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We establish weighted L^2 -estimates for the wave equation with a damping term and a space-time dependent potential $a(x, t)$ in R^n . Fourier analysis remains a powerful tool when the potential $a = a(t)$ is a function of time and has been used by many authors to derive sharp decay estimates. When $a = a(x)$ the Fourier technique becomes cumbersome. In general multiplier techniques yield weak, dimension-independent decay estimates. Recently, a strengthened multiplier method has been developed for the dissipative wave equation with x-dependent potential $a(x, t) = a(x)$. The method gives sharp results. Our approach is a nontrivial application of this strengthened multiplier method to the case of dissipative equation with space-time dependent potential $a(x, t)$. We derive sharp decay estimates of the energy and the L^2 norm of solutions. (Received September 19, 2007)