

Noise Policy & Procedures

Noise Abatement Decision Making Process: Noise Abatement Determination is a Three-Phased Approach

1. Do any receptors **WARRANT** noise abatement consideration?
2. Is it **FEASIBLE** to provide noise abatement from an engineering and acoustical standpoint?
3. Is it **REASONABLE** to provide noise abatement, considering cost/benefit, maintainability, and land use conformity?

➤ Phase 1 - Noise Abatement Warranted Criteria

Noise Abatement measures are considered on highway projects when design year sound levels:

- Approach or exceed the Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC), 67dBA for residential land uses; or
- Increase by 10 dBA or greater over existing (pre-project) noise levels

➤ Phase 2 - Noise Abatement Feasibility Criteria

Deals with engineering and acoustical considerations, such as:

- Can a noise reduction of **at least 5 dBA** be achieved at the majority of the impacted receptors (50% or greater)?
- Can the noise barrier be constructed without conflicts with utilities and drainage or issues relating to safety, access and maintenance?

➤ Phase 3 - Noise Abatement Reasonableness Criteria

- **Noise Barrier Cost Reasonableness Value**
Maximum 2000 Square Footage of Barrier per Benefitted Receptor
- **Noise Reduction Design Criteria & Goals**
Required to obtain 7dBA or greater reduction for for at least one location
Desired to achieve additional noise reduction goals
- **Consideration of Viewpoints of Owners & Residents**
A Majority (50% or greater) of the benefitted properties must favor the barrier design