Legislation Text

File #: RES PH 25-189, **Version:** 1

Approving the application of Minnesota Taco and Tequila Festival for the Viva La Vida: Taco & Tequila Festival event on Saturday, September 20 and Sunday, September 21, 2025 for a sound level variance in order to present live amplified sound at 425 Rice Street, former Sears parking lot.

WHEREAS, Chapter 293 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code was enacted to regulate the subject of noise in the City of Saint Paul; and

WHEREAS, §293.09 provides for the granting of variances from the sound level limitations contained in

§293.07, upon a finding by the City Council that full compliance with Chapter 293 would constitute an unreasonable hardship on the applicant, other persons or on the community; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Taco and Tequila Festival, represented by Krista Wilson, Minnesota Taco and Festival Event Assistant Producer, who has been designated as the responsible person on the application, has applied for a variance, at a requested sound level limit of 90 dBA at no specified distance, to present live amplified sound for the Viva La Vida: Taco & Tequila Festival event on Saturday, September 20 and Sunday, September 21, 2025 at 425 Rice Street, Store Parking lot; and

WHEREAS, applicant has requested a variance for the hours of 11:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 20, 205 and for the hours of 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 21, 2025, with a pre-event sound check from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. on each day for a Viva La Vida: Taco & Tequila Festival event; and

WHEREAS, if applicant is not granted a variance applicant will not be able to present amplified sound at the 425 Rice Street, Store Parking lot site; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Safety and Inspections has reviewed the application and has made recommendations regarding conditions for the variances. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Saint Paul hereby grants a variance to Minnesota Taco and Tequila Festival, subject to the following conditions:

1) The Variance shall be for the requested variance hours of 11:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 20 and from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 21, 2025, with a pre-event sound check from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on both dates for a Viva La Vida: Taco & Tequila Festival event.

2) All electronically powered equipment used in conjunction with the event shall not exceed 90 dBA at 50 feet from all sound sources during the September 20, 2025 and September 21, 2025 events from 11:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 20 and from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 21, 2025, and shall not exceed 80 dBA during the pre-event sound check from 9:00 until 10:00 a.m. on both days; and

3) The applicant shall monitor the decibel level from the variance approved distance of each noise source and create a report that records the general operating decibel levels within 15 minutes of the start of each performing act and at intervals no greater than 60 minutes apart thereafter. The report shall be made available for viewing by city staff, upon request during the variance or within 30 days thereafter. Applicant shall also conduct a decibel reading during the variance upon request of city staff.

4) All electronically powered equipment, PA systems, loudspeakers or similar devices shall be turned off no later than 8:00 p.m. on September 20, 2025 and no later than 6:00 p.m. on September 21, 2025, the event

dates.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any violations of the conditions set forth above on the September 20 and September 21, 2025 dates may result in denial of future requests for the grant of a noise variance, in addition to any criminal citation which might issue.

Minnesota Taco and Festival :Viva La Vida: Taco & Tequila Festival Event, represented by Krista Wilson, has requested an exemption from the sound level limitations in Chapter 293.07 in order to present amplified sound, with limitations, from 11:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 20 and from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 21, 2025, with a pre-event sound check from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on both days. Chapter 293.09 provides for the granting of variances from the sound level limitations contained in Chapter 293.07.

Was proper notice given? YES - See Attachments

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