

Denver Botanic Gardens concerts noise history

Below is a summary of noise issues associated with DBG concerts. (Note: this history is based on a very quick, cursory search of documentation that were easily available. A more exhaustive search would result in many more items.)

- 1994 board of Adjustment for Zoning Appeals states that DBG concerts must comply with City noise ordinances of 55dB.
- 2001 Letter apologizing for excessive noise at a concert. Excessive noise attributed to equipment or personnel problem.
- 2002 NAC large events committee & DBG agree on concert noise mitigation actions (comply with sound level, book less “noisy” artists)
- 2003 Apology for a noisy concert – Excessive noise attributed to un-cooperative artist
- 2004 NAC large events committee letter acknowledging that DBG the 55 dB sound level rule
- 2008 DBG provided concert sound reports – all concerts exceed 55 dB level
- Fall 2008 - Discussions with DBG on better controlling sound levels.
 - DL Adams sound measurement provided showing that sound levels higher on north side than reported by edi.
 - Meeting with Paul Reidsel - Paul states that ordinance sets maximum sound level as 55dB (not the average)
 - Agreement by DBG management to 1) Measure sound levels at sound checks and to measure at more locations 2) to book artists who will be less “noisy” and 3) to better coordinate and reduce sound levels.
 - Request that DBG make a more concerted effort to keep sound levels to a reasonable volume (informal offer to allow sound levels of 60dB – in an effort to help DBG still have concerts – but that are not annoying
- 2009 DBG provided sound averages spreadsheet and detail reports show no improvement in average sound levels. Edi sound reports show that all concerts exceeded 55dB level. All but 1 also exceeded the “informal” offer of 60dB.

A more effective, less re-active method must be found to keep DBG concerts sound levels at a reasonable level!