

Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Walden Neighborhood Association

Subject: Commercial Sound and Entertainment Policy for Mixed-Use Districts

Date of Adoption: [August 27, 2026]

WHEREAS, the Walden Neighborhood Association ("Association") is dedicated to promoting a vibrant, successful, and harmonious mixed-use community that supports local downtown businesses while protecting the peaceful enjoyment of residential owners and tenants; and

WHEREAS, the Association recognizes that outdoor music and ambient sound contribute positively to the downtown dining and shopping experience when balanced with the comfort of neighboring residents; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has the authority to adopt reasonable rules and regulations regarding the use of common areas and the general welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to establish a consistent, fair, and friendly community standard for outdoor commercial music that aligns with the practices of existing downtown businesses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors adopts the following Commercial Sound Standards:

1. **Permitted Hours for Outdoor Music:** To maintain a predictable and peaceful environment for residents living in adjacent or overhead units, commercial entities within Walden utilizing outdoor speakers or ambient music shall limit outdoor audio broadcasting to the following peak operational hours:
 - **Daily:** Not to exceed a total of 4 hours a day, not past 8:00pm e.s.t.
2. **Volume and "Background Noise" Standard:** Outdoor music is intended to enhance the immediate street-level experience as "background sound."
 - At no time should the volume level be elevated to a point where it can be clearly heard inside closed residential units directly above or adjacent to the commercial space.
 - If a resident can clearly identify the lyrics or distinct melody of a song from inside their home with windows closed, the volume shall be deemed exceeding the background noise standard and should be lowered.
3. **Inclement Weather Courtesy:** In alignment with current practices, commercial owners are encouraged to discontinue outdoor music during periods of heavy rain, unseasonable cold, or times when outdoor foot traffic and patio seating are non-existent.
4. **Spirit of Collaboration:** This resolution is established not as a punitive measure, but to foster mutual respect between our valued downtown businesses and the residents who support them. The Association encourages direct, neighborly communication to resolve minor volume variances amicably.

President

Date Signed:

Secretary