

Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:05 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Permit

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From: Amanda Alexander [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:31:13 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Permit

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Tantra's Neighbor, Southwest Training  
Amanda Alexander, Owner  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:49 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use permit

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From: Anya Belleville <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:29:29 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use permit

I am a resident of San Marcos and a student at Texas State University, and Tantra's live music nights have been incredibly influential on my life. They have received no complaints or warnings, and consistently give smaller musicians or musical groups a chance to express themselves while remaining within the boundaries of their permit. Please appeal the 60 decibels limitation that the planning an zoning committee is trying to implement and allow a local business to support our city. Thank you  
Sent from my iPhone

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:05 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:02:58 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

San Marcos City Council Members,

My name is Alyssa Long. I was born and raised in San Marcos, Texas in 1994. I went to high school there, and later went on to get my nursing degree from Texas State University. Growing up in this city, going through COVID shutdown and beyond that, Tantra Coffee Shop has always been my favorite place to be in town. I have many core memories that were made there, so many special moments that were shaped by its unique atmosphere. Seeing it close and reopen was heartbreaking and then so joyful at the same time. Bluegrass nights on Wednesdays has been something my heart remembers and has longed for, for over ten years now. It is woven into the colorful fabric of my life, having created so much depth and meaning through experiences I've had there. Tantra truly is a sacred place for me. On Bluegrass nights, I've experienced love, joy, freedom, even seen a dear friend for the last time before she passed. It goes without saying, losing the magic and event of live music in this venue would be devastating to me. It's part of what makes San Marcos home.

I would humbly ask you to please consider honoring this sacred space for all of the people of San Marcos, so that they can continue finding joy and light in the music that is brought here. Let there continue to be core memories in the making, souls in the shaping. Dance and music is such an integral part of being human, it heals our minds, hearts and bodies. Allow for a responsible decibel level limit at Tantra that preserves space for the sacred music that is made here. What is life if not for the glimmers of joy we are able to find amidst the journey.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Alyssa Long

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 1:22 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support for Tantra's Original Conditional Use Permit

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From: Ashley Pillow [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 1:18:12 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Tantra's Original Conditional Use Permit

Good Afternoon,

I am a resident in San Marcos writing this email in support of Tantra in San Marcos. The restrictive decibel limit of 60 for outdoor amplified music is not realistic. I also want to express that I don't see it fair. The noise in and around the San Marcos square is already way above 60 decibels with just the train horns, vehicles, and traffic of people alone. I support Tantra's Original Conditional Use Permit. When we suppress live music we not only hurt small businesses but the people who seek community in our town through gathering for the love of conversation and music. Please consider the voices of our community.

Best Regards,  
Ashley Pillow

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:00 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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From: Alex R [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:43:36 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Alex Robbins  
Mustang Lane  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:59 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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From: Buddy's BBQ & Crepes [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:44:56 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Dont be lame and kill literally the only live music that hosts smaller artists in the entire city. 60db is nothing, the standard is 80-85db at the curb. BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:04 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit



**Joe Pantalion, PE**

Assistant City Manager | City Manager's Office  
630 E Hopkins, San Marcos, TX 78666  
512.393.8106

Please take a moment to complete the City of San Marcos [Customer Satisfaction Survey](#).

This email, plus any attachments, may constitute a public record of the City of San Marcos and may be subject to public disclosure under the [Texas Public Information Act](#).

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:03 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

Dear council members,

I am writing you today in regards to the Conditional Use Permit under review for Tantra Coffee house. I strongly encourage you to default to the original Conditional Use Permit with the allowances set forth within that agreement allowing music until 10:30 at night and decibel ratings up to 85 until 10 PM and 75 for the remaining thirty minutes. I am not aware of any disturbance or complaints during the duration of the former tenure of the last CUP. Tantra Coffee house, as well as it's employees surly benefit from the ability to have live music on site and so does the surrounding community that reside in the neighborhoods nearby such as myself and my family. The economic impact that would cause from not allowing live music at Tantra would also impact the financial gains of the city itself from the taxes of the sales that would otherwise not be seen. Much less, in support of the remaining small home grown business we still have left, I would find it difficult to sleep at night if you were to rule against the ability of our citizens and this business to grow together symbiotically. If you were to silence one of our only sane, family friendly music venues we still have left in town that doesn't cater to only the seasonal college deluge or big dollar box venue pumping out piped in music, you will also silence the voices of the talented singer, songwriters, poets, musicians that are YOUR constituents. At least if I can hear loud music all the way at my house, please let it be the fun, talented, and supported musicians of our community drifting through the trees into my courtyard. Not the outrageous thumping brass band full on marching war football game crap I have to hear every season that seems to be above the requirements of being in compliance of the peaceful repose of our city. Or is that only applicable to small businesses trying their best to survive? What would you do if this were your bread and butter?

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,  
Brett Harris

Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:04 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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From: Beth Hawes [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:30:20 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Please reconsider the excessively restrictive sound levels permitted at Tantra. You've imposed an impossible limit on a popular San Marcos establishment.

Beth Hawes

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:07 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Reduce noise limits for Tantra

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From: Brian Whipp [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:05:15 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reduce noise limits for Tantra

City council of San Marcos,

I am hearing of the potential ending of music at Tantra. I have been there several times for music and as a new resident of this city it has been very helpful for me to meet new people and begin to feel a sense of community. Not only is the music not too loud there, it also does not go too late, and anyone living close enough to that area to even hear the music should be ok with a moderate level of noise considering they would have to be located so close to the center of the downtown. We have other noise issues that are much louder and not a problem like the trains. As a former musician myself I know the db level set for the limit is way too low. I hear it is 60db. It should be 115 or 120.

Please consider changes to the policy as this place is a great spot for community gathering and a great attraction for this town.

**Brian Whipp**  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:53 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Conditional Use Permit for Tantra

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From: Christina Ausmus [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:50:11 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Conditional Use Permit for Tantra

I've just heard the news that Tantra is at risk of losing their conditional use permit that allows them to have live music performances. If this happens it would be a major blow to the community. Losing Tantra as a place for locals to come together and enjoy local music would set a heartbreaking precedent for the future of San Marcos. People live here for a reason, and restricting the things that make San Marcos so special is a slap in the face to the entire community. San Marcos has always been a place for artists and keeping that alive should be a top priority.

Denying us this small pleasure seems cruel and unnecessary, and I sincerely hope you reconsider. George Strait would be incredibly disappointed.

Concerned Resident,  
Christina Ausmus

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:25 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Live Music at Tantra



**Joe Pantalion, PE**

Assistant City Manager | City Manager's Office  
630 E Hopkins, San Marcos, TX 78666  
512.393.8106

Please take a moment to complete the City of San Marcos [Customer Satisfaction Survey](#).

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**From:** Cassidy Holechek [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:24 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Live Music at Tantra

Dear council members,

My name is Cassidy Holechek, and I grew up and went to college in San Marcos. Tantra's live music has been one of the things about San Marcos that I hold nearest and dearest, along with our river and historic downtown.

Bluegrass nights are where my fiancé and I went on some of our first dates. Before that, it's where I went with my friends in college, and before that, in high school. Its one of the most beautiful things that San Marcos has to offer. Taking away their ability to have live music by restricting them to a lower decibel level than even the street noise makes would be a crime against the culture and art that makes our city so special.

I understand that there are residences nearby, but certainly there can be a reasonable decibel level agreed on. I think that to live in San Marcos is to love places like Tantra. Please don't take away this special part of our city.

Best,  
Cassidy Holechek

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:22 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

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From: Chelsea James [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:19:37 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>; Hughson, Jane <JHughson@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

Dear San Marcos City Council Members,

I am writing to express my support for Tantra in their request to renew their original Conditional Use Permit (CUP), which allows live music until 10:30 PM, within the parameters of the local sound ordinance. The original permit aligns with the sound ordinance of maintaining 85 decibels before 10:00 PM and 75 decibels afterward, which thoughtfully balances community engagement and noise considerations.

Tantra is more than just a coffeehouse; it's a cornerstone of the San Marcos community, fostering connection and creative expression. It's also one of the few family-friendly live music venues remaining. The live music offerings provide a cultural and social benefit to both residents and visitors, enriching the city's character. The team at Tantra has consistently shown respect for neighborhood concerns and has abided by the sound regulations stipulated in the initial CUP. By restoring this permit, the council will support a beloved establishment that prioritizes both community spirit and adherence to city ordinances.

Thank you for considering this request to grant Tantra their original CUP. I believe this decision will positively impact our community, allowing Tantra to continue its role as a safe and vibrant gathering space.

Best regards,

Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:55 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra San Marcos

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From: Chloe Lawrence [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:53:54 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra San Marcos

Please allow Tantra coffee shop to continue to be a local live music hub. It is important for both the arts community and the community as a whole to have this space. They have created a community for not only locals but local families. This space is wildly important to so many and not many places feature the music they do. This would be a huge loss to downtown San Marcos night life.

**Chloe Lawrence**  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:45 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] In support of Tantra Coffee

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From: Camille Schmitz [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:31:23 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of Tantra Coffee

Dear council members,

I'm writing in support of Tantra Coffee House. Tantra is one of the best places left in San Marcos - great coffee, legendary shows, and a wonderful community of people can all be found there. I used to work there as a barista and also lived directly across the street at the Crystal River Inn. Never once was I bothered by the noise level from Tantra! I used to love sitting outside on the porch and enjoying the distant sounds of live music. When Tantra shut down during the pandemic, I hoped and prayed it would someday reopen better than ever - and then, it did!

**The decibel requirement is far too severe - the road noise alone exceeds this requirement!**

Coffee shops do not earn much revenue from daytime coffee sales, so I'm sure Tantra needs live shows to survive. **But more importantly, we need music to bring us together - these days, more than ever.** Please do not let this local legend die with the other small businesses that have been hit by gentrification.

Thank you for your time and service to our community.

Camille

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:14 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Please allow Conditional Use Permit at Tantra

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From: Claudia [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:12:52 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please allow Conditional Use Permit at Tantra

Good Morning,

My fellow community members and myself have received word that one of our treasured local businesses, Tantra could be at risk to keep it's doors open.

My name is Claudia Zertuche and I am an educator in HaysCISD. I have lived in the community for 20 years and love nothing more than our beautiful San Marcos Paradise. One of the major draws to purchasing a home in Hays County is our amazing community and all it has to offer. This includes our local spots that facilitate community, laughter, food and so importantly, live local music and art. One of the very unique and special aspects of San Marcos is our vibrant arts and music scene. Please continue to allow Tantra to offer live music through the Conditional Use Permit.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM

I thank you so very much for your time,

Claudia Zertuche

[833 S. Loop st.](#)

[San Marcos, Tx 78666](#)

[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:00 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Please allow Conditional Use Permit at Tantra

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From: Claudia Zertuche [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:09:12 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please allow Conditional Use Permit at Tantra

Hello and good day,

My name is Claudia Zertuche and I am an educator in HaysCISD. I have lived in the community for 20 years and love nothing more than our beautiful San Marcos Paradise. One of the draws to me purchasing a home is our amazing community and all it has to offer. This includes our local spots that facilitate community, laughter, food and so importantly, live local music and art. One of the very unique and special aspects of San Marcos is our vibrant arts and music scene. Please continue to allow Tantra to offer live music through the Conditional Use Permit.

I thank you so very much for your time,  
Claudia Zertuche  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:08 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra's Permit

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From: Dan Wolff [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:06:46 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra's Permit

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

--

Dan Wolff  
Artist  
1412 Schulle Dr.  
San Marcos, TX 78666  
[REDACTED]

Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:59 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra's Conditional Use Permit

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From: Ethan Eufrazio [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:58:39 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra's Conditional Use Permit

Good afternoon y'all,

I am a soon-to-be resident in San Marcos, coming from north Austin, in hopes of becoming a student at Texas State University. I visit San Marcos often because the atmosphere is still vibrant yet the pace of life is a lot more steady--which I fell in love with. Of course, I stopped for some live music and I was lucky to have found a little coffee shop called Tantra. The bluegrass jam I stumbled upon touched me in some way, so now I try to go every Wednesday; I even started practicing the banjo myself. It makes me feel a sense of community in this beautiful town I want to call home.

Besides the point, I am taking the time out of my work break to write this email for the San Marcos City Council members to not reduce the decibel limit to 60 decibels for outdoor amplified music. All we are asking is to proceed with the original Conditional Use Permit y'all enforced on Tantra previously: 85 decibels before 10:00 and 75 decibels after 10:00, with music until 10:30. The town losing something that has brought so many people together while creating a safe space for all to enjoy some live music, is not the San Marcos I want to live in. Thank y'all for the time and consideration.

--

All the best,  
Ethan Eufrazio

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:06 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Sound Limit

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From: Erica Huber [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:03:44 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Sound Limit

I hope you're having a good morning.

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. It is somewhere I enjoy visiting as a native San Martian. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,  
Erica Huber  
110 crest dr  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:11 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra sound ordinance - Music is important!

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From: Emily McCuiston [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:09:23 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra sound ordinance - Music is important!

Good afternoon Council Members,

I understand that there has been a complaint from someone in the community about the music at Tantra, and that as a result the city is considering imposing a sound ordinance of 60 decibels on the cafe. As you have been made aware, the road noise alone on Hopkins is louder than 60 decibels- I was at Tantra when the owner was measuring it, and saw the readout with my own eyes. As a middle-aged resident of San Marcos, Tantra is the only music establishment I frequent. There are dozens of sticky, cheap bars that cater to college students, but not many places for the rest of us to go out at night, and one of very few venues in town to enjoy original live music. It is an essential community building place in our town, and has a legacy of being so that spans back years to its prior ownership. Too boot, I appreciate that Tantra, as a cafe, offers many nonalcoholic options and food. Its a family-friendly place for people to gather and celebrate the art and music of our community. Please support this small business by doing away with the 60 decibel noise ordinance! Support the arts!

Thank you,  
Emily McCuiston

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 12:56 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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From: Emily Mullan [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 12:55:10 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Emily Mullan  
336 Trestle Tree San Marcos

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:52 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

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From: Fawn Gregg [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:32:49 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

To Whom It May Concern,

Tantra serves as a bastion for many in our beautiful river city. It's a space of joyous gathering where you'll find toddlers and elders alike dancing to our local artists and creating treasured memories. Please allow us to continue to gather and enjoy music as a community in this lovely, safe space. Isolation breeds depression and social ills, and many in our small town rely especially on Tantra for their weekly uplift and connection. The music means so much to so many, and I hope the original permitted allowance of music until 10:30pm can continue.

If there were a poll for the pulse of the community, I truly believe the joy this space brings would far outweigh any potential complaint received.

I hope there is a way forward that honors all involved.

Thank you,

Fawn Gregg

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:13 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] keep tantra's original conditional use permit!

-----Original Message-----

From: Grace Garrison-Tate [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:11 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] keep tantra's original conditional use permit!

Hi,

Tantra's music is vital to the San Marcos community. It brings together families, locals, and students. Their live music is one of the few spots that everyone is comfortable and excited to gather. It's the first place i've felt a sense of community in the neighborhood since covid. On top of that, these music nights are when the staff make their tips- eliminating music would be detrimental to their pay. Keep the original permit! If you have any questions, let me know.

Best ,  
Grace

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:33 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Support for Tantra's Conditional Use Permit Appeal

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From: Hannah Baratang [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:02:19 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Tantra's Conditional Use Permit Appeal

Dear San Marcos City Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for Tantra's appeal regarding their Conditional Use Permit, which will be heard on November 19.

Tantra has been a cherished space in our community, fostering connection, creativity, and a welcoming environment for families and music enthusiasts alike. Since reopening, they have gone above and beyond to adhere to sound ordinances and maintain positive relationships with the community and local authorities. Notably, they have received no warnings or citations for noise violations.

However, the recent restriction imposed by the Planning and Zoning Committee—a 60-decibel limit for outdoor amplified music—is incredibly prohibitive and impractical. As measured on November 12, road noise at Tantra's property line alone reached 76 decibels. A 60-decibel limit is equivalent to the sound of a normal conversation and effectively makes live music, a core part of Tantra's offerings, unfeasible.

I urge the council to restore Tantra's original Conditional Use Permit, which reasonably allows music until 10:30 PM and adheres to sound ordinances of 85 decibels before 10:00 PM and 75 decibels after. These limits strike a fair balance between supporting local businesses and respecting the surrounding community.

Tantra has consistently proven its commitment to being a positive, family-friendly gathering space in San Marcos. By supporting their appeal, you are helping to preserve the vibrant culture and community spirit that makes our city unique.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope to see Tantra continue to thrive as a cornerstone of our community.

Sincerely,  
Hannah Baratang

Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:45 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Coffee + Bar

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---

From: Hunter Taylor [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:27:59 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Coffee + Bar

Hi there -

I want to write to express my strongest support for Tantra. I understand that there are new city ordinances coming into play that would severely limit the ability for Tantra to host live music.

I understand that sound ordinances are important for keeping San Marcos a family friendly place - but I also think the live music scene in San Marcos is one of its best features. Tantra plays a huge role in this.

I hope the city would either lighten the sound ordinances to continue to allow Tantra to feature live music or would exempt Tantra from this rule.

Thanks,

Hunter, San Marcos Resident

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:04 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra's permit

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From: Jessica Allen [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:00:22 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra's permit

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Jessica Allen  
1412 Schulle Dr.  
San Marcos, TX 78666  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:44 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Protect Our Music Culture & Tantras!

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From: Julian [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:26:17 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Protect Our Music Culture & Tantras!

Good evening,

As a sophomore student here at Texas state university and someone who calls San Marcos their home, living here with my brother, we have come to love the community within San Marcos for its inclusivity and amazing culture here of music and entertainment that allows individuals to be themselves and the community to come together. Tantra's has been one of my favorite spots to go to since moving to San Marcos and the music events that they put on at the venue has been absolutely amazing to see every single time. As an inspiring artist, seeing the community be able to practice music and come together for music events around the city and particularly at Tantra's has made my experience here one that is unforgettable and truly unique. I really hope to continue to be able to enjoy the unique culture and environment that San Marcos brings and be able to see all the amazing musicians who call San Marcos home perform live without having fear of their community hot spots being shut down in the future for a few hours of "noisy" music. I understand that the city has their rules and makes certain decisions based off the betterment of the entire community, but I do not believe limiting Tantra's ability to perform or host events is at all the way in which we as a community should be going about things. Thank you for your time and consideration into reading this email, and if you have any other questions, comments, or concerns, please reach out!

Sincerely,  
Julian Mahoney

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:06 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Conditional Zoning Permit Support

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From: Jay [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:05:09 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Conditional Zoning Permit Support

Hello,

As a San Marcos resident from Austin, I believe that live music truly makes San Marcos so memorable and enjoyable. Being able to walk around downtown San Marcos and hear the sound of my community making music always fills me with a sense of pride. It is for this reason that i'm writing in support of Tantra's request for a Conditional Use Permit. Tantra is a staple in the music scene and has hosted many local bands within its doors, some of them dear friends of mine. Please don't allow an important venue to shut its doors to our community.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I hope you'll consider the importance of the arts in our little town.

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:21 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

-----Original Message-----

From: jacob olson [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:18 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

Hello,

As a long time resident of San Marcos, and as someone who lives a block away from Tantra, I strongly urge you all to give them their original conditional use permit which allows live music to 10:30 pm and a decibel limit of 85 db before 10 pm and 75 db after 10 pm. There are very few places left in town where one can enjoy live music, and Tantra has been a hotspot for music and culture since it's been around. Like I stated earlier, I live a literal city block away from Tantra, and have never had a problem with the noise being too much. People's trucks and constant train noise are more of nuisances than Tantra. Please don't take away one of the last havens for local music, we as a city would be worse off without it.

Jake Olson

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 8:48 AM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Tantra's Conditional Use Permit



**Joe Pantalion, PE**

Assistant City Manager | City Manager's Office  
630 E Hopkins, San Marcos, TX 78666  
512.393.8106

Please take a moment to complete the City of San Marcos [Customer Satisfaction Survey](#).

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**From:** Jehnny Oh [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 8:12 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra's Conditional Use Permit

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt an incredibly harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they continually have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Oswald Kneese  
548 Wilshire Rd

## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:29 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Noise Permit



**Joe Pantalion, PE**

Assistant City Manager | City Manager's Office  
630 E Hopkins, San Marcos, TX 78666  
512.393.8106

Please take a moment to complete the City of San Marcos [Customer Satisfaction Survey](#).

This email, plus any attachments, may constitute a public record of the City of San Marcos and may be subject to public disclosure under the [Texas Public Information Act](#).

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**From:** Jackson Reams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:28 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Noise Permit

Please update your expectations to conform with a reasonable standard decibel level.

You stupid fuckers.

Yours,  
Jack

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:49 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra conditional use permit

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From: Kim Blackson [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:44:01 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Cc: Hughson, Jane <JHughson@sanmarcostx.gov>; mmendoza@sanmarcostx.gov <mmendoza@sanmarcostx.gov>; Garza, Alyssa <AGarza@sanmarcostx.gov>; Prather, Jude <JPrather@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra conditional use permit

Dear San Marcos Council Members,

I am writing to appeal to you all - Please do Not destroy a community icon and local business on the busy part of Hopkins Street by failing to reinstate Tantra's original Conditional Use Permit for music.

Tantra has received Zero warnings or citations for noise since they have reopened. Tantra has followed protocol with police to be sure their permit stands. Why would they work against themselves?

With a busy street and busy HEB across the street, how can any decibel counter be accurate at the curb?

Is the city working against local businesses?

I am appealing to you to reinstate the Conditional Use Permit allowing them to stay in business.

Tantra has been a positive space for the San Marcos community. A long-time favorite spot for local music, and a valuable business. My children have teenage memories of music there and still participate as productive adults in the city.

I ask that you do the right thing for our local, long-standing, memorable business and reinstate their original permit.

As a citizen and voter registered in the City of San Marcos, I respectfully submit my voice.

Kim B. Clogston  
808 W. Bluebonnet Dr.  
[REDACTED]

Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:00 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] In support of Tantra

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From: Lise Byars George [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:23:35 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of Tantra

Dear members of the San Marcos City Council:

I am writing in support of Tantra. Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

However, last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. They are a vital part of what makes San Marcos unique. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Lise Byars George  
1401 Highland Dr., San Marcos  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my mobile, please excuse any errors.

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:59 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

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From: Laila Khorrami [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:56:52 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you as a homeowner, community member, and former student at Texas State. I have resided in San Marcos since 2010 and I have always found Tantra to be a staple of our community. As a family friendly place to gather that serves both food and drinks, it provides a space for those who may not enjoy your typical bar scene to enjoy gathering, and, most importantly-live music.

I am incredibly disappointed at the restrictive decibel limit and urge you to approve their Conditional Use Permit. Please don't take away such a wholesome gathering place. Tantra brings people from outside towns to recognize and enjoy our beautiful city. Even my parents from Houston love it!

Kindly,  
Laila Khorrami

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 1:13 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra community necessity and support to appeal sound ordinance

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From: Laney Lyle [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 1:06:34 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra community necessity and support to appeal sound ordinance

Council Members—

My letter of support for Tantra's appeal to the adjustment of their sound ordinance to be moved to 60 decibels is below. Prior to that I would just like to state that Tantra has been a San Marcos institution longer than the 12 years I have lived here, and has had many forms of ownership/management. The re-opening of Tantra under a new owner/management should receive a clean slate and should not be held to past issues from the city due to previous owners. That being said, Tantra is important to a community in San Marcos that is not represented AT ALL on the current council, and I mean a Youthful community. Live music in San Marcos is important to us as well as Freedom of Speech, and there are many opportunities for family friendly activities all around the downtown area as it is. As a 30 year old living in San Marcos, Tantra is an important social and community business, they support other local businesses, artists, river organizations, etc.

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Laney Lyle  
900 FM 32, San Marcos, Tx

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:04 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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From: Lindsey Mahoney [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:56:02 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Dear City Council,

I am writing to express my support for allowing Tantra to continue hosting live music events. As a beloved venue in our community, Tantra has brought people together, supported local musicians, and enriched our cultural landscape. Losing live music here would be a significant loss for residents and local artists alike.

Tantra is more than just a venue – it's a gathering space where people from all walks of life come to connect and enjoy our community's creativity. By supporting live music at Tantra, we are supporting our local economy, enhancing our town's cultural appeal, and providing artists a place to share their talent. Thank you for considering the community's needs and the positive impact Tantra brings. I hope you will support this treasured venue in preserving its ability to offer live music for our residents.

Best Regards,

Lindsey Mahoney

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:05 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Protect Something Uniquely San Marcos – Support Tantra’s Appeal

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From: Miguel Arredondo [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:23:35 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Protect Something Uniquely San Marcos – Support Tantra’s Appeal

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I’m writing to ask for your support of Tantra’s appeal and to advocate for their reinstated Conditional Use Permit. As someone who values our small business community and the unique character of San Marcos, I urge you to stand with Tantra, a space that has long been a cultural hub and gathering place for our city.

Last month, the Planning and Zoning Committee set an extremely restrictive decibel limit of 60 for Tantra’s outdoor amplified music, a limit so low that it is equivalent to a normal conversation. This effectively prevents Tantra from hosting live music and operating as an outdoor gathering space. For context, at a recent measurement on Tuesday (11/12), normal road noise at Tantra’s property line was recorded at 76 decibels. This restriction goes well beyond what’s reasonable and places an unfair burden on Tantra, a business that has received zero warnings or citations for noise since reopening. They have even worked closely with local police to ensure full compliance with the current sound ordinance and permit conditions.

I am urging you to reinstate Tantra’s original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30 PM, with the sound ordinance limits of 85 decibels before 10:00 PM and 75 decibels afterward. Tantra has proven to be a family-friendly, positive space and a beloved venue for live music and community events. Without the ability to offer live music, their future and ability to contribute to San Marcos’ culture are at risk.

Please consider the importance of supporting a space that is truly unique to San Marcos. If we say we love San Marcos and its culture, it’s essential to support places like Tantra that embody the spirit of our city. I ask you to vote in favor of reinstating their original permit.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,  
Juan Miguel Arredondo  
200 Patricia Dr.

Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 1:23 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Preserve the ONLY family-friendly outdoor music venue in SMTX

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---

From: Melody Rose Cuny [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 1:06:38 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Preserve the ONLY family-friendly outdoor music venue in SMTX

Esteemed Council Members—

I am writing in support of local live music and the only year-round outdoor music venue open to families in San Marcos.

We recently celebrated my daughter's 6th birthday dancing the night away at her favorite local venue - Tantra Coffeehouse.

On a Saturday night, it was PACKED with dozens of families with young children having the time of their lives! And, we didn't even invite them! (see below )



Tantra Coffeehouse has built and maintained a reputation as a good neighbor and a safe community hub for nearly 20 years. They bring fresh artistic talent to our community served alongside a innovative nourishing foods, craft adult beverages, and, of course, reliable quality caffeineation.

Last month, the San Marcos Planning and Zoning Committee issued a *prohibitively restrictive 60 decibel limit for outdoor amplified music* under Tantra Coffeehouse's Conditional Use Permit.

Equivalent to a normal conversation, this 60 db restriction *effectively halts* their ability to provide live music and serve as an outdoor gathering space (even without live music).

Measurements taken Tuesday morning (11/12) at around 10AM, showed 76 decibels of road noise alone at the Tantra property line.

Tantra reopened just over a year ago and in that time, they have received ZERO warnings or noise citations. They have also spoken with the police to verify they are operating well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

**I am appealing to you today to reinstate Tantra's original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.**

Since reopening, Tantra has recreated the family friendly, positive space to enjoy art and music for the San Marcos community that we have loved since 2006.

Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat.

By cutting off Tantra's ability to offer live music, San Marcos is *directly jeopardizing* the success and longevity of this small local business, and hindering our community's access to to a family-friendly music venue.

Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Melody Cuny  
SMTX Mother, Homeowner, Voter, TXSTATE alum (x2), and Arts Advocate

621 Franklin Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:04 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Live Music

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From: M. Fisher [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:45:11 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Live Music

Good morning,

It has come to my attention that one of my family's favorite local live music venues, Tantra, is being singled out by the planning and zoning committee with a ridiculously restrictive decibel limit. This is disappointing and unacceptable for several reasons. We have very few family-friendly, locally-owned venues in our city that offer live music. It is important to our enjoyment and our continued patronage of our city. If Tantra is not allowed to continue to provide live music we will have to go back to Buda (where we went when Tantra was closed during their renovations). This will effect our city's revenue stream eventually.

Why did this change happen? We deserve to know the reasoning so we can address the real issue moving forward.

Respectfully,  
Meghan Fisher

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 12:49 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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From: Morgan Wilcox [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 12:46:37 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Council Members— Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels. Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands. I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM. Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,  
Morgan Wilcox

707 Bracewood Drive Apt.C  
San Marcos TX 78666

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 8:48 AM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Citizen Plea



**Joe Pantalion, PE**

Assistant City Manager | City Manager's Office  
630 E Hopkins, San Marcos, TX 78666  
512.393.8106

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---

**From:** Naomi Lovato [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 8:31 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Citizen Plea

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,  
Naomi Lovato

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:53 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] In support of Tantra

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---

From: Riley Engemoen [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:48:34 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of Tantra

Dear City Council,

Tantra is one of, if not the best, places to see live music in San Marcos. It embodies the spirit of the town. I hope that you'll reconsider the sound decibel restrictions and allow them to continue as they have been for years. It's a college town and Tantra is in such an urban area, people love to hear music spilling out into the street in places like this. Not to mention the traffic noise will drown out most of it. Places like this give energy and character to the whole community. Please please please let them continue! Thank you for your time.

-Riley



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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:04 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] in support of live music at Tantra

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---

From: Rob Lifford [REDACTED] on behalf of Rob Lifford [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:33:00 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] in support of live music at Tantra

Dear Council Members —

I am not a San Marcos resident but, with many close friends in town, I am frequent visitor and the most common occasion for my visits is to see friends' bands perform at Tantra. I also occasionally perform there myself as part of the Wednesday night bluegrass shows.

It's come to my attention that the planning and zoning committee has recently issued a very restrictive decibel limit (60) for outdoor amplified music on their conditional use permit. The venue reports the following:

> As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at our property line and the decibel reading was 76 decibels.

>

> We have received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since we have reopened, but have spoken with the police to make sure that we are well within the sound ordinance and our conditional use permit as it stands.

That venue is a treasure and a valued part of the neighborhood. They are clearly more than willing to work with the city to meet all reasonable requirements, and it is so frustrating to see them forced to respond to utterly unreasonable ones. Please don't kill a local business this way.

Kind regards,

Rob Lifford  
Austin

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:38 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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---

From: Rebekah Sandifer [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:32:35 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Please allow Tantra to keep their original Conditional Use Permit.

It's one of the only places I can take my 6 year old daughter to see live music in San Marcos.

It is a quality, family friendly atmosphere that would be very missed if we couldn't enjoy live music there.

Thank you.

Rebekah Perrin  
808 Mustang Lane  
San Marcos, TX 78666  
[REDACTED]

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:55 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Tantra live music



**Joe Pantalion, PE**

Assistant City Manager | City Manager's Office  
630 E Hopkins, San Marcos, TX 78666  
512.393.8106

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**From:** Rebecca Villarreal [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:54 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra live music

Dear San marcos City Council Members,

Tantra coffee shop is a great local places where I can go make memories with my friends. As a live music enjoyer I have seen many great shows from local musicians take place here. Its positive space it creates in our community surpasses the rowdy bars that play club music through out the night. Please allow tantra to have their original Conditional Use Permit. Live music brings people together.

Please allow Tantra to continue rocking on at this wonderful venue!

Thank you,  
Rebecca Villarreal

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:07 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Restrictive decibel limit

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From: Stephen Adkisson [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:05:52 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Restrictive decibel limit

Hello,

I am a San Marcos resident. I just read that the planning and zoning committee issued a decibel limit of 60 decibels for outdoor amplified music. That is ridiculous. Whoever made this decision doesn't understand sound. An unamplified concert would be more than 60 dB. This would put an end to all outdoor live music. That for sure isn't something I want for this city. I am a musician. I would lose work. Our venues would lose business and possibly have to close. This is in response to a post from Tantra. I don't know if this is specifically for them or for the whole city. Either way, this should not happen. Tantra is a great family-friendly venue in town. I was there for their show on Halloween, and as an older resident in this city (41), it was fantastic to be at a fun place and not be surrounded by college students. I have nothing against college students, but having things that don't cater 100% to them is nice. Tantra is one of those places. I think it is one of the best venues in town. Please don't enforce a 60 dB limit on amplified outdoor music. Having quiet hours but not a blanket 60 dB limit makes sense. That is something we already have.

Stephen Adkisson

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:57 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

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From: Shannon Alvis [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:55:34 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully, from a San Marcos Citizen and Voter

Shannon Alvis  
1000 1/2 Burleson Street  
San Marcos, TX  
[REDACTED]

Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:06 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Please Save Tantra

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From: Sarah Cantrell [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:59:50 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Save Tantra

Dear City of San Marcos Members of the Council,

I am absolutely devastated to be reading the news about Tantra and their live music scene. Tantra has been a home base for me for 10+ years, and I return to Tantra weekly to visit friends and listen to live music despite now living all the way up in Austin! I am absolutely shocked and dumbfounded to hear that a person/group of people could wish such ill will upon a thriving, vibrant and truly necessary community. The live music at Tantra has quite literally saved people's lives. Having that community, those weekly gatherings, can keep people out of mental health crises and can save people from suicide (LITERALLY). PLEASE do not underestimate what a devastation this act would be to the community. Tantra, and the people of San Marcos need this live music to continue onwards. We cannot lose hope in such a devastating political landscape. Please do not take this from us. Tantra, and the community we have worked SO hard to build might not survive.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate Tantra's original condition Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30 PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibals before 10:00 PM and 75 decibels after 10:00 PM.

Thank you,  
Sarah Cantrell  
2613 Alcott Ln Apt B  
Austin TX 78748  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 12:30 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Music Venue

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From: Sean Jones [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 12:23:57 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Music Venue

Hello City Council of San Marcos,  
I am a San Marcos resident and I am writing to ask that the terms of the original conditional use permit issued to Tantra coffee shop/bar in San Marcos be kept going forward.

It seems that an updated permit was issued that limits the decibel level to 60 decibels. That is the level of a normal conversation. This rule does not take into account the spirit of live music which needs to exist at a higher limit. Even a fully acoustic performance with a single microphone would be louder than that.

Please reconsider changing the permit back to its original rules for Tantra as they have received zero warnings or infractions for noise complaints under the current rules.

Art and live music are a vital and important piece of the San Marcos community, so please issue permits for venues supporting this within reasonable limits that support the spirit of live music.

- Sean Jones

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:25 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Tantra



**Joe Pantalion, PE**

Assistant City Manager | City Manager's Office  
630 E Hopkins, San Marcos, TX 78666  
512.393.8106

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**From:** Samantha Lazenby [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:24 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Sam Lazenby

189 Valero Dr. , San Marcos TX 78666



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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:54 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Live Music at Tantra

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---

From: Sarah Millenary [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:53:18 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Live Music at Tantra

Please let Tantra continue to operate as a live music venue.

I love to perform at Tantra, and one of my bandmates is an employee there. Thanks to his outreach and promotion of live music events at Tantra, including an open mic he hosts, he was recently granted a SMart award. That is just one example of what a very special place Tantra is in San Marcos as a center for community and music. Thank you.

~Sarah

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:00 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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---

From: Shannon Smith [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:15:59 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

San Marcos Council Members,

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music.

That is the equivalent to a normal conversation, and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,  
Shannon Smith  
924 W. San Antonio St., San Marcos TX  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:49 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

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---

From: Thomas Cook [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:45:56 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

Hello,

I am writing in regards to Tantra's conditional use permit. As far as I have heard, they have had an addendum to their permit stating that sound levels may not exceed 60dB at the property line which, besides being unfeasible, would have an irreparable impact on San Marcos vibrant live music culture.

I feel especially qualified to weigh in on this matter as I have been a San Marcos resident since 2013, have a degree from Texas State in Sound Recording Technology and have worked in our area's music industry building mixing consoles, as a live music engineer and as a musician since I graduated in 2016.

Per their [Facebook post](#), a 60dB limit for noise would be impossible, as the ambient road noise reading is at 72dB. Besides this, the decibel is a relative unit of measurement, not an exact unit of measurement. And furthermore, as a system contains many scaling and frequency weighting methods which are not laid out in the noise ordinance section of the City Ordinances and Land Development Codes available on San Marcos' website. I believe a more fair and reliable method of determining an excessive sound level during business hours and events would be 10dB higher than the ambient sound level on a C frequency weight.

In addition, San Marcos has a vibrant yet fledging live music scene and this restriction, and the slippery slope it implies, would be devastating for our arts culture. Speaking as a local musician, I think it's fair to say that the music scene still has not fully recovered since the 2020 lockdown. There are very few places in town to play a show that have an indoor stage, sound system and staff engineer, so most shows and events end up being pop-up, DIY, outdoor affairs. When I've had conversations with local show organizers, most are hopeful for some sort of compromise with folks in the nearby neighborhoods that are annoyed by the loud music. Unfortunately, it seems like the folks who regularly complain about the noise want to stifle the live music community altogether.

**Please reconsider Tantra's conditional use permit** and understand the lasting effects it will have on this community which is so important to so many people.

Thank you for your time.

Thomas Cook

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:04 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra sound ordinance

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---

From: Tug Ledermann [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:58:20 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra sound ordinance

Greetings,

It is very sad to hear that Tantra's live music venue could be shut down by the city or required to adhere to a very low decibel for outdoor amplified music.

My wife and I graduated from Texas State in 2008 and we recently bought a home here in San Marcos in July. Since then, I have been taking my 3 year old son to Tantra every Wednesday night for the free Bluegrass show. I have reconnected with old friends and found play friends for my son at Tantra and it is something my son and I look forward to each week.

Please consider allowing Tantra to be allowed to have their original Conditional Use Permit and be allowed to continue their outdoor music shows. There is nowhere else I can take my son in town to listen to music past 8 pm. I do not want to have to rely solely on Gruene Hall and Gruene Grove to take my son to experience live music in a family friendly setting.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Tug Ledermann

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:02 AM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Noise complaint

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From: donald Nance [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:00:53 AM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Noise complaint

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Full Name Trey Nance  
[REDACTED]

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Hernandez, Amanda

---

From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:05 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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From: Vance Loggins [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:01:42 PM  
To: Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Hello,

My name is Vance Loggins.

The bottom line is: the city of San Marcos is defined by a few things, One of which is live music. I have enjoyed Tantra since first enrollment TXST in 2008 and I would like to continue my support for this business as it has supported mine. The original conditional use permit is great as it is allowing the venue to cultivate pride and community through live music! It would be a shame for the people who put their blood sweat and tears into reopening Tantra, to lose the live music permit ... this would be devastating to the business and the community at large. Thanks

Vance

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:23 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Tantra's Conditional Use Permit

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**From:** Chris Gardner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:12:06 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra's Conditional Use Permit

Council Members:

I write today in support of the reinstatement of the Conditional Use Permit for Tantra Coffeehouse on Hopkins Drive across from the little HEB. The sudden change to their Conditional Use Permit would make live music—and even lively conversation—virtually impossible, and the proposed 60 decibel mark would deprive the city of one of its liveliest night spots.

As a 20+ year resident of San Marcos, I was thrilled to see the return of Tantra and with it particularly the return of a regular bluegrass night in San Marcos, TX. There are a great many places in our town for students to gather, and there are a handful of places for long-term residents to do the same. But no place in town does more to bring these two groups together than Tantra.

Altering the Conditional Use Permit would effectively eliminate one of our best live music venues and in doing so precipitate the demise of one of our thriving communities. I urge the council to resist calls to reduce the CUP to 60 decibels and continue to allow music until 10:30PM with a sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Chris Gardner  
2039 Nevada,  
San Marcos, TX 78666

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:26 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

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**From:** Caroline Newland [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:51:18 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

Good afternoon,

I am writing to you today to show my support of Tantra's appeal for their original Conditional Use Permit. Ever since Tantra's reopening, it has been a haven for the San Marcos music community. Tantra can always be counted on to provide a safe and joyful place to spend time with friends and family. It is not easy hosting weekly live music; it's a charity and a labor. San Marcos would not be the same without Tantra's dedication to our community, especially local musicians.

Thank you for your time and consideration  
Caroline Newland

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:26 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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**From:** Deacon Newhouse [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:47:21 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Council Members—

I'm writing in regard to the recent vote by the planning and zoning committee in which they issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

I live about a block and a half from Tantra and have never had any issues with their live music. Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Deacon Newhouse  
421 W. San Antonio St

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:26 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Please listen

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**From:** kellie bones [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:44:20 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please listen

Please allow tantra to perform music with their requested hope and desire. This is part of the culture of this community. Please think about all of San Marcos and how much this establishment means to the community.

Thank you

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:26 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Tantra and Sound Ordinance

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**From:** Megan Araujo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:56:37 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra and Sound Ordinance

City Council Members,

Tantra's conditional use permit has been dealt a large blow and the planning and zoning committee has issued incredibly restrictive decibel limit. Tantra hasn't had any citations or issues with law enforcement since reopening it's doors last year. Music bolsters a large part of their business and helps make it a special community hub that has been serving San Marcos since 2007. Enforcing such a strict decibel limit would be intentionally harming a locally owned small business. Please reconsider. The music needs to be there, the business itself needs to be there. As stated before, they have received zero warnings or citations for noise violations. Please reconsider your decision and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,  
Megan Araujo  
801 Sagewood Trl  
[REDACTED]

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:27 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Tantra music shutdown \*IMPORTANT\*

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**From:** Nina Garcia [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:42:35 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra music shutdown \*IMPORTANT\*

Hi there !

I wanted to voice my concern and saddened heart that tantra coffee house on Hopkins may not longer be allowed to have music.

This is one of the only family friendly establishments in Smtx. As a local whose lived here for over 10 years. I love bringing my 2 year old to the friendly environment ta tantra offers. Their music nights are well organized and it seems of they have the permits to have music please allow them to continue their events.

This is so important to my family and many others who enjoy this awesome space !  
They are quite respectful and shit music down at a very reasonable time.

Please show tantra that you care about them and the community by working with them to continue their music event nights !!

Thank you,

Mrs.Leonard

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Austin Adams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:06 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Addressing Tantra's Ordinance

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00 PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,  
Austin Yates Adams  
1011 Wonderworld DR  
[REDACTED]

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** B J [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 7:35 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra San Marcos

Hello Council Members,

My name is Bryce Brown, I am a musician, and I am proud to say that I got my start playing in San Marcos in the early 2010s. At that time tantra had an open mic night on Mondays and all the local musicians of my generation would hang out and swap songs. It was the first venue that I ever sang original songs at, and the community that I met there has propelled my career to this day.

Imposing a strict noise limit on Tantra would cripple the most special music space that still exists in San Marcos. So many great places have been replaced with soulless corporate interest or generic apartments, don't let another part of the actual heart of San Marcos die by your hands. Support Tantra's fight against senseless restrictions so that we can preserve the ring of live music that belongs on the streets of central Texas.

Thank you for your time,

Bryce Brown

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Brendan Strop [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:42 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Tantra Coffehouses Conditional Use Permit and Live Music Hours

To San Marcos City Council Members

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for Tantra, and urge you to approve the continuation of their Conditional Use Permit, which allows them to provide a unique and valuable space for locals.

The presence of live music in our community not only supports local artists but also helps to create a welcoming and dynamic environment for visitors and residents alike. It is a great example of how small businesses can enrich our town's cultural fabric while being mindful of the surrounding area.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your commitment to supporting local businesses and fostering a vibrant community.

~Brendan Strop

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Blaze Turley [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:39 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Noise Level Restrictions

Council Members,

I'm a San Marcos resident and I was upset to hear that the planning and zoning commission issued an incredibly restrictive sound decibel limit of 60db for Tantra. That is a decibel level so low that it would essentially end Tantra's ability to be an outdoor gathering space and live music venue.

Are you going to deal a noise ordinance against the university's stadium for the football games I can hear across I-35 on game days? Or restrict the trucks and cars that rev their engines constantly throughout the city? Live music, especially in our already busy downtown area, is a welcome sound and hardly the problem when it comes to noise pollution in our city.

I am writing to you in the hopes that you will reinstate Tantra's original conditional use permit so that they can continue being a beloved San Marcos venue. How can we expect our city to have a thriving arts culture if we don't support music venues? This town is starved for good venues. Please don't drive this one away.

Best,

Blaze Turley

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Beau Walker [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 8:39 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 79666 needs Tantra's Music Permit - City Council SMTX

Howdy,

Council members, I implore you to greenlight the necessary permits allowing Tantras music venue. Myself and family have enjoyed their services and are fond of their bluegrass nights. It's been great seeing Hays county kids & parents intermingle with musicians and students. Let me know if you need someone to speak my email. As a constituent, I request that it be read aloud at the next council meeting.

Beau Walker

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** clintonbailey428 <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:23 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra: Conditional Use Permit

To San Marcos City Council Members

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for Tantra, and urge you to approve the continuation of their Conditional Use Permit, which allows them to provide a unique and valuable space for locals.

The presence of live music in our community not only supports local artists but also helps to create a welcoming and dynamic environment for visitors and residents alike. It is a great example of how small businesses can enrich our town's cultural fabric while being mindful of the surrounding area.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your commitment to supporting local businesses and fostering a vibrant community.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Corbin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:16 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Conditional Use Permit

Please allow Tantra to keep their original Conditional Use Permit as they are a pillar to keeping this community active and vibrant. The new proposed limit is draconian and pointless, as local ambient noise levels are higher than the proposed limit, to say nothing of other local businesses that far exceed it on the regular. A "noisy" downtown is good, as it shows use and life, and if the complainants wanted somewhere quiet they should not have chosen to live near the dozen bars that comprise the Square.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Cristian Jimenez [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:00 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra & their Original Conditional Use Permit  
**Attachments:** Tantra Speech.docx

Hey y'all, this is Cristian Jimenez, I would love to attend this meeting over zoom. I'll be at work tomorrow in Dripping Springs, so if anyone can reply with a link for that, I would greatly appreciate that. Sending out my email just incase to voice my concern for the possible restrictions and support for Tantra.

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I'm not going to go into too much detail of what is plainly obvious, but to get straight to the point: San Marcos is a town full of creative and talented artists and the music that flows like our river is a huge part of this community, it simply cannot be ignored. This community is truly blessed to have all these unique individuals perform their work at these organizations such as Tantra. It was only a couple of weeks ago, the San Marcos Arts Commission recognized Tantra's very own Isauro "EZ" Malonado, solely through his hard work in developing the music scene in by having an open mic night every Monday. This has opened the door to our young college kids who want to try their shot at workshopping their music; Tantra is only less than a mile away from the Texas State campus. This helps develop these young musicians and it also develops the community, so why prevent these artists on getting their start? Unlike most venues in San Marcos, Tantra is FAMILY FRIENDLY, it's a community affair. The music that is booked may vary from: rock, bluegrass, country, to hip-hop, but anyone is invited to spectate these performances and it's encouraged to have families come out and take part in the fun, and it's beneficial to the little ones to catch these shows to influence their minds because there's plenty of towns out there in this country that isn't as fortunate to have a venue like Tantra to host these special events, so taking part adds a bit more to the life experience we are given. On the topic of *fortunate*, Tantra has been able to book talented performers such as break out stars, "Flight by Nothing," and Grammy nominated acts such as, "Trevor Smith," so the performances are worth attending. The representatives at Tantra handle their business professionally and want the community to take part in the fun, they're only adding more thrill to being alive and making it a memorable experience when living here in beautiful San Marcos. We cannot tarnish a good thing and revert back to a bleak palette, this community needs a space to express art and the venue at Tantra is a suitable one. I've also seen individuals go from HEB to Tantra to check out the good energy, it's amazing what that coffeehouse brings to its townsfolk and we should not take that for granted. It's important to allow them keep their original Conditional Use Permit because they're only doing good for the San Marcos Community.

## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Christianna Johnson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:02 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra CUP

Dear P&Z,

There are not many places in San Marcos that allow for live music that isn't overly loud. Most places in San Marcos either have loud bands that are so loud you can't talk over the music or have played music that you can't talk over. These places also tend to be bars or clubs where there isn't seating or there's no atmosphere to just hang out.

Tantra is a fantastic place to go for so many reasons, but the biggest reason is that this is a place that someone can go whenever they are studying in the morning and want to hang out at night. It is a place where people gather and it's easy to gather and it helps the community stay together. The last time we lost Tantra downtown lost a piece of its spark. I understand that some people want it to be more quiet, but downtown is not going to be quiet that's how a downtown works, but also a quiet downtown is the mark of a dying community.

If there is a fix to be made here, it's to require the apartment complexes nearby to have better soundproofing. Those complexes need to be regulated anyway and that's the least they can do.

Please allow Tantra to keep their original Conditional Use Permit as they are a pillar to keeping this community active and vibrant.

Christianna Johnson

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Caleb Keys [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:57 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra's Sound Ordinance waiver.

I'm writing in behalf of Tantra, to suggest you revert their conditional use permit to the previous terms. The 60 decibel limit is far too restrictive, as it is literally quieter than passing traffic. This business supports the local arts scene and is a welcome place for many. Please don't let bureaucracy limit their ability to serve the community in the way that they always have.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Chris Lippke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:04 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Support for Tantra

To whom this may concern,

I hope this email finds you doing well. My name is Chris Lippke, a former long-time resident of San Marcos, former local musician, and former patron of Tantra (coffeehouse). I now live in Austin, I return to San Marcos from time to time, but have not visited Tantra for quite some time. That being said, not only was I a former patron, but I was a former performer there - I played regular jazz gigs there, long before their closing and reopening. It is a great place to play live music, and a great place for people to hear live music.

There is apparently a very limiting sound ordinance being placed on their establishment that would severely limit their capabilities to provide live music. The current maximum level is 60 decibels - about the level of the "average/ambient noise" a typical restaurant may have inside. This level may be reasonable for a small indoor restaurant (ie: the Root Cellar), but is not at all reasonable for an outdoor venue where the outside road noise alone is 72db. If the road noise alone is above the threshold, then adding live music becomes obsolete and out of the question. It should be an expectation that an outdoor venue's sound levels be a bit louder.

I know San Marcos prides itself on its' cultural and entertainment value. As a professional musician, I've played in just about every establishment around town that provides live music. If a 60db level is enforced on Tantra - or any establishment, for that matter - it would be severely limiting to the live music that would be able to be provided. And I'm confident that the powers that be do not want to limit the accessibility and value of live music in San Marcos.

Please do what is right and do not impose a 60db sound limit on Tantra, or any other outdoor venue. Please allow them, and others, to continue to provide live music - at a decibel level that is still respectful but not unreasonable.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,  
Chris Lippke

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Devon Canady [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 7:49 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Objection to Tantra decibel limit

Dear City Council,

I went to college at Texas State and have been a member of the San Marcos community on/off for the last 15 years. I absolutely love San Marcos and feel that it is one of the most special places in the world.

One of the reasons I think so is due to the legacy of Tantra Coffee, when I was a student the bluegrass nights there are almost single-handedly responsible for my interest in bluegrass music. I have since gone on to tour the country, open for big acts, find my identity, make invaluable friendships, and I've found immense joy in spreading this music to others. I strongly believe that I would not have discovered this if it weren't for places like Tantra.

That was a long time ago, and there were many years where Tantra was boarded up and owned by some inept and shady characters. During this time there really wasn't anything that came close to providing the same community value. Then came a day when someone decided to spend an IMMENSE amount of time, money, and energy to restore Tantra to its former glory. People from my time returned in droves to see the place they loved so much come back to life. Jeff treats his employees with respect, he pays them well, he kicks people out who are causing trouble. This is not a college party animal environment, this is a family-friendly community hub.

My Mom, who has been living alone for years with not much to speak of in terms of community, all of a sudden had an incredible social outlet where she got to meet lots of people that wouldn't have gone out otherwise. There are no other venues that suit people like that. The same is true for many of my friends' parents. Many of said friends have young children and bring them to Tantra because it is a safe and friendly environment. Would old people and children go to a venue if it was too loud?

I could understand imposing a decibel limit on a disrespectful venue, especially if it was keeping people up at night or disobeying requests from the community. But Tantra's speakers are literally pointing towards a giant, half-empty parking lot. There has never been a noise complaint filed. The businesses nearby are closed hours before the music begins. The primary genre performed there is bluegrass, it's acoustic music without drums or amps. Aside from that, it is also not a popular musical genre, it is a somewhat rare folk art form that most people will not learn about on their own - I certainly wouldn't have. I can't tell you how many people have been truly amazed and inspired by what goes on there.

If you impose this decibel limit, the music will die. The sound of the road is 75 decibels, does a decibel limit of 60 sound reasonable to you? If you are in fact in your position to serve your community, how does this serve your community? Do you want San Marcos to be a special place, or just another college town? There are plenty of bars for people to get drunk and wild, Tantra is not one of them - it is rare.

If I could say these words in person, I would, but I no longer live in Texas. I have nothing to gain by saying this to you. It is solely about preserving what Tantra has to offer to San Marcos - it's because I love San Marcos that I want it to continue.

Please do not dim the light of your special town by doing this, I beg you.

Devon Canady

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Dulce Garcia [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:06 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Good evening,

I am reaching out in support of Tantra's initial CUP from 2023 being implemented so that they can continue to provide San Marcos with the beautiful experience that is live music! I love going to Tantra in the evenings for live music because they platform local artists and provide a safe and fun atmosphere that makes San Marcos so special. Again, I urge you to please implemented Tantra's initial CUP from 2023 permitting live music until 10:30pm! 85 decibels before 10:00pm and 75 decibels after 10:00pm is reasonable! Let's keep live music alive in San Marcos!

Dulce

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## Hernandez, Amanda

---

**From:** Emrys Galloway [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:38 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Live music at Tantra

Dear council members,

I am a resident of San Marcos and I recently heard that new restrictions are being placed on the decibel levels that the local business Tantra can exceed. And, that they have submitted a repeal. These restrictions would keep Tantra from being able to host live music. I have very much enjoyed going to Tantra to listen to live music over the years and I would hate for that to end. They have created a very positive and family friendly space. I feel that live music is a very important part of that sense of community. Their original restrictions seemed very reasonable, and I hope that you will approve their appeal.

Thank you,  
-Scarlet Galloway

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Ely Womack [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 4:28 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Decibel Limit for Outdoor Amplified Music

Hello,

Live music at Tantra on Hopkins has been my favorite activity in San Marcos since I moved here. They provide a great space for all ages. As a citizen of San Marcos, I think it would be to the detriment of the city if Tantra were forced to stop having music. Please reconsider the restrictive decibel limit imposed upon them and other nearby outdoor venues.

Sincerely,  
Ely Womack

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Garion Al-Anzi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 7:51 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Tantra's Appeal for Original Conditional Use Permit

Dear San Marcos City Council,

I am writing to express my support for Tantra's appeal to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, allowing them to host outdoor music with reasonable decibel levels. I believe that Tantra plays a crucial role in the San Marcos community as a vibrant and inclusive gathering space, supporting live music and fostering a family-friendly atmosphere.

Since reopening, Tantra has adhered to noise ordinances and proactively worked with local authorities to maintain a respectful environment for neighbors and patrons alike. The recent restriction to a 60-decibel limit, however, seems unreasonably low and could prevent Tantra from continuing to provide live music—a central aspect of their community presence.

I respectfully urge the council to consider granting Tantra's request to follow the original ordinance limits of 85 decibels before 10:00 PM and 75 decibels after 10:00 PM, which would enable them to continue offering live music without disrupting the surrounding area.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Supporting Tantra will help maintain San Marcos as a lively, connected, and welcoming community.

Warm regards,  
Garion A  
1800 Post Rd  
San Marcos  
TX 78666

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Hody [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:42 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra music permit

Let Tantra can keep its music permit. Music is art, we need art to forget how shitty this timeline is. Do the right thing.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Halle Dobbs [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 7:54 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Live Music at Tantra

Dear San Marcos City Council,

Hello, as a community member and resident of San Marcos, I am emailing in support of Tantra to return to its original Conditional Use Permit.

San Marcos thrives with our live music scene and the San Marcos community should support places that provide positive environments for live music and community engagement! Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,  
Halle Dobbs

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Indy Bruh [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 8:48 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Please don't restrict Tantra because it'll cause them to shut down, and live music is one of the best things about San Marcos. Targeting a music venue while having construction on every single road and bad sidewalks, is not cool and shows a clear lack of priorities. Live music is one of the best things San Marcos has going for it so please don't shut it down.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Jillian Conder [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:24 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Permit Tantra to Host Live Music Until 10:30

Please allow Tantra to continue their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30 PM, and allows 85 decibels of sound before 10:00 PM and 75 decibels until 10:30. They are beloved local music venue and their business would face a serious financial blow from the loss of their late night music. I have lived in San Marcos for eight years, and Tantra (when they haven't been closed) has been a major source of community for myself and many others. The music that happens elsewhere in the square takes place in an environment that isn't family friendly and therefore inaccessible to many San Marcos residents. Keep live music alive in San Marcos by allow Tantra to play music until 10:30.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Jack Van Arsdale [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:48 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Coffee Shop

Hello Council members,

I am a student here in San Marcos and I caught wind of the recent restrictions placed upon Tantra Coffee Shop. The noise restriction of 60db is extremely unrealistic for a public gathering place, even the library (which I have visited countless times when the decibel level exceeded 60.) The road noise is louder than that and even in a quiet room one voice will meet that standard. To allow people to gather in public and expect them to be nearly silent is unfair. Citizens of San Marcos who work here are depending on this place to make ends meet and the city's culture too. I urge you to make a difference today and keep San Marcos cool. I'm sure your inbox is flooded with similar emails.

Thanks,

Jack Van Arsdale

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Jesus Manuel De Nobrega Viaje [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 7:28 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for reemplementing the original Conditional Use Permit for Tantra in relation to its Sound Ordinance

Jesus De Nobrega Viaje  
1980 Aquarena Springs Dr.  
San Marcos, Texas, 78666  
[REDACTED]

November 13th, 2024

San Marcos City Council  
630 E Hopkins St  
San Marcos, TX 78666

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to express my support for reinstating the original Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the restaurant Tantra, located at 217 W Hopkins St, San Marcos, TX 78666, specifically concerning its Sound Ordinance. The original ordinance has allowed them to host live music events during evening hours. The new, more restrictive ordinance, would create substantial challenges for Tantra to continue hosting live music, which has long been an integral part of its identity and a beloved feature for patrons and residents alike.

Tantra has been a gathering place in San Marcos for years, providing a welcoming space for locals and visitors to enjoy live music, good food, and a sense of community. The original CUP allowed for flexibility, enabling Tantra to host live performances that enriched the cultural constitution of our city. Residents, visitors, and students alike come to San Marcos not only for its natural beauty and charm, but also for its vibrant music scene, which Tantra has been a part of.

Unfortunately, the revised ordinance imposes limitations on the restaurant's ability to host music events, which would directly affect its business and diminish its value as a community hub. This restriction not only impacts Tantra but also has broader implications for musicians, patrons, and the character of San Marcos. The ability to experience live music in a safe and community-oriented space like Tantra and support local businesses and artists would be negatively affected if the new Conditional Use Permit is kept in place.

By restoring the original CUP, the city would be showing its support for local businesses that contribute to the unique culture of San Marcos. I respectfully urge the council to consider the significant impact that reinstating the original CUP could have on Tantra and the community as a whole.

Thank you for considering this request. I appreciate your commitment to fostering a vibrant, inclusive community that values its local businesses and cultural assets.

Sincerely,

Jesus De Nobrega Viaje



Accounting and Business Management student at Texas State University

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Kylee Barnes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:04 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Concerning Tantra

Hello members of the San Marcos city council,

I am writing to request that during the appeal hearing on 11/19, that you grant Tantra the right to it's original Conditional Use Permit and all it entailed.

Allowing the planning and zoning committee to restrict Tantra's decibel limit to 60 would be completely unreasonable, and would cripple Tantra as a business and as staple of the community.

I have been going to Tantra since I was a college student in 2009 to watch live music and gather with others, and I now do so with my husband and our young son. Having an outdoor, all ages music platform in the city of San Marcos is so important to our community and our culture. I beg that y'all do what you can to allow it to continue.

Sincerely,  
Kylee Parker

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Kaitlynn Turner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 7:48 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In support of Tantra

To the San Marcos city council,

It has come to my attention that Tantra, a local business, has been dealt a harsh blow regarding their conditional use permit regarding sound decibel limits. I am writing you in support of Tantra, and with love to the San Marcos community.

I am a former San Marcos resident and Texas State alumna who grew up in Hays county. I lived in San Marcos from 2015-2023, and though I now reside in Houston, I still care deeply about the wellbeing of San Marcos and its residents. It's a unique, charming town with an incredible community. However, as you probably know, it's a VERY challenging place for small businesses to thrive.

It's never been easy for local businesses to stay afloat in San Marcos, but COVID made things even harder. I saw many of the places that made San Marcos special fail, struggle and lose their charm entirely during those years. Tantra is one of the few establishments that recovered and came back stronger than ever, while staying true to its core values and its community. Tantra evolved, but did not change. It's always been a welcoming place to socialize, enjoy affordable high-quality food and drinks, see local art, and experience live music. It's one of the few establishments in San Marcos with owners that take good care of their staff and put in the time and effort to do right by their community.

Anyone that has spent time at Tantra has made dear friends and memories there. We residents may come and go, but those parts stay with us. Those friendships and memories are what make us human.

Live music is crucial to San Marcos's vibrant art scene, which needs places like Tantra to thrive. Dually, small businesses like Tantra need live music to stay afloat. To revoke Tantra's permit would be to revoke an irreplaceable component of what makes San Marcos a meaningful place for so many people.

We are all living in volatile times right now - the economy is shakey and people are lonelier than ever - especially young, college-aged people. Cities like San Marcos feel the effects of this the most, and you owe it to your residents to protect the few places that allow them to make friends, memories and art together. Please help preserve San Marcos's charm. Please support businesses like Tantra that try to do things right.

I kindly ask that you grant their request for their original conditional use permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00pm and 75 decibels after 10:00pm.

Thank you,

Kaitlynn Turner  
[REDACTED]

## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Mattison Bills [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:13 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Save Tantra

Hey y'all -

As a long time local of San Marcos and a small business owner, I beg of you to let Tantra continue their live music program. The community they provide and the local musicians they support is far more important than you might think. It has been a terrible few years for our economy, and the success of small business in San Marcos matters. We need to support young entrepreneurs like Jeff Colousard and his dedicated team. This young man spent years raising the highest quality most humanely cared for local pigs in the state at Peaceful Pork, before he left to pursue his own project. And he took his passion for community and his skills to build out something that matters to the community of San Marcos.

Please allow them to continue to be successful. We all need it right now.

Mattison Bills  
[REDACTED]

Former tenant of 1405 w Hopkins  
Current tenant at Eye of the Dog Art Center on lime kiln road  
Owner of Three Six General in San marcos  
Owner of Howdy Child in San Antonio  
Founder of Mum Foods in austin  
8th gen Texan, decedent of Edward Burleson who founded hays County

Please let us continue to be ourselves. It's all we have left in this extremely unforgiving world.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Mattison Bills <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:14 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] On Behalf of Tantra

Hey y'all -

As a long time local of San Marcos and a small business owner, I beg of you to let Tantra continue their live music program. The community they provide and the local musicians they support is far more important than you might think. It has been a terrible few years for our economy, and the success of small business in San Marcos matters. We need to support young entrepreneurs like Jeff Colousard and his dedicated team. This young man spent years raising the highest quality most humanely cared for local pigs in the state at Peaceful Pork, before he left to pursue his own project. And he took his passion for community and his skills to build out something that matters to the community of San Marcos.

Please allow them to continue to be successful. We all need it right now.

Mattison Bills  
[REDACTED]

Former tenant of 1405 w Hopkins  
Current tenant at Eye of the Dog Art Center on lime kiln road  
Owner of Three Six General in San marcos  
Owner of Howdy Child in San Antonio  
Founder of Mum Foods in austin  
8th gen Texan, decedent of Edward Burleson who founded hays County

Please let us continue to be ourselves. It's all we have left in this extremely unforgiving world.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Morgan Dabelgott [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 7:01 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Decibel Limit

Council Members— Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels. Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands. I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM. Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Morgan Dabelgott

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Matt Provencal [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:45 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Volume Ordinance

To the council,

Your suggestion of a 60 db noise ordinance is inappropriate. Tantras live music contributes greatly to a thriving music culture in our town and to impose this would be to detract from that culture.

Please reconsider this notion.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Mary Tallman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 7:05 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra

To Whom it May Concern,

I understand that the live music permit for Tantra is being disputed, and I want to voice my concern as a community member of San Marcos. Tantra should be able to keep their permit to continue playing live music, as it is a beautiful way for the community to showcase our local talent and entertain people in a family-friendly environment.

Ever since i moved here as a Texas State University freshman, I have enjoyed discovering new artists at Tantra Coffeehouse, and I have also met many great friends there. Now as an alumni and homeowner, it remains a pivotal meeting place for the community to enjoy company and art.

Also, the business and staff pay would also definitely be hurt if their live music permit is halted. I want to see my community and local businesses succeed.

In conclusion, I urge you to continue Tantra's live music permit.

Best,  
Mary Tallman

Sent from my iPhone

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Nathan Bailey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:55 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] A Plea for Reason Regarding Tantra's Sound Permit

To the council members of San Marcos,

My name is Nathan Bailey. I lived in San Marcos for 6 years, 4 of which I was a college student and all of which I worked at Tantra as a barista. I currently live in Brooklyn, NY as a camera operator for commercial, TV, and film. Although I left San Marcos almost 6 years ago, San Marcos has never left me. Specifically Tantra has never left me. I cannot even begin to express the impact that little hundred year old house has had on me. San Marcos was a town where my friends and I were able to experiment and grow as artists in a safe, nurturing space. Tantra offered a literal stage for this kind of opportunity. I remember watching through the window while working show nights, hoping one day to play that stage. I remember the pride I felt playing my first show for a crowd of San Martians. It was my Madison Square Garden. And most importantly, I remember meeting my fiancé in the yard at bluegrass night.

To buy into the argument of obscenity would be to fall for a straw man. The world is obscene. Places like Tantra are the cure.

I watched the effect Triple Crown's demolition had on the music and culture of the town first hand. I would hate to see a symbolic demolition of Tantra by refusing to reinstate their initial CUP issued in 2023.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nathan Bailey

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:14 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The community for Tantra

Please support Tantra and its Live Music until 10:00 at 85 decibels and 75 decibels after 10:00. I have lived here for over 10 years. So many of my nights have been with this community and it's Live music at Tantra. Supporting my friends on stage, supporting local artists, supporting anyone who dares to hold a space for so many others. There is nothing like Tantra in this town. You know that. Please consider keeping the current conditional use permit.

THANK YOU

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**Hernandez, Amanda**

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**From:** Nora Day [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 3:45 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Noise Ordinance

I will not be able to attend the city council meeting due to work, but I am writing on the topic of the restrictive noise ordinance ordered for Tantra, the coffee shop located across from the smaller HEB.

I ask that you grant their initial Conditional Use Permit allowing live music until 10:30PM. I believe this is a reasonable request and benefit the community.

Sincerely,  
Nora Day

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Nadira Khoussinov [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 5:42 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Council Members—

My name is Nadira Khoussinov. I am a full time employee at Tantra in San Marcos. I am writing to you on behalf of their conditional use permit.

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands. As an employee, I can confirm this to be true

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Tantra holds a very special place in my heart. I grew up in San Marcos and have been coming here for years. Not only will the revoking of the permit result in a deep loss for the community, but it will affect the livelihood of myself and my coworkers tremendously. The major thing that sets us apart from other coffee shops and bars is the live music. To take that away would mean a SIGNIFICANT drop in business, resulting in less tips for my coworkers and I. We ask that you please take these factors into account when making your decision.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Nadira Khoussinov  
1651 Post Road San Marcos, Texas 78666  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Nick Steger [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:37 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Should Keep Its Noise Permit

I moved to San Marcos in 2007 for two reasons: the river and the local music. I was a proud participant in helping music and other culture flourish as a result of the creative environment that was unique to San Marcos. I named my band after the flower that blooms in that river; representing that unique environment that allowed us to have a voice.

That environment is almost completely gone. Pillars of the creative community have almost been snuffed out. We need local talent to flourish. There's a reason Netflix came here and not Waco. You must encourage creative outlets if you want innovative business to come to your community.

Please allow Tantra to keep its permit. The identity of San Marcos needs this.

Nick Steger

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Ruby Hames [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:38 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra's music

Hi,

As a Texas state student, I wanted to say I think you should honor Tantra's original agreement so they can keep having live music like normal. We really enjoy going.

Thanks

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Rachel Vasek [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 6:03 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Please help keep the San Marcos community spirit alive with the live music of Tantra. It is a staple piece for the city's culture, particularly the music culture. They get to share their gifts with a gathered group of people who adore the space and have missed Tantra's live music during the pandemic hiatus.

We love Tantra as a community and hope you continue to allow live music.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Rachel Williams [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 9:35 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Objection to Modification of Tantra Coffee House's Conditional Use Permit

Dear City of San Marcos Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any modification of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) currently in place for Tantra Coffee House. The initial CUP, as issued in 2023, provides a reasonable framework for Tantra to serve as a cultural hub within our community, enabling it to host live music that not only enriches the cultural fabric of San Marcos but also sustains its business and the earnings of its employees.

It is concerning that a single complainant who dislikes the language being used by bands - as expressed in the renewal meeting - could jeopardize the livelihood of everyone working there and destroy a pillar of the town's culture. Obscenity is, at its core, a matter of subjective judgment, and enforcing restrictions based on one individual's preference imposes unnecessary censorship.

The arts, especially live music, inherently include varied expressions, and allowing one individual's concerns over language to shape public policy risks stripping our community of one of its most cherished and unique gathering spots. I met so many people for the first time in the Tantra yard at bluegrass nights or random weekend shows. It's where I was able to first plug into the community. Restricting its activities in response to one objection is a disservice to the city and its residents. Plus, we already lost Triple Crown.

I urge you to preserve the 2023 CUP for Tantra Coffee House: music until 10 pm, 85 decibels before 10:00 pm, and down to 75 decibels after 10 pm. Protecting the venue's ability to host live music not only respects artistic expression but also ensures that San Marcos remains a place where culture and diversity can thrive.

Thank you for considering the broader impact that any modification would have on the community.

Sincerely,

Rachel Williams

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Tabetha Mumford [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 8:32 PM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Tantra Coffee Shop's Live Music Permit

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for Tantra Coffee Shop's application to be permitted under the sound ordinance for live music. Tantra has become a cherished gathering place in our community, offering a welcoming, family-friendly environment that celebrates live music and community connection. Allowing them to continue hosting live music would not only enhance the vibrancy of our city but also reinforce our shared commitment to fostering arts and culture.

Tantra's live music events contribute immensely to our sense of community. They bring together people of all ages, offer an inclusive atmosphere for enjoying local talent, and provide a venue that often hosts fundraisers for important causes. The sound of live music near downtown adds to the area's charm and aligns with our city's longstanding dedication to promoting music and the arts.

I respectfully encourage the council to grant Tantra Coffee Shop the necessary permissions to operate as a live music venue. This decision would help maintain a vibrant, connected community space that celebrates the joy of live music and supports our values as a city.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,  
Tabetha Mumford

2060 Lisa Ln  
San Marcos Tx 78666

[REDACTED]

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Lianne Staff [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:45 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Keep tantra music alive!

Dearest city council members,

Please allow Tantra to continue to utilize their Conditional Use Permit for live music on their premises. Tantra is a wonderful local establishment that has provided San Marcos with lively environment including amazing entertainment which invites a diverse culture of local residents, visitors, and tourists alike to enjoy. It is family-friendly and welcoming to those of all walks of life around town. The limit of a mere 60 decibels is extremely limiting and unrealistic considering the road noise in the morning without live music measuring around 75 decibels. Please extend us all the courtesy of increasing those levels to a normal volume for people to enjoy listening and dancing to for a wholesome good time. Tantra is not even open very late, are always respectful of other neighbors around, and courteous to the noise ordinances already set in place. Thank you for your consideration.

San Martian since 2015,  
Lianne Staff

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Talya Morris [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 7:29 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Support of Tantra's conditional use permit

Dear Councilmembers,

I'm writing today in support of tantra receiving a conditional use permit in order for it to remain central part of San Marcos's beautiful, vibrant, and eclectic culture.

I currently work for Harris County as a policy, adviser and familiar with these sorts of ordinances, as well as the exceptions that can be made. Tantra embodies what it means to gather community from all walks and provide them with a nurturing third-place to escape, connect with one another, and seek refuge from a world that often demands too much.

Tantra is where you can always find me when I'm passing through the beautiful town of San Marcos, my alma mater where I graduated from the honors college. It's where I always was in between classes, studying for tests, or at the end of a long day (many years ago!)

So many of us have lost so much in the past few years, please don't add the spirit of Tantra to that list.

In appreciation,  
Talya

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:13 AM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Coffee Shop Appeal

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ashlin Brown [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:35 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Coffee Shop Appeal

Good Morning,

To whom it may concern, as an active member of the community, I believe that Tantra should be allowed to continue to operate under their original Conditional Use Permit.

Living in a nearby residence on Comanche St., I have observed the impact that Tantra's music events have had on our community. They are so much more than just concerts or group gatherings. They have served to increase community engagement and immensely impact the general positivity and morale of both community members attending the events and those just passing by.

Their outdoor stage allows music to fill the directly surrounding area and multiple times, I have been shopping across the street at H-E-B while they had musicians playing. I tend to shop there a lot, but on the days that music is playing, the experience is completely different. I watch people dance in the parking lot and notice visible changes in moods being uplifted as people walk to and from their cars to the store.

More over, even driving by their events you can see people in their establishment laughing and conversing with each other. They bring together neighbors both young and old in a way I have never seen before. It is truly a beautiful sight that I believe encapsulates what we strive for here in San Marcos— a welcoming and tight knit community that genuinely cares about one another.

To place heavy restrictions and allow these events not to happen would be a tragic loss for the San Marcos community. I urge you to not put this dent in the community and to continue to let music uplift the souls of our neighbors.

Thank you,  
Ashlin Brown

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:31 AM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Regarding Tantra

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**From:** Brittany Ellis [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 8:54:17 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Regarding Tantra

Council Members—

Last month, Tantra was dealt a harsh blow to their conditional use permit when the planning and zoning committee issued an incredibly restrictive decibel limit of 60 decibels for their outdoor amplified music. That is the equivalent to a normal conversation and is meant to effectively stop their ability to provide live music and function as an outdoor gathering space. As measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM, just road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.

Tantra has received ZERO warnings or any citations for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their conditional use permit as it stands.

I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. Without the ability to offer live music, their longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully, from a long time tantra visitor -

Brittany Ellis  
2113 Courtney St. Unit A, Austin Tx 78745  
[REDACTED]

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:43 AM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Noise Ordinance

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**From:** Dustin Brown [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 8:40:05 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Noise Ordinance

We need good venues and good people like the folks of Tantra.  
Hope that you guys consider their permit to continue hosting live music.

Thank you for your time.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** E. D. Watson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 11:42 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reinstate Tantra's original CUP!

Dear Council Members,

I am appealing to you today to reinstate Tantra's original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

I live in the neighborhood and to be honest the music never bothers me. I'm more bothered by the increasing sounds of air traffic over my house, to and from San Marcos airport, or the loud engine sounds of sportscars revving up and down RR12 at all hours of the night. But noise is part of living in a city. And the perks of living in a city are having fun things to do, such as hearing live music at a great local hangout.

There's so much bad stuff happening in the world; why do you want to make things in San Marcos a bummer too? We need Tantra and we need music. It's healthy for our community to have places to gather, blow off steam, and support local artists. Please don't let one supercomplainer ruin something good for the whole.

Since reopening, Tantra has been a family friendly, positive space for the San Marcos community. Not only are they a favorite spot for all kinds of music, but a valuable and unique business that helps the heart of this city beat. No one can play live music at a volume of 60 decibels. Unless it's a single flute player or something. Without the ability to offer live music, Tantra's longevity is jeopardized. Please take this into consideration and reinstate their original permit.

Respectfully,

Emily Watson  
San Marcos TX 78666

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:29 AM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra Coffee Shop Noise Ordinance

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**From:** Grady Owens [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:17:19 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Coffee Shop Noise Ordinance

Hello,

To whom it may concern, I am emailing to voice my concern for a local coffee shop and music venue called Tantra. It is located at  
217 W Hopkins St San Marcos, TX 78666 United States.

My concern stems from hearing the news that they were issued a conditional use permit which restricts their noise generation to 60dB at their property line. I am a professional audio engineer and regularly handle noise ordinance concerns in the venues that I work at on a daily basis. Now, knowing that, I would like the council to understand that 60dB is not just difficult to stay within; it is, in fact, nearly impossible. The noise readings from nearby businesses and traffic is almost sure to exceed 70dB-75dB alone. And that is with NO amplified audio system playing. For comparison, a medium level conversation between two adults is likely to exceed 60dB. In this case, a property line reading of 85dB (C-weighted) would be vastly more appropriate and allow Tantra to host concerts and events without disturbing nearby businesses and citizens.

Tantra Coffee is not just a coffee shop, but also a live music venue. And it's located in a very important center for creativity. As an audio engineer and musician, I know the importance of live music on our local community and our economy. These are event spaces that we must preserve and allow to function. They bring up our creative and entertainment sectors as well as draw patrons to surrounding businesses. People rely on these venues for their main forms of income. And I know firsthand that many musicians, entertainers, and venue staff would be hurt by the inability to perform at a great venue because of noise ordinance. For the first 5 years of my career in audio, I relied heavily on the small-midsized venues in the San Marcos and Austin areas for a large majority of my income, so I know this scenario well.

I pray that the City Council for the great city of San Marcos, TX will consider this email, as well as any other voices in this matter, when they make their decision regarding their noise ordinance and the permits granted to Tantra Coffee and any other local music venues.

Thank you and cheers,

Grady Owens  
Audio Engineer

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:54 AM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Support for Tantra

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**From:** Joey Chapman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:50:49 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Tantra

City Council,

I'm writing, as a decade long member of the community, to express the critical need for our city to stand behind and support the small business' that are pillars in the culture of our town. We need to allow small music venues, small coffee shops, and small craft brew pubs to flourish.

Tantra has become(as it has been in the past for years) a community hotspot for locals within a year of reopening—from which I understand was already made incredibly difficult and costly due to city bureaucracy.

Do we want the nightlife in this city to be dominated by belligerent college kids partying at venues like the Marc, and Vault, and the Green Parrot? Or do we want to stand behind a place where families are welcome, where local musicians are supported, and where the local farmers gather after the market every Saturday?

We are talking about something much more serious than a place to gather and drink mini pitchers. We are talking about a struggling arts and culture scene in this small town. We are talking about a place for locals.

We need to maintain the current conditional use permit until 10PM at 85 dB and 75 dB after 10PM.

Please do the right thing.

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Rosenberg, Katie  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 11:37 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** A San Marcos business is in jeopardy

Council Members,

I was recently made aware that last month one of the beloved San Marcos coffee shop and food establishments, Tantra, was issued an amended Conditional Use Permit from the planning and zoning committee. The amendment specifies a **strict decibel limit of 60 decibels** for their outdoor amplified music. It was measured Tuesday (11/12) at around 10AM that just **road noise alone at the Tantra property line was 76 decibels.**

**Tantra has not received any warnings or citations** for noise since they have reopened, and they have spoken with the police to make sure that they are well within the sound ordinance and their Conditional Use Permit as it stands.

This deceptively small amendment is going to hinder one of the main means of income for the business, and potentially cause the dissolution of a lovely, family-friendly gathering space at the heart of the community. Having been a part of the development of two separate micro businesses within the food industry, I witnessed first-hand the costs to keep small businesses open are endless and overwhelming. Any form of additional income for a restaurant/food establishment is necessary.

As a proud COSM employee, I am appealing to you today to reinstate their original Conditional Use Permit, which allows music until 10:30PM, and follows the sound ordinance of 85 decibels before 10:00PM, and 75 decibels after 10:00PM.

Although most would use personal means of contact for an issue like this, I felt the opposite was necessary-- as this is just as much a professional issue as it is personal to the San Marcos community. We are all aware of the continuous, staggering changes happening with the greater Austin area. Any ordinances that discourage community and positive connection with our neighbors are only going to guide us towards strife.

Thank you for reading and considering.

Respectfully and sincerely,



**Katie Rosenberg**

WIC Health and Nutrition Specialist | WIC  
630 E. Hopkins St, San Marcos, TX 78666

Please take a moment to complete the City of San Marcos [Customer Satisfaction Survey](#).

This email, plus any attachments, may constitute a public record of the City of San Marcos and may be subject to public disclosure under the [Texas Public Information Act](#).

## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** kathryn slack <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 11:58 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra

To the council members of San Marcos.

With all that you do to keep our community a happy, thriving and inviting space, we thank you. Your hard work is appreciated.

With that said, I'd like to take just a moment to advocate for Tantra coffee house. This space is such a joy for our community to engage with each other in. A place where everyone is welcome. And in my opinion, a big aspect of this energy comes from the music that we gather there to listen to. Im not going to write out a whole thing convincing you of what I know you already know. But what I will say is that if we are going to start regulating the volume of music that an establishment is to adhere by, then how about we also start regulating the speed cars are going on streets like Moore and Hopkins. Specifically where Moore intersects with old RR12, where multiple accidents have occurred including one death because there isn't anything to stop people from speeding around the corner. Or creating a curfew where people are ticketed when they rev their engines at 3am, waking up toddlers and parents.

These issues seem far greater a threat to our communities health than a venue that never plays music past 10:30. I urge you to listen to the community as a whole, and keep tantras music going.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

-A San Martian

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:30 AM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra

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**From:** ryan weissman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 8:59:50 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra

Please allow Tantra to keep playing live music, at ~80 decibels, until 10:30p. It's a great spot! I met my wife there, on a blind date, and now take our daughter there, on Wednesdays, for bluegrass. It's usually the highlight of our week.

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## Sue K. Cohen

743 W. San Antonio St.  
San Marcos, Texas 78666



November 14, 2024

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing to ask you to overrule the P&Z ruling regarding decibel limit and reinstate the original CUP for Tantra at the 11/19/2024 City Council meeting.

I am a 45 year resident in the 700 block of San Antonio Street. I walk regularly in the neighborhood and I met the owners of Tantra during their recent remodeling. They shared their vision with me of a family friendly neighborhood gathering place. They made a considerable investment of time and energy in realizing their goal. I appreciate being able to walk to enjoy a morning coffee, great food and in the evenings wonderful live music in the outdoor gardens.

It makes absolutely no sense to me that Tantra would have more stringent noise rules than Zelicks and other local businesses. Living here we hear the bands and crowd noise at the Texas State Stadium, parties at Dunbar park, Zelicks and of course the trains. All are the sounds of a growing vibrant diverse community.

I like to think we live in a city that is open to encouraging small business to grow. I remember the outcry when Zelicks and Gumbys came to the neighborhood. All of those fears were unrealized. As a result we have two wonderful small businesses that fit well in the fabric of our community as does Tantra.

Thank you in advance for reinstating the original CUP for Tantra. It would be nice if you refunded the cost of the appeal fee. Lets support small business and move forward for a better San Marcos.

Thanks again for your service to our community.

Sue K. Cohen

## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Pantalion, Joe  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:14 AM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Conditional use permit for Tantra

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Scott Kraverath [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:29 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group <CouncilMembers@sanmarcostx.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Conditional use permit for Tantra

Good morning,

My husband and I would like to implore you to reinstate Tantra's original Conditional Use Permit. We have been to several concerts there, and they've all been fantastic experiences.

We are both 58 years old, and while we LOVE living in this beautiful college town, there are few venues that cater to non-college students. Tantra is family friendly and welcomes all of the citizens of SM! They offer a wide variety of musical acts, and you can feel a real sense of COMMUNITY there.

We live near campus, and we hear loud cars, bumping music, and screaming sirens at all hours of the day and night. This is all part of living in a college town. Tantra adds to the joyful music that is San Marcos—but in a positive way!

Tantra offers a safe and friendly place to hear live music, have a delicious supper, and sip a beer under the trees—a true Texas experience.

So PLEASE, we ask you to reconsider and not silence the treasure that Tantra truly is.

Thank you so much,

Scott and Barbie Kraverath

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Hernandez, Amanda

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From: Pantalion, Joe  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 12:48 PM  
To: Hernandez, Amanda  
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Tantra supporters slandering my name on social media

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From: Lisa Marie Coppoletta [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 12:46:33 PM  
To: CMO - Executive Team <CMOExecTeam@sanmarcostx.gov>; Standridge, Stan <SStandridge@sanmarcostx.gov>; Carr, Greg <GCarr@sanmarcostx.gov>; O'Brien, Shanna <SOBrien@sanmarcostx.gov>; Hughson, Jane <JHughson@sanmarcostx.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Tantra supporters slandering my name on social media

Good Afternoon,

It has come to my attention that I am being slandered on Facebook by supporters of Tantra. And, from the posts I am reading Tantra is also telling falsehoods about their CUP situation.

This is a request that city staff who met with Tantra are allowed to testify so the truth is known to all - because you will have a packed crowd on Tuesday night.

I am not a PZ commissioner.  
I am not SMPD  
I am not Neighborhood Services

I am a citizen who sent city staff concerning videos and if city staff do not provide full context of their attempts to redirect behavior then it begs the question - will other citizens come forward when they have similar concerns?

For some reason I am the target vs. Tantra taking responsibility failing to do their due diligence.

Thank you  
LMC

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Lisa Coppletta  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 10:39 PM  
**To:** Hernandez, Amanda; CMO - Executive Team; Hughson, Jane; Carr, Greg  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Tantra Outreach

Do I need to file an open records?

I am being slandered on facebook.

Will city staff be reporting the times they attempted to work with Tantra or do i need to quickly write a letter to the editor?

The chilling effect on citizens raising concerns will be long term if city staff do not report the steps taken to mitigate the vile music coming out of Tantra.

The narrative on facebook is false and it feeds my concern that city staff are changing the optics of the downtown and surrounding neighborhoods to allow free for all behavior - ero also the "hell ride"

Also keeping in mind Tantra and one particular individual who has slandered my name on facebook are financially benefiting off Tantras irresponsible use of amplified music.

Thanks

On Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 11:46:44 AM CST, Lisa Marie Coppoletta <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Amanda,

Can I please get a list of all the times various departments at city reached out to Tantra via meeting and phone call. That should be in your records, unless there is an accurate presentation slide I missed.

Thanks, LMC

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## Hernandez, Amanda

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**From:** Daniel ODell <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 6:15 AM  
**To:** Council Members Mail Group  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Tantra Bistro Conditional Use Permit

To whom it may concern:

I am Daniel S ODell DDS MS...I grew up in San Marcos, went to Owen Goodnight Jr High, SMHS '83, and Texas State '87. I have practiced Periodontics, a specialty of Dentistry, here in San Marcos for 30 years and at my current location at 400 W San Antonio St for 19 years. We recently purchased Dr. Celeste Braden's office at 316 W San Antonio St (she retired)...with an initial plan for additional parking and storage for our office. We are also considering finishing the inside for an available overnight stay for sedated patients or a future Air B and B type rental. I was working late there on Wednesday night of the previous two weeks and was impressed that the city would allow such loud music in an outdoor venue on a weekday. My first thought was the unfortunate college student trying to study for an exam in one of the apartment complexes immediately next door.

Council members: YOU HAVE A LOUD CITY....with trains and automobiles with loud stereos and exhausts (its a college age thing).....there needs to be some restriction on noise levels at least during the weekdays...

I would propose a modified ordinance with less restriction on Friday and Sat Eves but definitely the 60 dB on Sunday-Monday nights.

Respectfully,

Daniel S. O'Dell DDS, MS  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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