

ORDINANCE NO. 087, 2025
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
AMENDING SECTION 17-129 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF
FORT COLLINS TO REMOVE ALL REFERENCE TO TRAFFIC
NOISE

A. Fort Collins Police Services (FCPS) staff continue to receive numerous reports from community members regarding noise occurrences throughout the city. These reports span a variety of sources including vehicle-related noise complaints.

B. In response, FCPS has reviewed reported incidents and citations related to noise violations from 2023 to 2024. The goal was to assess how effectively current ordinances are being used in enforcement and what code updates would better assist police in enforcement of these violations.

C. Based on this analysis, FCPS developed proposed amendments to the Traffic Code and the City Code, including the addition of a new Section to the Fort Collins Traffic Code, Section 1418- Unreasonable Vehicle Noise Prohibited, to address vehicle noise violations specifically, which is also under consideration on this date, as Ordinance No. 086, 2025.

D. With the addition of a new Section 1418 to the Traffic Code to address unreasonable vehicle noise, it is necessary to amend City Code Section 17-129, entitled Unreasonable Noise Prohibited, to remove the references to vehicle noise.

E. Establishing a specific Traffic Code provision will prevent confusion as to the distinction between traffic-related noise violations and other general noise violations such as parties.

In light of the foregoing recitals, which the Council hereby makes and adopts as determinations and findings, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS that Section 17-129 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 17-129. - Unreasonable noise prohibited.

(a) No person shall make, continue or cause to be made or continued any unreasonable noise; and no person shall knowingly permit such noise upon any premises ~~or in or upon any vehicle~~ owned or possessed by such person or under such person's control ~~or operation~~.

...

~~(d) With regard to the operation of motor vehicles, and without limiting the generality of Subsection (a) above, unreasonable noise shall include, but not be limited to:~~

~~(1) The continuous or repeated sounding of any horn or signal device of a motor vehicle, except as a danger signal. For the purposes of this Subsection, *continuous* shall mean continuing for an unnecessary or unreasonable period of time.~~

~~(2) The operation of any motor vehicle in a manner which causes excessive noise as a result of an unlawful, defective or modified exhaust system, or as a result of unnecessary rapid acceleration, deceleration, revving the engine or tire squeal.~~

(ed) Any person who violates this § 17-129 commits a petty offense punishable by a fine in accordance with §1-15(h) unless such violation is a second or subsequent violation within a twelve (12) month period. Any person who commits a second or subsequent violation of this § 17-129 within a twelve (12) month period shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine or jail in accordance with § 1-15(a).

Introduced, considered favorably on first reading on May 20, 2025, and approved on second reading for final passage on June 3, 2025.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Effective Date: June 13, 2025

Approving Attorney: Dawn Downs

Exhibits: None