

Paoletti Consulting

dpaoletti88@gmail.com

415-990-5229

13 December 2024

Jeff Burrill jeff.burrill@gmail.com

South Bay CBW Management LLC

1530 The Alameda Suite 300

San Jose, CA 95126

cc Jackson.burrill30@gmail.com

Subject: **Acoustical Report
Camp Bow Wow Dog Kennel
Mountain View, CA**

Dear Jeff,

We have completed the Camp Bow Wow project located at 180 W El Camino Real in Mountain View, California. This report predicts the noise level of the operation of Camp Bow Wow using historical data and measured ambient data. Using this information, interior noise levels were calculated based on the exterior noise exposure and the existing building's façade. This report discusses the results of the analysis.

SUMMARY

In our professional opinion, and the assessment herein, Camp Bow Wow satisfies the noise related goals and objectives of the City of Mountain View.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Camp Bow Wow will be built out in an existing single story retail building (a former paint store). The City of Mountain View has requested an acoustical study to verify that the noise levels from the facility will satisfy the requirements set forth by the City's Noise Ordinance.

Sensitive receptors near the proposed Camp Bow Wow kennel are an O'Reilly Auto Parts store alongside (west), a car dealer parking area behind (north), and two small hotels across Stevens Creek (east). A mobile home park is located across and slightly to the east of El Camino Real.

This study was conducted to determine the impact of the operation of Camp Bow Wow on neighboring properties in Mountain View. We calculated the project's expected operational noise levels at the property lines and at nearby sensitive receptors and compared the levels to the applicable acoustic code requirements of the City of Mountain View.

This project consists of a dog care facility with overnight boarding to be located in an existing 1 story former commercial/retail building. The project is bounded by commercial automotive uses to the north and west, Stevens Creek and two hotels to the east, and El Camino Real to the south. There is a mobile home village across El Camino Real to the south.

The Camp Bow Wow facility located at 180 El Camino Real is a 24-hour dog kennel with both indoor and outdoor areas to house a total of approximately 65 dogs. Normal hours of operation are 7 am to 7 pm. A maximum of 25 dogs can be accommodated in three outdoor fenced holding areas; however, these many dogs will never be in the outdoor holding areas at the same time. Nighttime use of the outdoor areas will be restricted and doors to the outside will be closed. The outdoor areas are expected to be used 1 ½ hr. in the morning and 1 ½ hr. in the afternoon.

The owners are experienced in the operations of dog kennels. They strive to be “good neighbors” and know how to minimize noise and other potential disturbances.

2.0 NOISE CRITERIA

Leq (equivalent continuous sound level) is defined as the steady sound pressure level which, over a given period of time, has the same total energy as the actual fluctuating noise.

LX (Xth percentile sound level) is defined as the sound pressure level over a given period of time in which X% of the time, the fluctuating noise level is above this level.

All reported noise levels are A-weighted.

2.1 Exterior Noise Levels – Residential

The City of Mountain View Noise Element policy NOI 1.6 states that noise impacts on noise-sensitive land uses, such as residential uses, schools, hospitals and child-care facilities, shall be minimized.

The City of Mountain View Code of Ordinances section 5.62 regulates the barking of dogs.

It shall be unlawful for any person to harbor, keep or maintain any dog in the city which disturbs the peace and quiet of one (1) or more persons in the immediate neighborhood by loud barking or making unusual noises. "Loud barking" means barking, howling or baying by day or night continuously and/or incessantly for a period of ten (10) minutes or intermittently for one-half (½) hour or more which creates a noise disturbance across a residential or commercial real property line. "Loud barking" does not mean barking where a dog is in the act of protecting or resisting trespassers upon its premises. The burden of proof of such an act of protection or resistance to trespassers by a dog is upon the person owning, harboring, controlling, maintaining, possessing or having charge of the dog.

The City of Mountain View Code of Ordinances section 36.30.35 regulates the noise of animal service establishments.

Animal service establishments, as defined in Section 36.60.05, shall be allowed in all commercial (CN, CS, CO, CRA) districts and the General Industrial (MM) district and shall require approval of a conditional use permit with consideration of the following:

- a. **Noise and odor.** Businesses caring for animals on-site shall limit noise and odor impacts to neighboring properties and businesses.*
- b. **Shelter and care.** All facilities keeping animals during daytime and/or nighttime shall provide adequate permanent shelter, which is not visible from the public right-of-way, and appropriate care in accordance with Chapter 5 of the City Code.*
- c. **Operational requirements.** All businesses shall operate in accordance with all local, state and federal laws and meet all requirements of Chapter 5 of the City Code.*

The City of Mountain View does not set a specific dBA limit on the sound level of barking dogs.

The City of Mountain View does not define the “Ambient” sound level. We used the median 10-minute L90 over a time period as the ambient sound level.

3.0 EXTERIOR NOISE ENVIRONMENT

3.1 Noise Measurements

We visited the site of the project on Thursday, November 21, 2024, and placed sound level meters on a tree to capture the hourly sound levels on the site for a 16-hour period. We also performed short-term real-time noise measurements. Table 1 and Figure 1 show the location and summary of the noise measurements.

Table 1 – Measured Sound Levels

Location	Measured Daytime Measured	
	Nighttime Ambient Level (dB)	Ambient Level (dB)
L1	56	50
S1	58	---
S2	58	---
S3	59	53

Figure 1 – Aerial View of Project Site Showing Measurement Locations



3.2 Dog Barking

Camp Bow Wow ownership has previously conducted dog noise studies at its other locations.

On November 17, 2008, Acentech completed noise measurements of an interior dog holding area while Camp Bow Wow staff provoked approximately 24 dogs to bark. The measured L1 percentile interior noise level was 102 dBA.

On February 25, 2009, Acentech completed noise measurements of an outdoor play area while Camp Bow Wow staff provoked approximately 24 dogs to bark. The measured L1 percentile exterior noise level at 20 feet away was 73 dBA.

We received and used the site drawings of the Camp Bow Wow renovation program. Figure 2 below shows the building's feature locations relative to the property lines.

We used 92 dBA as the interior noise level of barking dogs after adjusting for room finishes and reverberation time, then calculated the sound level penetrating the exterior façade at various points. This includes a conservative estimate for the existing building constructions including doors and windows.

We used 73 dBA at 20 feet as the exterior noise level at the exterior area.

[illegible]

3.3 Computer Modeling

We utilized the 2023 version of the SoftNoise Predictor-LimA computer modeling program to verify and predict dog noise levels at various locations.

We understand that the dogs at Camp Bow Wow will not be let out into the outdoor play area at night, except when staff accompany a solitary dog to relieve itself. The daytime noise level includes activity in both the indoor dog boarding area and the outdoor play area, while the nighttime noise level only includes activity in the indoor dog boarding area.

Based on the computer model and measurements, we calculated the expected noise levels at different property lines. The predicted sound levels at each property line, shown in Figure 3 and Figure 4, are listed in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Dog Noise Levels

Property Line	Dog Noise Level, Daytime (dB)	Dog Noise + Ambient Level, Daytime (dB)	Dog Noise Level, Nighttime (dB)	Dog Noise + Ambient Level, Nighttime (dB)
Auto Zone (North)	71	71	52	—
O'Reilly's (West)	64	65	48	—
Hotel Zico, Extended Stay America	55	59	35	50

Sahara Mobile Village	43	59	14	53
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Figure 3 – Noise Map – Daytime



Figure 4 – Noise Map – Nighttime



4.0 EXTERIOR NOISE EVALUATION

The City of Mountain View's General Plan and Municipal Code indicate that impacts on noise-sensitive zones shall be minimized. No numerical requirements are given. We used San Francisco Police Code Section 2909 to evaluate the significance of noise generators. The SF Police Code considers a source which increases the noise level to 5 dBA over the ambient to be offensive.

The receptors to the west and north of the proposed Camp Bob Wow facility are both commercial automotive uses with significant amounts of parking, which are not considered sensitive.

Hotel Zico and the Extended Stay America hotel are considered noise sensitive. Dog noise impact is expected to increase the daytime ambient noise level by approximately 3 dBA, which is considered just barely audible but not offensive. The expected dog noise impact will not increase the nighttime ambient noise level. Dog barks may be barely audible to hotel guests outside the hotel facilities but will not be audible inside guestrooms.

The Sahara Mobile Village to the project south is also considered noise-sensitive. The expected dog noise impact will not increase the daytime or nighttime ambient noise levels. Dog barks will not be audible over noise from El Camino Real and other ambient sources.

5.0 SUMMARY

The following summarizes the acoustical items required to satisfy the noise criteria as described in this report. We note that these conclusions are based on data of barking dogs that were provoked to create barking. This should be considered a conservative assessment based on these provoked conditions.

Residential

- Dog activity to the hotels to the east may be barely audible at times, but not offensive during the daytime, if dogs are barking, and may be barely audible during the nighttime, if any dogs are barking.
- Dog activity to the mobile home park to the south will be inaudible.

Non-Residential

- Dog activity to the nonresidential building receptors to the west and north will be audible, if and when dogs may be barking. However, both nonresidential receptors are commercial automotive uses with significant amounts of parking surrounding the buildings. These operations are not considered noise sensitive, especially since they only function during normal business hours and do not operate into the evening hours.

Our professional opinion is that Camp Bow Wow satisfies the goals and objectives of the City of Mountain View.

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions

Sincerely yours,



Dennis A Paoletti FASA FAIA

Paoletti Consulting

dpaoletti88@gmail.com

415-990-5229

13 February 2024

Jeff Burrill jeff.burrill@gmail.com

South Bay CBW Management LLC

1530 The Alameda Suite 300

San Jose, CA 95126

cc Jackson.burrill30@gmail.com

Subject: **Acoustical Report - Addendum
Camp Bow Wow Dog Kennel
Mountain View, CA**

Dear Jeff,

City of Mountain View review/request:

Noise Study: The [General Plan](#) Noise Element outlines Outdoor Noise Environment Guidelines in Table 7.1 (p. 171). Please append this table to the Acoustical Report. In addition, add some discussion to the "Exterior Noise Evaluation" (Section 4.0 on p. 7) that elaborates on how the project noise at the measured locations will adhere to the Day/Night Average Noise Levels (Ldn) that are included in the table as "Normally Acceptable".

Paoletti response:

The following is our response based on input from the owners/operators of the Camp Bow Wow facilities and our calculation of the DNL (Day/Night noise levels of the barking dogs:

Table 7.1 in the general plan, reproduced in Figure 1 below, indicates the Normally Acceptable, Conditionally Acceptable, and Unacceptable 24-hour noise levels (DNL, Ldn) that determine whether a new land use will be exposed to excessive noise levels. We understand that the City of Mountain View also uses the table to determine whether a new land use creates excessive noise levels as well.

Camp Bow Wow Dog Noise Levels

Table 2 – Dog Noise Levels Property Line	Dog Noise Level, Daytime (dB)	Dog Noise + Ambient Level, Daytime (dB)	Dog Noise Level, Nighttime (dB)	Dog Noise + Ambient Level, Nighttime (dB)	Dog Noise DNL (dB)
Auto Zone (North)	71	71	52	—	64
O'Reilly's (West)	64	65	48	—	62
Hotel Zico, Extended Stay America	55	59	35	50	48
Sahara Mobile Village	43	59	14	53	36





Table 7.1 in the city's General Plan, reproduced in Figure 1 below, indicates the Normally Acceptable, Conditionally Acceptable, and Unacceptable 24-hour noise levels (DNL, Ldn) that determines whether a new land use will be exposed to excessive noise levels. We understand that the City of Mountain View also uses the table to determine whether a new land use creates excessive noise levels as well.

The table indicates that 55 dBA DNL is normally acceptable for the mobile home village, 60 dBA DNL is normally acceptable for the hotels, and 67 dBA DNL is normally acceptable for the commercial buildings.

Camp Bow Wow dog activity meets the “Normally Acceptable” DNL level at all residential and nonresidential receptors.

Figure 1 General Plan Table 7.1

Table 7.1 Outdoor Noise Environment Guidelines							
Land Use Category	Community Noise Exposure in Decibels (CNEL) Day/Night Average Noise Level in Decibels (Ldn)						
	55	60	65	70	75	80	85
Residential—Single-Family, Duplex, Mobile Homes	Normally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Normally Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable
Residential—Multi-Family Transient Lodging—Motels, Hotels	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Normally Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable
Schools, Libraries, Churches, Hospitals, Nursing Homes	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Normally Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable
Auditoriums, Concert Halls, Amphitheaters, Sports Arenas, Outdoor Spectator Sports	Conditionally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Clearly Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable
Playgrounds, Neighborhood Parks	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Normally Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable
Golf Courses, Riding Stables, Water Recreation, Cemeteries	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Normally Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable
Office Buildings, Business Commercial and Professional	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Normally Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable
Industrial, Manufacturing, Utilities, Agriculture	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Normally Acceptable	Conditionally Acceptable	Clearly Unacceptable	Clearly Unacceptable

	NORMALLY ACCEPTABLE Specified land use is satisfactory, based upon the assumption that any buildings involved are of normal conventional construction, without any special noise insulation requirements.		NORMALLY UNACCEPTABLE New construction or development should be discouraged. If new construction or development does proceed, a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements must be made and needed noise insulation features included in the design.
	CONDITIONALLY ACCEPTABLE New construction or development should be undertaken only after a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements is made and needed noise insulation features included in the design.		CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE New construction or development clearly should not be undertaken.