

Councillor Martin - MoN - Report Vehicle Excessive Noise Detection

Tuesday, 25 August 2026
Council

Council Member
Councillor Phillip Martin

Public

Contact Officer:
Jo Podoliak, Director City
Community

MOTION ON NOTICE

Councillor Phillip Martin will move a motion and seek a seconder for the matter shown below to facilitate consideration by the Council:

'That Council;

Asks the Administration to investigate and to report to Council in November, 2026 on the introduction of Noise Detection Equipment coupled with fixed cameras that could detect breaches of legislated standards for vehicle noise emissions in South Australia to tackle reported adverse levels of vehicle noise on streets within the City and North Adelaide, including O'Connell Street. The report would ideally include feedback from SAPOL.'

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

1. Council has limited authority to enforce vehicle noise emission standards against vehicles travelling on public roads.
 - 1.1. Noise from vehicles travelling on public roads is specifically excluded from being a local nuisance under the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*, except in limited circumstances.
 - 1.2. Excessive vehicular noise on O'Connell St would not fall into these limited circumstances
 - 1.3. Council does not have legislative authority under the local nuisance framework to issue penalties for breaches of State vehicle noise emission standards.
2. Vehicle noise emission standards are regulated through State road traffic and vehicle standards legislation administered by SAPOL and the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.
 - 2.1. Council is a supporting agency with vehicle noise enforcement schemes led by State Government agencies.
3. Should Council resolve to support the proposed motion, Administration will investigate potential risks and benefits of introducing noise detection technology within its jurisdiction, with a report to be provided to Council in November 2026.

Should the proposed motion be supported by Council, the following implications of this motion should be considered. Note any costs provided are estimates only – no quotes or prices have been obtained:

Public consultation	Not applicable.
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External consultant advice	Council would require external consultant feedback for expert advice on noise monitoring and fixed camera technology to inform the report.
Legal advice / litigation (eg contract breach)	Legal advice will be sought if this Motion progresses.
Impacts on existing projects	Not applicable.
Budget reallocation	Budget reallocation would be required in future stages of this project, if it progresses following a report to Council in November 2026.
Capital investment	Not applicable.
Staff time in preparing the workshop / report requested in the motion	Approximately 35 hours of staff time would be required to prepare the report requested in the motion.
Other	Not applicable.
Staff time in receiving and preparing this administration comment	To prepare this administration comment in response to the motion on notice took approximately 5.5 hours.

- END OF REPORT -