

Bonenfant, Janice

From: Herschlag, Allan
Sent: Saturday, January 20, 2018 3:07 PM
To: Bonenfant, Janice
Subject: Fwd: Unreasonable noise at 4 AM

Janice,

Can you forward this to the mayor and city manager for inclusion in our consent agenda for February. Thanks
- Allan

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kelly Buchanan <kell.a.buchanan@gmail.com>
Date: January 20, 2018 at 1:46:43 PM EST
To: "Herschlag, Allan" <AHerschlag@concordnh.gov>
Subject: Re: Unreasonable noise at 4 AM

Allan,

Thank you so much for your thoughtful response. I will answer your questions in the order you posed them.

Is the disruptive noise only during the winter when snow is being removed?

No, we have had issues with other disruptive noises. As residents we manage to live through motorcycle noise, excessive music from motorcycles and cars, and other disturbances from traffic (especially at the Loudon St. and North Main St. junction). However, these are not our primary concern. Snow removal is the most consistent disturbance, but this summer the city also conducted construction projects from midnight to 5 or 6 AM. Road maintenance crews and other workers used heavy equipment, tore through pavement, and kept everyone awake in the building with their extremely bright lights and excessive noise. I made calls to city staff and police when road maintenance workers were ramming a bucket on a piece of heavy machinery into the brick sidewalk to "repair" it at 2 AM.

Does it also occur during plowing of the street and sidewalks and is this at night?

The noise disturbances from plowing the streets and sidewalks and snow removal occurs between the hours of midnight and 5 AM. This is the most disruptive situation because of the beeping from heavy machinery and the noise of metal scraping pavement.

Are there other activities that occur on Main Street throughout the year that cause similar disruptions?

Mainly, construction projects that occur at night.

During conversations leading up to the Main Street project I had strongly advocated for a heated sidewalk and roadway. This would have eliminated the snow removal disruptions as no plowing

or snow removal would have been necessary.

Do you have any suggestions as to how this issue can be remedied?

As a solution to the current situation, I propose the City of Concord follow its own noise ordinance rules. Construction and snow plowing should occur in the early evening/evening and early morning (after 6 AM). Concord truly is a 9-5 city and I do not predict the city would encounter many issues plowing side walks and conducting snow removal activities after dinnertime and before bedtime.

Please let me know if you have any other questions and I would be happy to answer.

Best,
Kelly Buchanan

On Fri, Jan 19, 2018 at 5:32 PM, Herschlag, Allan <AHerschlag@concordnh.gov> wrote:
Kelly,

Thank you for sharing yours and your neighbors concerns regarding snow removal. I do have a number of questions.

Is the disruptive noise only during the winter when snow is being removed?

Does it also occur during plowing of the street and sidewalks and is this at night?

Are there other activities that occur on Main Street throughout the year that cause similar disruptions?

During conversations leading up to the Main Street project I had strongly advocated for a heated sidewalk and roadway. This would have eliminated the snow removal disruptions as no plowing or snow removal would have been necessary.

Do you have any suggestions as to how this issue can be remedied?

One of the goals of the city council is to have a vibrant downtown, with people living, working, socializing and taking advantage of all the activities Concord's downtown can offer. If street noise is impacting the quality of life of those who live downtown, we will not be able to achieve our goals.

There is nothing more important to a vibrant downtown than having people living there. So again I will ask you and the others who have been effected by the noise to help us help you to find a solution.

Allan Herschlag

Sent from my iPad

> On Jan 19, 2018, at 4:25 AM, Kelly Buchanan <kell.a.buchanan@gmail.com> wrote:

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> Dear Mayor Bouley and City Councilors,

>

> I'm writing to you at this godforsaken hour, because I've been woken up by the snow removal team for the uptenth time. A piece of heavy equipment is creating such a loud noise, I woke up in a panic thinking that my building was falling down. I tried using ear plugs, like I normally do to cope with such unfavorable living conditions on Main Street, but the noise is so unreasonably loud and unacceptable, I can hear each piece of heavy equipment carrying on.

>

> This situation must be rectified. I can no longer justify living on Main Street, investing in a small downtown, and working in Concord as a young adult if my city cannot provide a restful night's sleep. My lease is due to be renewed or expired in February, Mr. Mayor and City Councilors, and I need your support in finding a snow removal resolution that promotes downtown living and investment. Many others at 152 North Main Street find this situation unbearable and unsupportive of downtown living. I will organize a group to appear before you all, if necessary, to address this situation.

>

> Sincerely (and sleepily),

> Kelly Buchanan

> Resident of 152 North Main Street, Young Adult, Working Professional, and Investor in Downtown who cannot even get a full night's sleep in Concord

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