

From: moon pep
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 7:40 AM
To: Madison Arts Commission
Subject: Outside music

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am strongly in favor of continuing the outside music in Madison. If neighbors who don't live in downtown Madison are being bothered by this, I would suggest an early end time for these events.

As far as those venues that are in or very near the downtown area, this should be an expected part of downtown living, especially during Covid when music is such an important part of healing.

These outside events also encourage folks to stay outside, which keeps the spread of the virus down. It also helps the economy by keeping businesses afloat with the extra business.

These are extraordinary times and we all need to live a little differently until more normal times return.

Please don't stop the music!!!

Sincerely,
Peppi Elder
Madison resident

From: Troye Shanks
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 8:05 PM
To: Madison Arts Commission
Subject: Banning Live outdoor Music

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I have been trying to login to make my voice heard but to no avail. I am a full time Madison musician who makes his living playing at all of the out door venues. Especially during this time of covid, we need to be outdoors. You cannot take that away from working class people like me.

Thank you,
Troye Shanks
Madison WI

From: nivamon
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 6:02 PM
To: Madison Arts Commission
Subject: Agenda Item 2

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I'm writing to express opposition to this proposal. It's too broad, and little effort was expended in trying to come to a reasonable solution. This negatively affects the businesses involved, the musicians, and their customers.

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

From: Raka Bandyo
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 5:22 PM
To: Madison Arts Commission
Subject: Outdoor music

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please do not shut down outdoor music events. There are few places left to safely enjoy and play music and for musicians to earn money. Instead advice people to wear masks and get vaccinated. Are sporting events also being shut down?

Raka Bandyo
Madison 53704

From: fishboy04
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 5:18 PM
To: Madison Arts Commission
Subject: Streatery music.

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Ive been playing the Harmony patio over a year. Seen so many joyful people in this often unpleasant time. Ive tried playing non amped. Not sure that thrashing loudly on my acoustic and belting / caterwalling my vocals is quieter than very lightly amped playing intricate quiet things. Could we try both for the 3 houses behind the Harmony and see what they think? Offer them a walnut burger if bothered? Oh...can we ban my neighbors circular sawing on his never ending back yard building project?

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

From: Phil Gaebler

Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 5:15 PM

To: Madison Arts Commission

Subject: Restricting live outdoor music performances with amplified sound at any Streatery located within 100 feet of a structure containing a residential dwelling unit

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Dear Arts Commission-

I am writing in opposition to the resolution restricting amplified live outdoor music. This resolution is too broad in its restriction, does not take into account the needs of both streateries and the adjacent property owners, and sets a precedent that may severely restrict live music everywhere in Madison. There are many activities that are allowed throughout the city that create noise levels as loud as amplified music and parents with infants have used white noise machines, fans and other readily available devices to help their child sleep. Madison can find a better solution to this issue other than a blanket restriction that will not solve the problem and may negatively impact restaurants.

Phil Gaebler

From: Emma Brown
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 4:39 PM
To: Madison Arts Commission
Subject: Written comment on Agenda Item #2

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Hi,

I have submitted my opposition of Agenda Item #2 and wanted to add written comments:

To whom it may concern:

In its current wording Resolution 66772 seems too broad. Especially during the pandemic this seems like it would reduce COVID-safe opportunities for musicians to continue working and reduce safe options for families to experience live music with their children who currently cannot be vaccinated. It also disincentivizes restaurants who want to have live music from locating in a mixed use building that includes residential units. Given the difficulties local restaurants and musicians have endured throughout the pandemic we should be supporting them instead of limiting their options to make up lost profits.

It seems some additional context should be included in the language such as specifying a timeframe in which such events can or cannot be held, or an allowed duration or frequency of such events. As is, the wording is just too broad and likely would negatively impact a lot of venues and musicians that haven't had any issues with nearby residences.

Respectfully,
Emma Sable-Smith

From: [A Mazur](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: I oppose agenda #2.
Date: Monday, August 23, 2021 4:02:01 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Musicians like myself need outdoor places to gig and venues need the revenue and exposure from entertainment.

Rev. Andrew H. Mazur
[REDACTED], Madison, WI 53704

From: [Josh Napravnik](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Cc: [Evers, Tag](#)
Subject: 66772 - Live Performance Changes to Streatary
Date: Monday, August 23, 2021 3:42:16 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi All,

Musicians and restaurants have had a tough couple of years. I would hope that a compromise could be met that would not impose the 100 foot limit, but would focus more on the number of days amplified music could be used and/or the hours they're allowed to play.

As you may know, Breese Stevens is fewer than 40 feet away from apartments and 50 feet away from some houses. Most downtown bars/restaurants that are near apartment buildings are also under this foot range.

This 100 foot proposal seems primarily designed to solve a problem at a single location. One that I would hope could be mediated in a way that would not potentially impact other bars/restaurants that are utilizing this program successfully.

Thanks,
Josh

From: [Dustin Skelley](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Music Outside
Date: Monday, August 23, 2021 2:55:05 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please do not ban music outside at bars/restaurants. It's challenging enough being a local musician and running a business during this time. Let's continue to offer folks a safe and fun way to enjoy all the cool things that Madison has to offer!! Don't cater to angry neighbors who chose to live next to a bar or restaurant!

Thanks!

Dustin Skelley

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Deanna Schneider](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Restricting Amplified Music
Date: Monday, August 23, 2021 1:24:57 PM


Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I wanted to register my opposition to the ordinance being discussed at the 8/23/21 arts commission meeting. While I feel for the residents that live near the harmony, outright banning of amplified music is using a sledgehammer to pound a finishing nail. There are many more intermediary steps that can be taken. For instance, I would support an ordinance designed to limit the decibels allowed near residences. I would support an ordinance designed to limit the hours for amplified music.

If we want to live in a vibrant neighborhood, we have to support the creatives that make our neighborhood vibrant. Musicians are key among those. This ordinance would effectively ban amplified music at most businesses that aren't in industrial parks. For example - all of State Street, where apartments exist on top of most of the businesses, would not be allowed to have amplified music.

Please do not support this legislation as written. Please work to create a more moderate solution to a localized problem.

Thank you,
Deanna Schneider



From: [Brian Standing](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Resolution 66772 Restricting live outdoor music performances with amplified sound at any Streatery located within 100 feet of a structure containing a residential dwelling unit
Date: Monday, August 23, 2021 11:47:00 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello, Madison Arts Commission members:

I am writing to you in opposition to Alder Benford's proposal to eliminate amplified music for venues under the City's Streatery program, if they are within 100 feet of a residential structure. This is an overly simplistic, broad and clumsy approach to a very specialized problem, sparked by a few individuals. It will have a variety of unwanted consequences, not the least of which is to undermine the overall purpose of the Streatery program and to deprive Madison musicians and other performers of needed income.

The City of Madison already has [a noise control ordinance](#) that applies specific decibel levels to particular zoning categories, and provides procedures to measure noise levels in an objective manner. It also sets limits based on the time of day. Any permit issued under the Streatery Program should set specific decibel and duration limits based on the particular venue and neighborhood-level public input. This is a far fairer and objective way of addressing noise concerns than an arbitrary prohibition against amplification.

Brian Standing
[REDACTED]
Madison, WI 53714

From: [Jacob Vance](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Amplified music
Date: Monday, August 23, 2021 9:56:00 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am emailing in disagreement with limiting outdoor music at venues. This will greatly limit income for musicians who have already been effected by covid and honestly you shouldn't move next to a place that has music of you can't take it

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Matt DeBlass](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Resolution 66772
Date: Sunday, August 22, 2021 6:49:30 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To our Alders,

I do understand the need to balance the quality of life of area residents with the needs of venues and working musicians, however, I feel like the proposed resolution is too broad. "Amplified" can mean nearly anything, from a full rock band rattling windows to a singer-songwriter with an acoustic guitar and microphone running through a shoebox-sized portable amp. And with many parts of town having a mix of uses, I'm afraid "no amplification within 100 feet of a residence" might just end up meaning "no live music, period" in many cases. I'm a part-time professional musician myself, but I also understand the frustration caused by the many noise issues that come with living in the city, jet planes, sirens, traffic, construction, etc, and adding a too-loud band when you're trying to get some sleep can be tough, but perhaps a more specific restriction could be put in place, such as setting a decibel cap or strict limits on what time music has to stop, which would allow venues to have live entertainment while creating an avenue for the city to deal with excessive noise.

The pandemic has created a lot of stress and inconvenience for all of us, even if we managed to avoid getting sick ourselves, but I'm sure we can work out some sort of compromise.

Thank you,

Matthew DeBlass

[REDACTED]

Madison, WI 53704

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"An adventure is only an inconvenience rightly considered. An inconvenience is only an adventure wrongly considered."

-G.K. Chesterton

From: [Molly OConnell](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Cc: [Benford, Brian](#)
Subject: Meeting 08/23/21; Item #2; File #66772; Email of Support
Date: Sunday, August 22, 2021 12:26:08 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To the Members of the Arts Commission:

I write to ask your support of Item #2, the resolution to restrict amplified music at any COVID Streatery located within 100 ft of a residential dwelling.

The property where I've made my home for 39+ years abuts a gravel parking lot of a tavern. The tavern owner has turned the parking lot into a Streatery Patio to combat the devastating financial effects of COVID. I have been fully supportive of The Harmony Bar & Grill since it's establishment in the early 1990s. During the pandemic I made extra efforts to order food for take out, gave generous tips with those orders to try to help staff, and donated to a "Go Fund Me" fundraising campaign for the bar.

When amplified music started to be played in the parking lot patio in March 2021, when amplified music was *not* allowed, I reached out to my Alderperson for clarification on the music regulations. In May, the Arts Commission, and then the Common Council, passed a resolution allowing amplified music on specific days during specific hours.

We all want to support Madison's small businesses but we also need to consider the effects of that support. Perhaps the members voting to allow amplified music didn't realize that some of these Streatery Patios would be directly adjacent to Madison home owners and families.

Allowing amplified music means that for three three nights every week, I am forced to attend a concert whether or not I'm interested. The fact that I might be working on a complex project, listening to music of my own choice, watching a movie, wanting to sit on my back porch to read a book, or trying to enjoy a pleasant dinner in my own home or backyard was not taken into consideration.

The amplified music is a thrice-weekly intrusion into my life and the lives of my neighbors. This excessive noise disturbs the peace, comfort, quiet, and repose of people living next to the tavern.

Please do not forget about us.

Respectfully,
Molly O'Connell


Madison WI 53704

Be kinder than necessary because everyone you meet is fighting

some kind of battle.

From: [Scott Jennings](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Agenda item #2
Date: Sunday, August 22, 2021 11:29:06 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I would like to register my disapproval to the restriction of live outdoor music.

From: [Sam Verdecchia](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Agenda #2
Date: Sunday, August 22, 2021 10:59:49 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I oppose this item. It's ludicrous. Music and businesses are suffering enough. It's rotten grapes. People should of known better that living near a club/bar business, they would encounter live music. Music is needed for the wellness of the community as well as the economy.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [robinstehle](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Cc: [molly](#); [Benford, Brian](#); [DMitc8799](#)
Subject: Written comments for Item 2, August 23 2021 meeting
Date: Saturday, August 21, 2021 1:47:05 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello. I am writing in support of agenda item number two. I live with my husband and our 8-month-old baby in a house that shares a fence with The Harmony Bar and Grill on Atwood Avenue. We bought our house in 2018. The Harmony was always one of our favorite spots. We went there at least once per week and we would often invite friends and family from outside the neighborhood to join us. When the pandemic hit, we made sure to continue ordering from this establishment weekly. When Streatery was first introduced, and the Harmony set up a patio and had outdoor acoustic music, we understood it was temporary and fully supported it.

On May 18, 2021, after the Madison Common Council voted to allow amplified outdoor music at Streatery establishments temporarily, it became apparent that our baby could no longer sleep or nap in his nursery, which faces the bar. Only then did we start to worry. When amplified, the music at the Harmony has been so, so loud that our house shakes. The sound of people talking and shouting over the music has been absolutely overwhelming. Our son's bedroom is on the side of the house next to the music and it got to the point where it wakes him up most nights that music is playing. As a little baby, his bedtime is 7:00 pm.

On one particularly loud day, we called the Harmony, said we lived next door, and asked if they could just turn the bands' speakers down because our baby can't sleep. The person on the phone laughed in our face and said: "Um, no way. People are trying to have fun over here." And hung up on us. My heart sank. This was not the first or last time we had reached out to ask about turning down the volume. Nothing changed and conversations were ended quickly. Many months previous to this, our neighbor was told by our alder, Brian Benford, that the owner of the Harmony planned to stop by and talk. This never happened. Even after knowing that their neighbors were being negatively affected by the noise, the Harmony continued to put their musicians and bands just a handful of feet from our fenceline, which in a parking lot that large, was completely unnecessary. For an establishment that claims to love its neighbors and advertises on the basis of being a beloved neighborhood bar - you can imagine our surprise and sadness at this. Around this time, it hit the news that the Downtown Planning Commission was hoping to make aspects of Streatery permanent. On July 2nd, the Harmony announced their plans on Facebook to make their patio permanent. They also expressed to Mr. Benford their plans to continue having music outside, permanently. Up until this point, we thought the amplified music would end with the end of covid and we were willing to put up with it. For a long time, we thought we were the only

ones in our neighborhood impacted by the amplified music, but as we talked with more people we realized there are many other neighbors who have issues with the volume as well.

As new parents who are absolutely in love with their son and also love living in this house and this neighborhood, we just needed to know what was going on, so we could plan accordingly. We loved the Harmony, and we still do. I truly believe that really great compromise can happen when people are willing to work together. Perhaps if the owner of the Harmony had been willing to work with her next-door neighbors on a solution, and not ignored us for months and months, there would not be a need for a policy that, as people have claimed on social media, is for the sake of "one baby."

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Cc: [Benford, Brian](#)
Subject: Support for resolution 66772
Date: Saturday, August 21, 2021 9:31:22 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Alders,

I write in strong support of Legistar Item #66772, limiting amplified music in Streatery Patios.

This has been a difficult year for everyone. I recognize that we need to support our small businesses and I hope the city will consider investing in things like support for service industry workers and relaxed rules associated with takeout and so forth. However, we also need to consider our families and invest in our priorities. In the fall of 2020, it is difficult to explain the sense of betrayal, abandonment, and rage that we felt seeing and hearing patrons drinking beer, eating cheese curds, laughing and enjoying themselves on a temporary patio next to our yard as our kindergartener sat at home, alone, trying to learn to read on Zoom. My heart broke when my son started crying during story time as we lay in bed trying to read while hearing a loud table of revelers through his bedroom window. He asked me why the people next door-(restaurant patrons) could have parties and spend time with their friends, but he couldn't have a birthday party or go to school. That's really the right question to ask, isn't it? The pandemic stole my children's education. And in return, we got to listen to outdoor patios full of maskless diners drinking beer for a year. I often wished that our community cared enough about its children to invest in outdoor tables and classrooms as enthusiastically as we embraced patios for restaurants. What if we had supported schools to rent out Restaurants and patios for small outdoor classes? I wish we could be creative about ways to support our businesses and our families.

But I digress. The establishment we live next to mercifully does not have amplified music, or unamplified music for that matter. And for that we are extremely grateful. The noise of patrons alone is disruptive enough, so I cannot even imagine how difficult it must be for neighbors who live adjacent to louder properties.

In normal times, the city restricts outdoor seating and amplified music for good reason. For example, the restaurant we live next to has a regular (non-Streatery) patio as far from residences as possible, so that the noise impact is minimal. Amplified music is not permitted. That small, approved patio is actually a great example of a neighbor-friendly outdoor seating area. A lot of careful planning went in to that design, and it was certainly smaller than the owners had originally hoped. In contrast, the Streatery expanded outdoor seating area comes within a few feet of our backyard and is predictably more disruptive.

In certain entertainment corridors of the city - ie Capital, State Street- perhaps it makes sense to allow amplified music and/or to consider a permanent extension of the Streatery Program. Not in residential areas.

Thanks for your consideration.

Best,
Aleia McCord

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Eric Richards](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Item #66772
Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021 4:31:05 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I am writing to express my opposition to proposed item #66772 (Aug 23rd, 2021 meeting) for the following reasons:

1. The City of Madison already has noise ordinances, which should govern this area. Also, the 100 foot radius proposed limitation may conflict with existing laws governing specifically excepted locations and permitting rules.
https://library.municode.com/wi/madison/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COORMAWIVOIICH20--31_CH24OFAGPEQU_24.04PRNODIPUPE
2. Both of the homeowners complaining live in TR-V1 zoned properties, which means they are zoned to be transitional between purely commercial and residential areas. The bar in question is zoned TSS, which allows for their current operations, as long as they are also meeting the requirements under #1. Both allow for outdoor recreation events.
3. The Harmony bar has been operating in a similar fashion for ~31 years, and the zoning/noise ordinance rules have been unchanged since before both of the complaining homeowners acquired their properties.
4. Based on my understanding of the rules, the Harmony Bar was allowed to use their private driveway as extended patio space even before the Streatery program was implemented. The Streatery program only governs expanded use of non-private property by adjacent businesses, right? So implementing a change to the Streatery rules with a 100 foot radius to residential buildings wouldn't even restrict the Harmony's operation. In which case, the requested change restricting the Harmony's amplified noise would need to be to the underlying city code and not just the Streatery program.
5. If I am interpreting the laws improperly, and this extension into the driveway was only allowed as part of the Streatery program, I am still in favor of the current Streatery program being extended indefinitely. This program allows for businesses to diversify their offerings. Also, in the current pandemic environment, the program helps to protect the health and wellbeing of the community at large.
6. Live music is an important part of the community art scene. With small, independent venues continuing to fall to national Ticketmaster-backed-monopoly booking companies, the remaining bars, clubs, and cafes offering local bands gigs is the only thing keeping indie music alive.

If the bothered homeowners are opposed to the way a single tavern is operating, they can appeal their noise permits or request action if they are in violation of their permits (or don't have them). Blanket changes to rules governing businesses all over the city is not the way to approach this.

Thanks,
Eric R
Eastside resident, and patron of the Harmony

From: [DMitc8799](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]; [Benford, Brian](#)
Subject: Written Comments for Item 2, August 23 2021 Meeting
Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021 3:39:25 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I have already registered in support (so you have my name, contact info) but there was no way to give my comments online. So here they are.

The Streatery program as presented in the press created *outdoor dining opportunities* for local businesses impacted by COVID 19. It is completely understandable that local businesses needed options to indoor dining - such as take out and outdoor dining. I totally support that.

The sudden loud outdoor amplified music 4X a week was NOT expected. I do NOT support amplified music within 100 ft of residential properties.

There are currently threads on social media that frame any opposition to any kind of outdoor music as "hating music" and "not supporting the arts" and asking Madison residents to oppose this Streatery modification. These threads do not present the issue in a fair way. Note the modification only takes away the amplified music - which was NOT allowed before Streatery.

One key fact that seems to be glossed over (ironic in my neighborhood that has so many "No F35 signs") - *noise is a public health issue*. Madison ordinances (Chapter 24) establish maximum noise levels for residential areas. The Madison Ordinance Chapter 24 is titled *Offenses Against Peace and Quiet*.

https://library.municode.com/wi/madison/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COORMAWIVOIICH20-31_CH24OFAGPEQU

PHMDC (Public Health Madison Dane County) has a paper about the ill effects of noise and what allowed decibel levels should be. It also cites that Madison has a noise ordinance (Chapter 24 above)! *Here is the PHMDC link that I want printed out & entered into the hearing public record with my comments:*

[noise report.pdf \(publichealthmdc.com\)](#)

Two things have NOT been acknowledged:

- The Streatery Program, while well intentioned, has created conflict with the City's own Ordinances, Chapter 24.
- By allowing this level of noise next to residential properties, the City of Madison "set the stage" for conflict between Streatery businesses and their residential neighbors who work from home, work odd hours & need sleep, have small children, are homebound during the pandemic, have pets traumatized by the noise etc.

The City of Madison has a responsibility to remedy these two problems that it created with the Streatery program - limiting amplified music is a start.

D Mitchell (already registered as In Support)
SASY Neighborhood Resident


From: [Eric Anderson](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Re: Madison Arts Commission – August 23, 2021
Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021 1:25:52 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Arts Commission,

I am a Madison resident and I would like to express my opposition to banning outdoor/patio music. When we need to be outside more because of the pandemic it would be ridiculous to move music indoors that could be outside.

Sincerely,
Eric Anderson


Madison, WI 53714

From: [Jenni](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Opposition of Agenda Item 2 62380 - Arts and Culture Economic Recovery
Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021 12:49:08 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

My name is Jennifer, I have lived in downtown Madison near the square for almost a decade now, and I am extremely disappointed to see a proposed restriction to outdoor music. Not only has the Streatery program been essential to allow all sorts of wonderful restaurants and bars to survive in the times of the pandemic, but it also has brought life to the streets of downtown that the city has been sorely lacking even before the pandemic--my hope is it would be expanded even further, to flourish even more, particularly around the State Street/Capitol Square areas.

Music is a part of this, and this restriction would mean eliminating that energy from our city. The music and entertainment at establishments is essential to a lively, vibrant, livable city. Without this, the city's streets are sad, boring, and frankly not at all enticing to live in. Outdoor music gives a wonderful experience and atmosphere to these Streatery establishments.

I oppose this restriction and believe we should continue to allow these outdoor music without these restrictions not only for a bright, lively atmosphere in our city but also to assist the businesses in this program during these difficult times so we do not lose any more beloved establishments that define our city's culture due to the pandemic.

Thank you,

--

Jennifer Lynn Kovachevich
She/Her/Hers



From: [David Melnick](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Outdoor music
Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021 10:51:49 AM

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I write to oppose the agenda item restricting outdoor live music within 100 feet of a residence. Madison is a vibrant city with all the noises that accompany it. Live music is a great attribute to city living, just like the sounds of camp Randall and the Edgewood football fields. For people who don't want to hear those sounds there are plenty of places to live that are much quieter. But having more live entertainment benefits Madison and its residents.

I can understand time limits on any specific volume of sound- whether it is music, construction, parties. Say nothing after 11 pm, etc. but to outright ban live outdoor music? What if someone has a party at their house? A wedding? Will that be illegal too? And our restaurants and bars need our support! They should be encouraged to have outdoor live music.

Thank you,
David Melnick



Sent from my iPhone

From: [michael parks](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Agenda item 66772
Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021 10:29:23 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I oppose this restriction.

Thank you,
Mike Parks

From: [Mateja Schuck](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Comments on 8/23/21 agenda item 2, motion 66772
Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021 10:17:58 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hurting the Many to Benefit the Few: in opposition to motion number 66772

The City of Madison has a proud history of supporting the arts, and this motion goes directly against what I feel we stand for in this city. It will stop the Covid-safe enjoyment of live music outside, and it will be a financial blow to many.

We have all had to make many adjustments to our lives during the pandemic. One of the adjustments that establishments such as the Harmony Bar has made is to host its live music outside. This is a long-standing music venue in Madison, and they have chosen to have their live music take place outside, for the express purpose of keeping people safer from Covid, mitigating disease spread while allowing its patrons to still support the arts and enjoy live music. If you take this away, everyone loses. Musicians (who do not want to get sick either) will be out of work, venues will lose customers (which obviously hurts staff financially), and patrons will not be able to enjoy the music they love in the last few weeks of warm weather before we are all shut inside again. By enacting this ban, you would be hurting the financial livelihood of restaurant staff and musicians, and hurting the emotional livelihood of those who love to support the arts but also want to do the right thing and not spread Covid or contract it themselves.

A note regarding amplification and why it matters: amplification isn't just the booming loudspeakers at a rock concert. It is what allows every musician to be heard at all in an outdoor setting. For example: singers generally cannot be heard over instruments in an outdoor area without a microphone, even if the instruments are completely unplugged. This is why, for all intents and purposes, a blanket ban on amplification effectively bans outdoor live music altogether.

Amplification can be as little or as much as the situation calls for. For example: a bluegrass band with completely unplugged instrumentalists, but a microphone for the singer so their voice can reach the audience. I hope this example shows that in this situation what is needed here is discussion and compromise between the involved parties, rather than a ban.

As long as noise ordinances are being followed, venues should be allowed to continue to host live amplified music outside. There should be a reasonable dialogue and compromise between alleged "problem" venues and neighbors who have a problem with the noise - not a blanket ban that hurts the many to benefit the few.

From: [Hilary Gerstein](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Ban on amplified music
Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021 9:55:56 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I'm a resident of the Atwood neighborhood and homeowner and I strongly oppose the ban on amplified music within 100' of a residence that is on the next Council agenda. It would effectively kill the music scene in our area of Madison and hurt small business when it has already been so hard for them during the pandemic. Limits on decibels are fine, but an altogether ban is a huge mistake.

Thanks very much for supporting the arts,
-Hilary Gerstein



Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [LauraLee Berrey Norton](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Outdoor music
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 6:48:42 PM

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Hi, I have lived in Madison for 15 years and enjoyed live music. I have also lived nearby to venues at different points. I believe that amplified patio music should not be banned, but regulated. I believe that if ordinances are put in place that regulate the time it can be played and the decibel maximum, residential life and outdoor music can coexist in our city.

Sincerely,

Laura Norton

, Madison, WI 53716

From: [Aislinn Bailey](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Comment on Agenda Item 62380 on 23Aug21
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 5:04:09 PM

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Madison Arts Commission,

As a resident of the downtown and near east side communities for over 10 years, I am strongly opposed to the proposal to ban amplified sound at streateries within 100ft of a residential dwelling. This is overly punitive to those businesses and an unrealistic expectation from any resident living in an urban setting.

Part of what I love about living in this neighborhood is the activity and sounds that happen every day. It is what makes our city great. Noise is a part of living in an urban area and those moving or living in these areas should expect it. There are already reasonable restrictions in place to prevent noise levels from interrupting daily activities so this ban seems unnecessary and unreasonable.

Allowing for amplified noise at these establishments increases their ability to attract patrons, improve business for themselves and the performing acts, and keeps patrons coming back. It has allowed many local businesses that I love and support to stay afloat during the last year and half. A ban now, just as things seem to be headed for another downward turn, would lead to a loss of much needed income.

To me, music is an integral part of the city and a part of any urban area. It is important to allow this to continue. As I said, there are already reasonable restrictions in place to prevent venues from getting out of hand. Let us not get overly caught up with one or two complaints from people with unrealistic expectations. Instead, let's support our local businesses and encourage the vibrant sounds of the city.

Thanks!

Aislinn

From: [Courtney Botelho](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 66722
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 4:43:53 PM

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Hello,

I am against banning music at local streatory programs beyond existing noise nuisance limits. I do not live next to a streatory location, however spent the past year with a neighborhood band two doors down from my residence. They played on a regular basis during the week with amplified noise that fell within the city's noise limitations. I understand the complaints, it was not always ideal to have a band playing nearby when trying to study or work or sleep. However, noise is part of living in a city. After a year without any live music, I think we should be encouraging our musicians to play in a safe environment. Especially with the rise of the delta variant, we should focus on allowing safe outdoor job opportunities for our local artists while we still have the weather to do so.


Best,
Courtney Botelho

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Kris Austin](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Music
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 3:04:42 PM

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What could be more wonderful than music outdoors in the few months a year that we can . So yes to keeping music outside .

Kristin Austin


Sent from my iPhone

From: [David M](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Legistar Item #66772
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 2:35:38 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to register in opposition to legistar item 66772.

As a resident of the near east area, the streatory program has helped our community remain thriving and vibrant throughout the pandemic. Any motions to restrict a program that is working so well to bring back live entertainment, support the community, and support struggling local musicians would hurt the neighborhood and the unique atmosphere the east side has to offer.

I sympathize with the two who have written complaints, however there are all manner of sounds that come with living in a vibrant city--loud airplanes overhead, traffic from East Washington all night, train horns, and construction. My own house will be across the street from a long term construction project very soon--a bummer, sure, but something that comes with living in a city.

Because of the density of our city, nearly every bar/restaurant/business on the isthmus would be subject to these new regulations. I don't believe that two complaints from neighbors about one specific establishment should lead to sweeping change across the city, especially change that will negatively impact the many struggling businesses that are working hard to serve our community and provide gathering places in these difficult times.

I ask you to please reconsider this restriction.

Thanks,

David Michlig


Madison, WI

From: [Victor Toniolo](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Agenda item 66772
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 2:25:33 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Madison arts commission,

I was unable to register in opposition to agenda item 66772. I strongly oppose this ridiculous ban on outdoor music.

Current city ordinances are more than sufficient. Please stop listening to NIMBYs

Victor

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Comment on proposal
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 1:42:59 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi!

I've lived on Willy street for 8 years, and wanted to voice my opposition to the amplification ban within 100 feet of residences. This would create a mess for all our beloved festivals, like when there are bands playing in front of my building during the willy street fair. Make music Madison day. Etc. the music is my favorite part of living here.

David Barach
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Muneer Afifi](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: public comment - Legistar 66772 "Restricting live outdoor music performances..."
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 1:18:22 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello

I am writing to indicate my opposition to any sort of blanket ban on live outdoor music performances or a blanket ban on amplified music. The streeteater program in my opinion has been a wonderful success, improving the culture and walkability of our city. If there is an establishment that is abusing their privilege, they should be targeted specifically rather than a city wide blanket ban, even if it is restricted to establishments that are within a certain distance of dwellings.

Thank you for your consideration
Muneer Afifi
Madison, WI

From: [Heather Hanson](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Opposition to 66772
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 11:41:45 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I would like to register my opposition to 66772 Restricting live outdoor music performances with amplified sound at any structure located within 100 feet of a structure containing a residential dwelling unit.

We live on the near east side (Helena street) and are accustomed to live music during the summer. Most of the summer festivals are within a mile of our home and it is one of the things we love about living here. This ordinance would make it almost impossible for these events to happen. Even make music Madison which often hosts amplified music at peoples homes. It would have a very negative impact on the neighborhood and culture. Most venues are good neighbors.

Sincerely
Heather Hanson
[REDACTED], Madison, WI

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Courtney Byelich](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: amplified music proposal, 66772
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 11:38:14 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To whom it may concern,

Just wanted to let it be known that I oppose restricting outdoor music performances with amplified sound at any streatory located within 100 feet of a structure containing a residential dwelling unit (66772).

Amplified music helps our neighborhood to be a fun, happening place to be. I've lived in apartments in the SASY neighborhood near to amplified music and found it to be a feature of the neighborhood.

Perhaps there are other ways to create neighborly policies -- curfews on music, or frankly stricter building code for new construction that would enforce thicker walls and higher quality windows to help residents feel more at home when they don't want music impinging on their lives. I believe this is a policy Austin, Texas has also explored.

- Courtney Byelich



From: [Rob Fontella](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: 66772 Restricting live outdoor music performances
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 11:33:51 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi,

I am against restricting live amplified music at any Streatery located within 100 feet of a structure containing a residential dwelling unit.

I feel this restriction will be detrimental to the arts and their enjoyment. Saying amplified music is too general, as even acoustic music often amplifies the vocalist. I think it would stifle music, overall, make it harder for our musicians to make a living and hamper the enjoyment of music.

Better would be to consider a decibel limit as measured at the impacted residence.

Thank you! - Rob

From: [molly](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#); [Tucker, Matthew](#); [Brian Benford](#)
Subject: Amplified Music at Streatery Locations
Date: Monday, May 17, 2021 2:17:38 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To the Members of the Commission:

I am writing to oppose allowing **any** amplified music at Madison Streatery locations. I do not oppose acoustic music but the amplified music in a residential neighborhood is different. My property abuts The Harmony Bar & Grill (The Harmony) which has been enjoying the benefits of the relaxed Streatery regulations since June 2020.

While I fully support efforts to help our small businesses recover from the COVID pandemic, let's not forget we are all recovering from a most difficult year.

Currently, amplified music is not permitted, the owner of The Harmony is aware of that, and yet I have had to reach out at least three times to my Alderperson and City Zoning regarding amplified music being played there. The owner has displayed a willingness to ignore current regulations.

Amplified music played in a parking lot abutting my back yard means that if I want to watch, read, or listen to something of my own choice, I am unable to do so. Period.

Amplified music will not increase the customer size of the business enough to make a difference, but it will significantly interfere with the quality of life of neighbors living adjacent to that business.

Please do not forget about us.

Molly O'Connell


Madison WI 53704

Be kinder than necessary because everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.

From: [Vanessa Shipley](#)
To: [Madison Arts Commission](#)
Subject: Amplified music
Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 4:33:12 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi, I'm unable to attend the meeting this evening, but in regards to amplified music on Streatery patios, I've had a problem with this, even before Streatery. My business on the 100 block of East Main is located very close to 4 other businesses, 2 of which have outdoor speakers amplifying sound from their buildings. The sound level is not controlled, and though when I approach the businesses and ask them to turn it down, they do, this is something we have to do daily. My feeling is that in our particular situation, the outside area is a shared space, and my customers outside should not have to listen to music from another establishment. When the sound level is not controlled, it adds a level of chaos to the street that is undesirable.

Thank you for your consideration.

Vanessa Shipley
Maduro

Sent from my iPhone