



City Council Memorandum

To: Mayor Fasbender & City Council Members
From: Ryan Stempski – Public Works Director/City Engineer
Date: March 30, 2023
Item: Approve a Resolution Confirming that the City will Enforce Vehicle Noise Laws Along TH 316

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

Council is requested to adopt the attached resolution to enforce vehicle noise laws and pay for MnDOT to install a sign to that effect along TH 316.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The City has received several complaints regarding engine braking noise from vehicles traveling along TH 316 that are slowing down to navigate the recently installed improvements near City limits. Regulatory signs, such as the “Vehicle Noise Laws Enforced” sign shall be used to inform road users of selected traffic laws or regulations and indicate the applicability of the legal requirements. If someone were to exceed the noise limits set by Minnesota Statutes, whether by not having a muffler or by using an engine brake, it would then be enforceable by law enforcement. Keep in mind, these Statutes are enforceable with or without a sign.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Once we send the resolution to MnDOT, they will determine the location of the sign and prepare a work order to have the sign fabricated and installed (when MnDOT crews are available). We anticipate these costs to be \$1,500 and fall within our routine street sign maintenance budget for 2023.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff is recommending that the City Council move forward in adopting the attached resolution to confirm the City will enforce vehicle noise laws along TH 316, so that a sign to inform vehicles can be installed.

RESOLUTION 04 - - 23

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THAT THE CITY OF HASTINGS WILL ENFORCE
VEHICLE NOISE LAWS ALONG TRUNK HIGHWAY 316**

Whereas, Trunk Highway 316 is a major roadway through the City of Hastings, that crosses many different types of zoning districts, including residential and commercial; and

Whereas, the City Council finds that in order to protect the public health, safety and general welfare of the community, signs that indicate the City will enforce vehicle noise laws on this highway would be beneficial to educate and inform the drivers who travel this highway; and

Whereas, “vehicle noise laws enforced” signs are permitted on conventional highways, such as Trunk Highway 316 with the permission of the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT); and

Whereas, MNDOT has evaluated Trunk Highway 316 and determined that there is space to place such noise enforcement signs along this highway; and

Whereas, prior to installing such noise enforcement signs, MNDOT requires the City Council to pass a resolution stating it will enforce Minnesota Statute, Section 169.69 (Muffler) and Minnesota Statute, Section 169.693 (Motor Vehicle Noise Limits); and

Whereas, the City understands that it will be required to pay for the cost of the fabrication and installation of such vehicle noise enforcement signs.

Now therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Hastings as follows:

1. The City of Hastings, through its Police Department, will enforce Minnesota Statute, Section 169.69 (Muffler) and Minnesota Statute, Section 169.693 (Motor Vehicle Noise Limits) along Trunk Highway 316; and
2. The City will pay for the cost of the fabrication and installation of such vehicle noise enforcement signs installed by MNDOT.

Passed this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Mary Fasbender, Mayor

Attest:

Kelly Murtaugh, City Clerk