



June 27, 2016

Tim Beinke
Berkeley Honda
2627 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94704

Subject: Berkeley Zoning Adjustment Board (ZAB) Noise Comments

Dear Mr. Beinke:

j.c. brennan & associates, Inc. has reviewed comments provided to us regarding the potential for noise disturbances associated with the proposed project. It is our understanding that noise from nighttime deliveries, service center activity, and mechanical equipment noise are the main areas of concern. j.c. brennan & associates, Inc. conducted an environmental noise assessment for this project dated May 13, 2016. This study was performed according to industry standards and practices uses data collected from the existing Berkeley Honda facility. The following provides some additional context relating to the potential for noise disturbances and is based on data presented in the noise study as well as new information for the proposed building mechanical equipment.

Delivery Noise

The noise study calculated delivery noise as potentially generating 33 dB L₅₀ (median) and 47 dB L_{max} (maximum) at the nearest residential uses. These noise levels are 12 dB L₅₀ and 18 dB L_{max} less than the City's Noise Ordinance standards during nighttime hours. This means that project noise levels are predicted to be more than half as loud as that allowed under the City's ordinance.

It should be noted that based on our observations of delivery activities at the existing Berkeley Honda facility, backup alarms were not noted to be a substantial component of delivery noise. Delivery noise was generally observed to blend in with the ambient noise environment and is very unlikely to cause disturbance to the adjacent residential uses.

Service Center Noise

The proposed service center noise would be contained within a masonry wall building with no operable windows or doors which would allow a direct path for noise to leave the facility. The existing three windows facing the south (facing Stuart street) would be modified to include a secondary acoustically-rated window assembly on the interior side of the building. Therefore, service center noise is not predicted to substantially transfer through these existing windows.

The service center door faces away from the closest residential uses any noise leaving the facility in this direction would be substantially masked by traffic noise on Shattuck Drive. Additionally, the service queue driveway adds an additional 120 feet between the exterior door

and the service department. This increased distance would help to buffer noise leaving the facility and was conservatively *not* accounted for in the noise study.

The noise study calculated service center noise as potentially generating 35 dB L₅₀ (median) and 52 dB L_{max} (maximum) at the nearest residential uses. These predicted noise levels are 15 dB L₅₀ and 18 dB L_{max} less than the City's daytime Noise Ordinance standards. The proposed service center is not predicted to operate during nighttime hours. However, even compared to the City's nighttime noise standards, the predicted service center noise levels are 10 dB L₅₀ and 13 dB L_{max} less than the City's Noise Ordinance standards during nighttime hours. This means that project noise levels are predicted to be more than half as loud as that allowed under the City's nighttime Noise Ordinance standards.

Rooftop Mechanical Equipment

The proposed project includes a new rooftop-mounted exhaust ventilation blower. This blower is sized to provide a flow rate of 3,250 CFM with a static pressure of 3.5 inches. The estimated exterior sound level for this blower is 58 dBA L₅₀ and 63 dBA L_{max} at a distance of 20 feet. The exact installation location of the blower has not yet been determined. However, it will be installed near the front of the store, close to Shattuck Avenue, as far away as possible from the nearest residential uses to the east. j.c. brennan & associates, Inc. estimates that the blower would be located 115 feet, or more, from the nearest residential uses to the east. At a distance of 115 feet, the blower noise would be predicted to generate an hourly noise level of 43 dBA L₅₀ and 48 dBA L_{max}. The proposed service center is not predicted to operate during nighttime hours. However, even compared to the City's nighttime noise standards, the predicted service center noise levels are 2 dB L₅₀ and 17 dB L_{max} less than the City's Noise Ordinance standards during nighttime hours.

If you have any questions, please contact me at L.Saxelby@jcbrennanassoc.com.

Respectfully submitted,

j.c. brennan & associates, Inc.



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