

## Wong, Tamarra

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**From:** David Garner s.22(1) Personal and Confidential  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 03, 2019 9:04 AM  
**To:** Public Hearing  
**Subject:** traffic noise and outdoor living spaces: Tuesday, July 9, 2019, Agenda Item 6b.  
REZONING: 1008 West 47th Avenue and 6335-6363 Oak Street

Dear Councillors,

Vancouver does not have noise performance requirements for any residential *outdoor* living spaces such as children's play areas, townhouse courtyards, patios etc. despite the facts that Canada (through CMHC with NRC) published such guidelines in 1981 and the WHO published similar guidelines in 1999, and such performance requirements are in place in several Canadian cities and provinces and many other countries, such as the UK and Australia.

This was drawn to the attention of the previous Council at a public hearing on 5 Sept 2018 to consider amendments to the RM-8A/8AN zoning guidelines.

At that meeting Planner Staff responded that:

(1) the assertion is correct that *outdoor* living area noise performance requirements are nonexistent for all residential zones in Vancouver (not just RM-8A/8AN), and

(2) the absence of such a guideline will be reviewed.

Given that

- this review undertaking is now 10 months old and
- RM-8AN rezonings for townhouses targeted at young families with children are now happening,

Council might find it opportune to invite staff to provide an update and estimated completion date of this policy review.

FYI, I have been living at s.22(1) Personal and Confidential since 2000 and so have experiential knowledge of the impact of Oak St traffic. I think that having access to outdoor living area is a defining characteristic of life in Vancouver.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dave Garner

PS: The “N” suffix on zonings refers to “noise” and triggers the application of *indoor* acoustic performance requirements. Similarly, some residential CD-1 rezonings have *indoor* acoustic performance requirements applied while others do not.

Presumably, the application of acoustic performance requirements to a rezoning approval is based on some objective criteria such as current noise measurement surveys, measured current traffic volumes, projected traffic volumes, etc.

How are the application of acoustic performance requirements to a rezoning approval *actually* decided and are these criteria still appropriate in 2019?