

From: [Dean Cummings](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#); [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: Sound Level Variance Application, Breakaway Music Festival
Date: Monday, May 12, 2025 12:23:09 PM
Attachments: [makephotogallery.net_1746718097595.png](#)

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Dear City Council Members:

It is exciting to host a music festival at United Village and I hope to see many more events there in the future. We are learning how to have events in this location that also work for our community members who live nearby. The last time this event was held it was clearly too loud for the community. Unfortunately and embarrassingly, neither the event producer nor the City has any hard data on the sound levels from that event. I applaud the event organizer's promises and plans for sound management this year. As we consider hosting this event again, it would be prudent to proceed with caution.

I recommend approving the City Staff's proposed sound levels and denying the applicant's request this year. Depending on results from this year's event, the levels can be revisited next year.

In the interest of using quantifiable data I used this calculator to determine potential sound levels for nearby neighbors: <https://www.omnicalculator.com/physics/distance-attenuation>. If Breakaway is approved for their requested sound levels, people a quarter a mile away could be subject to sound levels roughly equivalent to a garbage disposal running continuously for 90 minutes.

Point 1

Distance from the source

125 ft

Sound pressure level

103 dB

Point 2

Distance from the source

.25 mi

Sound pressure level

82.53 dB

Garbage disposal, dishwasher, average factory, freight train (at 15 meters). Car wash at 20 ft (89 dB); propeller plane flyover at 1000 ft (88 dB); diesel truck 40 mph at 50 ft (84 dB); diesel train at 45 mph at 100 ft (83 dB). Food blender (88 dB); milling machine (85 dB); garbage disposal (80 dB).



made by [www.MakePhotoGallery.net](#)

<https://decibelpro.app/blog/how-loud-is-80-decibels/>

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