



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DONALD J. ATCHISON
MAYOR

MINISTER OF CROWN
INVESTMENTS

JUN 25 2012

June 14, 2012

Honourable Donna Harpauer
Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Government Insurance
2405 Legislative Drive
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

Dear Minister Harpauer:

Re: Excessive Vehicle Noise

The Executive Committee of Saskatoon City Council has asked that I communicate with you regarding a requested legislative change to permit a technology called Noise Snare to be used by the Saskatoon Police Service.

City Council and the Saskatoon Police receive many citizen complaints about vehicle noise. In particular, we receive complaints about motorcycles, cars and light trucks which have been deliberately configured by their owners to create exceedingly loud exhaust and/or motor noise. This particular kind of noise has proven very difficult to enforce under general "excessive noise" legislative provisions.

As a result, cities have begun to look at setting maximum decibel levels for vehicle noise through bylaws, and measuring those decibel levels with new technology. The latest (and, in our view, best) technology is called Noise Snare. It is currently being used by the City of Calgary to test decibel levels for cars, motorcycles and light trucks. However, Noise Snare uses photo radar technology, and its use would not be permitted under Saskatchewan's current legislation.

Police Chief Weighill and I would very much appreciate an opportunity to meet with you to explain the Noise Snare technology and its benefits to Saskatoon. We would be available to meet at your convenience. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Atchison
Mayor

Copy: Chief of Police
City Solicitor