



Noise Producers

LOCATION OF NOISE PRODUCERS



Good neighbors keep their noise to themselves.



The communities of Riverside County need a variety of land uses in order to thrive and succeed. These land uses may provide jobs, clean water, ensure safety, ship goods, and ease transportation woes. But they may also emit high levels of noise throughout the day. These noise-producing land uses can complement a community when the noise they emit is properly mitigated. The following policies suggest a series of surveys and analyses to correctly identify the proper noise mitigating procedures in order to promote the continued success of the communities of Riverside County.

Agriculture

One of the major economic thrusts of Riverside County is the agricultural industry. The Riverside County Right-to-Farm Ordinance conserves, protects, and encourages the development, improvement, and continued viability of agricultural land and industries for the long-term production of food and other agricultural products, and for the economic well-being of the County’s residents. The Right-to-Farm Ordinance also attempts to balance the rights of farmers to produce food and other agricultural products with the rights of non-farmers who own, occupy, or use land within or adjacent to agricultural areas. The Riverside County Right-to-Farm Ordinance also works to reduce the burden of the County’s agricultural resources by limiting the circumstances under which agricultural operations may be deemed a nuisance. Policies within this section address the potential noise issues that may be raised in regards to agricultural production.

Policies:



- N 3.1 Protect Riverside County’s agricultural resources from noise complaints that may result from routine farming practices, through the enforcement of the Riverside County Right-to-Farm Ordinance. (AI 105, 107)
- N 3.2 Require acoustical studies and subsequent approval by the Planning Department and the Office of Industrial Hygiene, to help determine effective noise mitigation strategies in noise-producing areas. (AI 105)
- N 3.3 Ensure compatibility between industrial development and adjacent land uses. To achieve compatibility, industrial development projects may be required to include noise mitigation measures to avoid or minimize project impacts on adjacent uses. (AI 107)
- N 3.4 Identify point-source noise producers such as manufacturing plants, truck transfer stations, and commercial development by conducting a survey of individual sites. (AI 106)



- N 3.5 Require that a noise analysis be conducted by an acoustical specialist for all proposed projects that are noise producers. Include recommendations for design mitigation if the project is to be located either within proximity of a noise-sensitive land use, or land designated for noise-sensitive land uses. (AI 109)
- N 3.6 Discourage projects that are incapable of successfully mitigating excessive noise. (AI 107)
- N 3.7 Encourage noise-tolerant land uses such as commercial or industrial, to locate in areas already committed to land uses that are noise-producing. (AI 107)

STATIONARY NOISE

A stationary noise producer is any entity in a fixed location that emits noise. Stationary noise producers are common in many noise-sensitive areas. Motors, appliances, air conditioners, lawn and garden equipment, power tools, and generators are often found in residential neighborhoods, as well as on or near the properties of schools, hospitals, and parks. These structures are often a permanent fixture and are required for the particular land use. Industrial and manufacturing facilities are also stationary noise producers that may affect sensitive land uses. Furthermore, while noise generated by the use of motor vehicles over public roads is preempted from local regulation, the County considers the use of these vehicles to be a stationary noise source when operated on private property such as at a truck terminal or warehousing facility. The emitted noise from the producer can be mitigated to acceptable levels either at the source or on the adjacent property through the use of proper planning, setbacks, blockwalls, acoustic-rated windows, dense landscaping, or by changing the location of the noise producer. The following policies identify mechanisms to measure and mitigate the noise emitted from stationary noise producers.

Community Noise Inventory



The cumulative noise created by truck transfer stations can reach excessive levels when noise sensitive uses are located nearby.

There are a series of noise producers within Riverside County that bear special recognition. These uses may be important parts of the economic health of the County, but they still emit noise from time to time. Some of the special noise producers within the County include, but are not limited to the Riverside Raceway, surface mining, truck transfer stations in the Mira Loma area, manufacturing facilities, and natural gas transmission pipelines.

Three high pressure natural gas transmission pipelines are located in the community of Cabazon (within the Pass Area Plan), and a series of valve stations are placed along the pipeline throughout the community. The pipelines supply a major portion of the non-transportation energy supply for southern California. The depressurization of mainline valves at the valve stations for emergency or maintenance reasons can result in noise levels exceeding 140 dB L_{eq} at a distance of 50 feet from the source for more than an hour at a time. The pipelines are not located in heavily populated areas; however, should higher-intensity uses be approved in the area in the future, possible relocation of one or more pipelines or valves may be necessary.