum noise attenuation, and that pavement breakers and jackhammers shall also be equipped with acoustically attenuating shields or shrouds recommended by the manufacturers thereof and approved by the Director of Public Works as best accomplishing maximum noise attenuation. In the absence of manufacturer's recommendation, the Director of Public Works may prescribe such means of accomplishing maximum noise attenuation as he deems to be in the public interest.

Police Code Section 2901.12 - Powered construction equipment includes any tools, machinery, or equipment used in connection with construction operations which can be driven by energy in any form other than manpower, including all types of motor vehicles when used in the construction process on any construction site, regardless of whether such construction site be located on-highway or off-highway, and further including all helicopters or other aircraft when used in the construction process except as may be pre-empted for regulation by State or Federal law.

Police Code Section 2908 - It shall be unlawful for any person, including employees and agents of the City and County of San Francisco, between the hours of 8:00 p.m. any day and 7:00 a.m. of the following day to erect, construct, demolish, excavate, alter or repair any building or structure, if the noise level created thereby is in excess of the ambient background noise level by 5 dBA at the nearest property line, unless a special permit therefor has been applied for and granted by the Director of Public Works. In granting such special permit the Director of Public Works shall consider if construction noise in the vicinity of the proposed work site would be less objectionable at night than during daytime because of different population levels or different neighboring activities, if obstruction and interferences with traffic particularly on streets of major importance, would be less objectionable at night than during daytime, if the kind of work to be performed emits noises at such a low level as to not cause significant disturbance in the vicinity of the work site, if the neighborhood of the proposed work site is primarily residential in character wherein sleep could be disturbed, if great economic hardship would occur if the work were spread over a longer time, if the work will abate or prevent hazard to life or property, if the proposed night work is in the general public interest; and he shall prescribe such conditions, working times, types of construction equipment to be used, and permissible noise emissions, as he deems to be required in the public interest.

END OF DOCUMENT