



Construction Hours Bylaw

WARRANT COMMITTEE OPEN HEARING - MARCH 18, 2024

Why do we need a construction hours bylaw?

- Influx of persistent complaints from Dover community to Police and Building Inspector regarding excessive outdoor construction noise during off-hours
- Established need for guardrails and penalties
- Aim is for bylaw to serve as deterrent
- Intend to gather and evaluate data on recurring basis to ensure penalties are effective



Proposed bylaw composition

Prohibited Activities

- Outdoor construction
- Operation of equipment utilized for the purpose of building or assembling construction materials, including:
 - Idling trucks
 - Heavy earthmoving equipment
 - Materials handling equipment
 - Logging and land clearing equipment
 - Air compressors
 - Air-actuated nailing guns
 - Circular saws
 - Drills

Exempt Activities

- Indoor construction
- Work performed by property owner at his/her residence
- Emergency work, municipal work or government-authorized construction activities intended to serve public interest

Construction Hours & Fines

Construction Hours

- Monday through Friday, 7 AM - 6 PM
- Saturday, 9 AM - 1 PM
- Sunday, prohibited

Fines

- All fines to be paid by property owner, with enforcement coordinated by Police and Building Inspector
- First violation: \$100
- Second violation: \$200
- Third+ violation: \$300

Many local communities have a construction hours bylaw

	Hours	Fines
Dover (proposed)	7 AM - 6 PM (M-F), 9 AM - 1 PM (SA)	\$100, \$200, \$300
Concord	7 AM - 8 PM (M-SA), 8 AM - 6 PM (SU)	None
Dedham	7 AM - 9 PM	\$100, \$300
Medfield	7 AM - 7 PM	None
Natick	7 AM - 7:30 PM (M-F), 8 AM - 6 PM (SA-SU)	None
Needham	7 AM - 8 PM	\$50
Westwood	7 AM - 7 PM (M-SA), 12 - 7 PM (SU)	\$100, \$200, \$300
Winchester	7 AM - 6 PM (M-F), 9 AM - 5 PM (SA)	\$100, \$200, \$300

Voting implications

Passes by simple majority (>50%)

Dover and its residents are protected by a bylaw that is expected to reduce outdoor construction noise and activity.

Fails to pass by simple majority ($\leq 50\%$)

Dover and its residents may continue to see a rise in incidents of excessive outdoor construction noise and activity, including during off-hours.

Thank you

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS