



Noise Ordinance

There has been a lot of talk lately about the list of 7 essentials suggestions for improvement for our noise ordinance. Here's some background on the FMIA's involvement and official position on this list.

After the storm, the FMIA was invited by Cmbr. Kristin G. Palmer to be a part of a noise ordinance working group which consisted of bar owners, musicians, neighborhood representatives and music advocates to provide feedback and recommendations on how to improve the existing noise ordinance. This group met several times and provided feedback.

A sub-group of this working group continued to meet outside of the original group and compiled their recommendations into a list of 7 essentials suggestions for improvement to address weak points within the current noise ordinance. In January of this year, the FMIA Board reviewed, discussed and voted (5-3) to support what is now called the [7 Essential Items To Make The Noise Ordinance Fair & Functional](#).

This list of suggestions as well as any other suggestions on this topic are not intended to be the actual text of any ordinance but rather a starting point for the public discussion of all stakeholders as any changes to any ordinance require public input by right.

In June of this year, the FMIA Board was presented with an addendum to the original list. The addendum (also called version 2 of the list), proposed by Cmbr. Cantrell, added the words "or amplified sound" after live entertainment. The board voted 5-4 to not support the addendum to the list as it would have included any establishments with amplified sound regardless of their live entertainment status. FMIA's affirmative support for the original list is unchanged.

Hannah Kreiger-Benson, a representative of the Musician and Cultural Coalition of New Orleans (MaCCNO), came to our June board meeting to discuss their comments about the list. The FMIA Board responded to MaCCNO on July 2nd in a letter that stated among other things that, "The FMIA does not see this process as one side being right and the other wrong. Within the Faubourg Marigny community we are fortunate to have active musicians, bar and club owners, as well as passionate residents. ...we do not feel that it would be necessarily impossible for us to support another set of recommendation[s] on the noise issue. In fact, it is our understanding that the list of 7 Essentials is just [a] set of recommendation that is not set in stone and could certainly be improved."