

Appendix D – Noise Analysis Report



Highway Noise Analysis Report

Interstate 229 - Exit 3 (Minnesota Avenue)

Sioux Falls, SD
South Dakota DOT

SDDOT 147016 | October 22, 2021



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Highway Noise Analysis Report

Interstate 229 - Exit 3 (Minnesota Avenue)

Prepared for the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and the City of Sioux Falls.

1 Project Overview

The purpose of this analysis is to evaluate and document the effect of the proposed interchange improvements at I-229 – Exit 3 at Minnesota Avenue on traffic noise levels in the project area. The project area is located in the City of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

1.1 Project Background and History

The stakeholders for this project include the City of Sioux Falls, the Sioux Falls Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). SDDOT, in partnership with the other project stakeholders, is completing an environmental study of the Interstate Highway 229 (I-229) interchange and its approach roadways at Exit 3 (Minnesota Avenue) in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. This study will build on the work and findings of recently completed studies for the area, including, the 2010 Decennial Interstate Corridor Study, the I-229 Major Investment Study (MIS), and the I-229 Exit 3 Interchange Modification Justification Report (IMJR).

The Exit 3 interchange, in its current state, was identified as having safety and capacity problems in the 2010 Decennial Interstate Corridor Study, which identified the need for improvements at the interchange. The 2010 study also recommended the widening of I-229 in the study area to add an additional lane in each direction by the forecast year 2020.

The more recent I-229 MIS was completed and included recommendations for interchange improvements at the Exit 3 interchange. The MIS initially evaluated a broad range of alternative for I-229 and Minnesota Avenue at the Exit 3 location, and ultimately recommended three alternatives to be carried forward for further evaluation. For additional project history and background, see Section 1 of the I-229 and Minnesota Avenue Interchange Environmental Assessment. Since the proposed interchange improvements qualify the project as a Type I project, a traffic noise analysis was completed for incorporation into the Environmental Assessment.

1.2 Project Description and Limits

The project includes the reconstruction of the existing I-229 Exit 3 Interchange, from a standard diamond interchange to Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) and northeast ramp split to Minnesota Avenue and 49th Street.

The noise modeling limits include the following roadway limits: I-229 to Exit 2 (Western Avenue) to I-229 to Exit 4 (Cliff Avenue). The City of Sioux Falls' Minnesota Avenue study limits include 37th Street to the north and 57th Street to the south. These were chosen because the needs of the project extend north and south along Minnesota avenue to 41st street and 57th Street respectively.

It should be noted the roadway limits extend further than the project noise areas in order to capture the entire noise environment; the project noise areas are defined in **Section 5** of this report.

1.3 Project Assessment

This study was conducted in accordance with the Noise Analysis and Abatement Guidance for SDDOT (2011) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Noise Regulation found at 23 CFR 772.

The analysis utilized FHWA's Traffic Noise Model 2.5 (TNM 2.5) software model. The analysis includes modeling of existing conditions (2018) and future (2050) build conditions.

2 Noise Overview

Noise is defined as any unwanted sound. Sound travels in a wave motion and produces a sound pressure level. This sound pressure level is commonly measured in decibels. For highway traffic noise, an adjustment, or weighting, of the high- and low-pitched sounds, is made to approximate the way that an average person hears sounds. The adjusted sound levels are stated in units of "A-weighted decibels" (dBA).

A-weighted decibels (dBA) represent the logarithmic increase (decrease) in sound energy relative to a reference energy level. A sound increase of 3 dBA is barely perceptible to the human ear, a 5 dBA increase is clearly noticeable, and a 10 dBA increase is heard as twice as loud. For example, if the sound energy is doubled (e.g., the amount of traffic doubles), there is a three dBA increase in noise, which is just barely noticeable to most people. On the other hand, if the traffic volumes increase by a factor of ten the sound energy level increases by 10 dBA, which is heard as a doubling of the loudness.

The following **Figure 1** provides a rough comparison of the noise levels of some common noise sources.

Figure 1 – Decibel Levels of Common Noise Sources

150	Jet take off (at close range on the ground)
130	Machine gun, riveting machine
120	Thunderclap
117	Jet plane (at passenger ramp)
107	Loud power mower
94	Pneumatic jackhammer
90	Sports car, truck, shouted conversation
50-60	Normal conversation
50	Quiet street
40	Quiet room
0	Threshold of Audibility

Source: "City Noise: Designers Can Restore Quiet, at a Price," by Harold W. Bredlin, *Product Engineering*, (November 1968) as cited in "The Audible Landscape: A Manual for Highway Noise and Land Use; Appendix B" (June 2017) Federal Highway Administration, <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov>

Along with traffic volumes, vehicle speeds, roadway grades, and topography, the distance of a receptor from a sound's source is also a significant factor that contributes to the level of traffic noise. Sound level decreases as the distance from the source increases. A general rule regarding sound level decrease due to increasing distance is: outside of approximately 50 feet, every time the distance between a line source, such as a roadway, and a receptor is doubled, the sound level decreases by either 3 dBA over hard surfaces or 4.5 dBA over soft surfaces.

2.1 Federal Regulations

The Federal Noise Abatement Criteria (23 CFR 772, Procedures for Abatement of Highway Traffic Noise and Construction Noise) established the noise criteria for various land uses. The criteria are in terms of the L_{eq} descriptor. L_{eq} is an equivalent steady-state sound level which contains the same acoustic energy as the time-varying sound level during the same time period.

Federal Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC) apply to all Type I projects requiring FHWA approval, regardless of funding source, or Type I projects requiring Federal-aid highway funds.

This project includes the construction of a new interchange at I-229 and Minnesota Avenue. The addition of a new interchange qualifies it as a Type I project. For the full definition of Type I projects see the definitions at link:

<https://dot.sd.gov/media/documents/FinalNoiseAnalysisandAbatementGuidance071311.pdf>

According to 23 CFR 772, a noise impact is defined as occurring when the predicted traffic noise levels:

- Approach or exceed the noise abatement criteria (see **Table 1**)
- Substantially exceed the existing noise levels

Table 1 – FHWA Noise Abatement Criteria

Activity Category	Activity Criteria ^{1,2} L _{eq} (h) dBA	Evaluation Location	Activity Description
A	57	Exterior	Lands on which serenity and quiet are of extraordinary significance and serve an important public need and where the preservation of those qualities is essential if the area is to continue to serve its intended purpose
B ³	67	Exterior	Residential
C ³	67	Exterior	Active sport areas, amphitheatres, auditoriums, campgrounds, cemeteries, day care centers, hospitals, libraries, medical facilities, parks, picnic areas, places of worship, playgrounds, public meeting rooms, public or nonprofit institutional structures, radio studios, recording studios, recreation areas, Section 4(f) sites, schools, television studios, trails, and trail crossings
D	52	Interior	Auditoriums, day care centers, hospitals, libraries, medical facilities, places of worship, public meeting rooms, public or nonprofit institutional structures, radio studios, recording studios, schools, and television studios
E ³	72	Exterior	Hotels, motels, offices, restaurants/bars, and other developed lands, properties or activities not included in A-D or F
F	--	--	Agriculture, airports, bus yards, emergency services, industrial, logging, maintenance facilities, manufacturing, mining, rail yards, retail facilities, shipyards, utilities (water resources, water treatment, electrical), and warehousing
G	--	--	Undeveloped lands that are not permitted.

Notes:
 (1) L_{eq}(h) shall be used for impact assessment
 (2) L_{eq}(h) Activity Criteria values are for impact determination only, and are not design standards for noise abatement
 (3) Includes undeveloped lands permitted for this activity category

2.2 State Regulations

South Dakota DOT Noise Analysis and Abatement Guidance for SDDOT (2011) has defined “approach or exceed” as when the predicted L_{eq} is within one dBA, or less, or exceeds the L_{eq} given for the activity category in the NAC (Table 1), and “substantially exceed” as an increase of 15 dBA or more over existing noise levels.

In South Dakota, traffic noise impacts are evaluated by measuring and/or modeling the traffic noise levels that exceed the equivalent steady-state sound level of the time during the worst hour traffic volumes for the design year. This number is identified as the L_{eq} levels; the L_{eq} value is compared to FHWA noise abatement criteria.

3 Methodology

3.1 Affected Environment

The purpose of this noise analysis is to determine the impacts the proposed project has on traffic noise levels in the immediate vicinity of the project at noise sensitive receptors (residences, businesses, etc). It is important to note that this analysis only includes traffic generated noise. There are other noise sources in the project area that have some effect on the ambient noise levels.

The project will reconstruct the existing interchange into a SPUI at I-229 and Minnesota Avenue, as well as various other roadway improvements associated with the project.

3.2 Field Monitoring

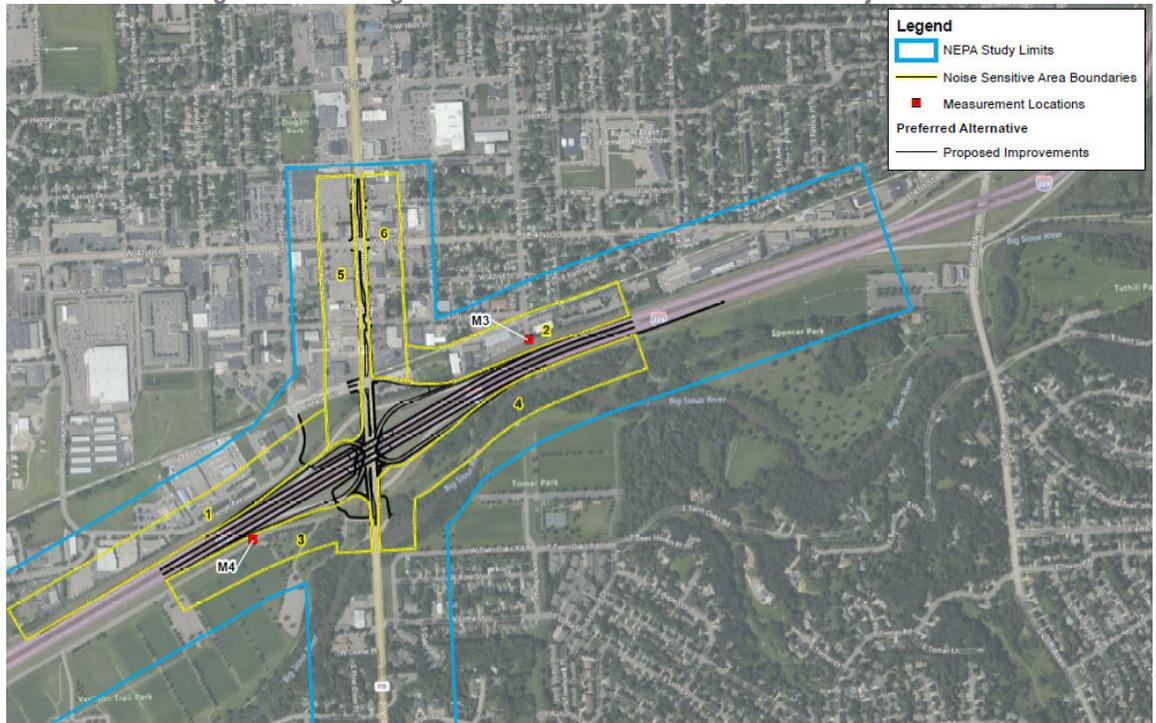
Noise level monitoring is required for noise studies to document existing noise levels and assist in validating the noise prediction model. Monitored noise levels can also be used as a baseline of the possible ambient noise levels that can occur with a new roadway alignment.

The existing noise levels in the I-229 - Minnesota Avenue project area were monitored at two sites on December 18th, 2018. The monitoring location sites are illustrated in **Figure 2**, Existing Conditions. The two sites were selected to have field measurements done, to capture existing noise along the study limits; most of the project area where proposed improvements occur are undeveloped or very few sensitive receptors nearby. Site M3 was selected based on the close proximity to existing I-229 northbound traffic. Site M4 was selected based on the close proximity to existing I-229 southbound traffic.

Short-term noise measurements of 20 minutes were conducted at each of these locations and were used to validate the model. Concurrent traffic data was collected for the duration of each monitoring session, which was then used to develop hourly volumes for each site for the validation model. The noise level monitoring results are shown on the monitoring summary sheets in **Appendix D** and ranged from 72.6 dBA (L_{eq}) to 74.6 dBA (L_{eq}). The monitoring time periods had good weather (no precipitation with winds less than 12 mph), and dry pavement; the sound level meter utilized was a Larson Davis model 831 that was laboratory calibrated in February of 2018.

Field data sheets were generated for each site, including collected traffic data, weather, wind speed, time and location of measurement, as well as any other observed noise sources that occurred during the measurement. Field data sheets and photographs of each measurement location and can be found in **Appendix D**.

Figure 2 – Existing Conditions – Monitor Locations and Project Area



3.3 Noise Model Validation

To verify the accuracy of the noise model, the modeled noise level results must be within +/- 3 dBA of the monitored noise levels (*Highway Traffic Noise: Analysis and Abatement Guidance*, Federal Highway Administration, Washington, DC, December 2011, pp. 31–32). The monitoring results are provided in **Table 2**, which shows the results of the validation modeling to be within the 3 dBA limits for the L_{eq} for both of the monitored sites. Since the sites were within 3 dBA difference between the measured and modeled results, the model is considered validated.

Table 2 – Noise Monitoring Locations & Results

Site ID	Location/Description	Measurement Date/Time	Measured Levels, dBA	Modeled Levels, dBA	Difference dBA
			L_{eq}	L_{eq}	L_{eq}
M3	Philips Road (North of I-229 SB)	December 18, 2018 4:11 pm to 4:31 pm	74.6	73.3	-1.3
M4	Yankton Trails Park (South of I-229 NB)	December 18, 2018 4:44 pm to 5:04 pm	72.6	74.2	1.6

4 Noise Analysis

4.1 Noise Modeling

Traffic noise impacts were assessed by modeling noise levels at noise sensitive receptor locations likely to be affected by the construction of the proposed project. SDDOT Noise Analysis and Abatement Guidance defines the noise study area for the build alternative to be from the beginning project construction point to the ending project construction point. The minimum distance to look for receptors is 300 feet from the edge of pavement. If an impact is identified at 300 feet, the next closest receptor would need to be analyzed until a distance where impacts are no longer identified is reached. If no receptors are located within the 300-foot zone, then the closest receptor(s) should be analyzed.

The project receptors were divided up into 6 separate Noise Sensitive Areas (NSA) based on proximity of adjacent receptors and roadway access locations, as shown in **Appendix A Figure 1; Noise Analysis Overview Map**. There were a total of 40 representative receptor locations throughout the project area. The majority of receptors represented park receptors at Yankton Trail Park and Tomar Park. There were also six residential receptors, consisting of single-family homes. There are a number of commercial properties within the various NSA's, though only 5 of them were identified as having an exterior area of frequent human use; commercial properties without an exterior use were not included with a receptor location. The locations of the existing and future build modeled receptor sites are illustrated in **Appendix C Figures 1 through 3; Noise Analysis Future Build and Barrier Results**.

The attached **Table 3** includes the receptor site's ID and land use for each receptor.

The noise modeling for both the existing noise levels and future build noise levels was done using the noise prediction program TNM 2.5, which was developed for FHWA. The model uses the roadway alignment (horizontal and vertical), traffic volumes, traffic speeds, vehicle classification, and the distances from the roadway center-of-lanes to the receptors as well as relative elevation differences. In general, higher traffic volumes, vehicle speeds, and numbers of heavy trucks increases the loudness of highway traffic noise. For determining the worst-case traffic noise hour, traffic noise levels were modeled for both morning peak hourly volumes and evening peak hourly volumes, to determine which time period resulted in more receptor impacts. The following assumptions were used in modeling the noise levels for this project:

- Traffic data input into the noise model included Existing (year 2018) and Build (year 2050) forecast traffic volumes from the Intersection Justification Report (IJR). Year 2050 was identified as the design year for the proposed project.
- Existing 24-hour vehicle data was used to determine that the morning and evening peak hourly traffic occurs between 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m and 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m, respectively; however, the morning peak hour from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 p.m. resulted in more receptor impacts and was considered the "worst traffic noise hour".
- Vehicular fleet composition was determined based on vehicle class counts provided along I-229, near Exit 1 and Exit 9.

4.2 Noise Model Results

Results of the noise modeling analysis are tabulated in the attached **Table 3, Noise Analysis Summary Table**. The following describes the results of the traffic noise analysis for existing (2018) and future (2050) Build condition.

Existing (2018) modeled noise levels at the modeled receptor locations range from 58.0 dBA (L_{eq}) to 73.3 dBA (L_{eq}). Modeled noise receptors exceeded FHWA Noise Criteria (L_{eq}) at 5 of 40 modeled receptor locations under existing (2018) conditions.

Future (2050) Build modeled noise levels at the modeled receptor locations range from 59.6 dBA (L_{eq}) to 75.0 dBA (L_{eq}). Modeled noise receptors exceeded FHWA criteria (L_{eq}) at 11 of 40 modeled receptor locations under Build (2050) conditions, with none of these being from a “substantial increase” in traffic noise due to the proposed project.

Modeled noise level changes range from 0.4 dBA to 4.6 dBA for existing receptor locations when comparing the Build (2050) to the existing (2018) conditions.

Generally, traffic noise levels are increased with the proposed build project due to many factors. A few of the major changes that influence the increases are as follows:

- Traffic demands will significantly increase between the existing (2018) conditions and future (2050) conditions.
- Portions of the proposed roadways will be shifted closer to the existing receptors.

5 Noise Abatement Analysis

Because Federal Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC) are both approached and exceeded at modeled receptor locations for the future (2050) Build conditions throughout the project area, noise abatement must be considered.

Noise mitigation measures have been considered, as listed in 23 CFR 772.13(c) and are addressed below:

- Traffic management measures: The primary purpose of the facility is to move people and goods. Restrictions of certain vehicles or speeds would be inconsistent with the purpose of the project.
- Alteration of horizontal and vertical alignments: The project was aligned for practical reasons based on grade and safety within the available right of way. Redesigning the horizontal and vertical alignments to minimize noise impacts would be impractical for this project.
- Acquisition of real property or interests therein (predominantly unimproved property) to serve as a buffer zone to preempt development that would be adversely impacted by traffic noise: Exclusive land use designations or acquisition of property to serve as a buffer zone between the roadway and adjacent lands would not be feasible because land has already been developed along the project corridor.
- Construction of Noise Barriers: including acquisition of property rights, either within or outside the highway right of way.

Noise barriers have been chosen as the most cost-effective noise mitigation measure available for this project.

The use of quieter pavements is not an acceptable noise abatement measure for Federal-aid projects. Planting of vegetation or landscaping is not an acceptable Federal-aid noise abatement measure because only dense stands of evergreen vegetation at least 100 feet deep will reduce noise levels by a noticeable amount.

5.1 Noise Barrier Evaluation

When noise impacts are identified, a noise barrier evaluation analysis must be performed. Noise barrier construction decisions are determined based on the evaluation of the feasibility and reasonableness of the noise barriers. All of the following conditions must be met in order for noise abatement to be justified and incorporated into the project design. Failure to achieve any single element of feasibility or reasonableness will result in the noise abatement measure being deemed not feasible or not reasonable, as applicable.

Feasibility of the noise barrier is determined by engineering feasibility (i.e., whether a noise barrier could feasibly be constructed on the site) and by acoustic feasibility. Acoustic feasibility is met when a minimum of 60% of front row receptors directly behind the noise wall achieve a 5 dBA noise reduction (the noise wall must extend entirely across receptor's property line). The feasibility of noise barrier construction is sometimes dependent on design details that are not known until the final design of the project. The following analysis assumes that noise barriers could be feasibly constructed throughout the project area, up to 20 feet high along the corridor. Due to safety concerns, SDDOT will generally not construct barriers higher than 20 feet.

Reasonableness is based on three factors determined by the number of benefited receptors from the noise abatement that must be met. A benefited receptor is any receptor behind the noise

barrier that receives a minimum noise level reduction of 5 dBA or more. The three reasonableness factors are as follows:

- Based on 2010 construction cost estimates and adjusted for inflation (18.2% cumulative inflation rate 2010-2020, from \$44/ ft² and \$21,000), SDDOT will use \$52/ft² for barrier costs and \$25,000 as the cost per benefited receptor. If the cost per benefited receptor is more than \$25,000 the abatement measure will not be considered reasonable. The cost calculations for the noise abatement measure should include all items directly related to the construction of the noise abatement measure, including additional costs of some items such as right-of-way, drainage modifications, utility relocation, traffic control, retaining walls, landscaping for graffiti abatement and standard aesthetic treatments.
- At least 40% of benefited receptors must achieve a 7 dBA noise reduction in order for noise abatement to be reasonable. If a barrier is unable to achieve the design goal, further evaluation will not be completed.
- The viewpoints of the property owners and residents of all benefited receptors shall be solicited and considered in reaching a decision on the abatement measure to be provided. See Section 9 of the SDDOT Noise Analysis and Abatement Guidance (effective date: July 13, 2011) for a detailed explanation of the voting system.

5.1.1 Project Summary

Federal Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC) are currently predicted to be both approached and exceeded throughout portions of the study area. Noise barriers were evaluated at 4 barrier locations within the project's 6 noise areas. **Appendix C Build Condition Figures 1-4** illustrates the analysis summary of noise barriers that were considered.

Noise barrier cost-effectiveness results are tabulated in **Appendix B Noise Barrier Tables**.

5.2 Noise Barrier Results

The project receptors were divided up into 6 separate noise sensitive areas based on proximity of adjacent receptors and highway access locations (see **Figure 1** in **Appendix A**).

5.2.1 Noise Area 1 – North of I-229 Southbound (West of Minnesota Avenue)

Land use north of I-229 Southbound, west of Minnesota Avenue consists of two commercial receptors. Noise levels were modeled at two receptor locations in Noise Area 1. Modeled noise levels approached or exceeded the Federal NAC at 1 of 2 receptor locations with future (2050) Build conditions. A noise barrier was modeled across this parcel, along the existing right-of-way along I-229 Southbound, to mitigate traffic noise to this property.

5.2.1.1 Barrier 1-1

An approximately 400 foot long, 12.9-foot high (average) noise barrier was modeled on the north side of I-229 Southbound, west of Minnesota Avenue, to mitigate impacts to the commercial receptor 1-1. The noise barrier achieved a 5 dBA noise reduction for a minimum of 60% of the front row receptors directly behind the noise barrier and a 7 dBA reduction for receptor 1-1. However, the cost per benefited receptor is \$267,904, which exceeds the allowable CE threshold of \$25,000 benefited receptor. Therefore, the barrier is not considered reasonable and is not proposed.

5.2.2 Noise Area 2 – North of I-229 Southbound (West of Minnesota Avenue)

Land use north of I-229 Southbound, east of Minnesota Avenue consists of one commercial receptor. Noise levels were modeled at 1 receptor location in Noise Area 2. Modeled noise levels approached or exceeded the Federal NAC at 1 of 1 receptor locations with future (2050) Build conditions. A noise barrier was modeled across this parcel, along the existing right-of-way along I-229 Southbound, to mitigate traffic noise to this property.

5.2.2.1 Barrier 2-1

An approximately 350 foot long, 10.9-foot high (average) noise barrier was modeled on the north side of I-229 Southbound, east of Minnesota Avenue, to mitigate impacts to the commercial receptor 2-3. The noise barrier achieved a 5 dBA noise reduction for a minimum of 60% of the front row receptors directly behind the noise barrier and a 7 dBA reduction for receptor 2-3. However, the cost per benefited receptor is \$197,470, which exceeds the allowable CE threshold of \$25,000 benefited receptor. Therefore, the barrier is not considered reasonable and is not proposed.

5.2.3 Noise Area 3 – South of I-229 Northbound (West of Minnesota Avenue)

Land use south of I-229 Northbound, west of Minnesota Avenue consist of Yankton Trail Park. The park's parcel extends from Western Avenue to Minnesota Avenue, containing various sporting fields, and trail crossings.

Noise levels were modeled at 23 receptor locations in Noise Area 3, which represented seating areas at the sporting fields as well as one trail crossing and 2 picnic areas. Modeled noise levels approached or exceeded the Federal NAC at 6 of 23 receptor locations with future (2050) Build conditions.

5.2.3.1 Barrier 3-1

An approximately 5,000 foot long, 12.2-foot high (average) noise barrier was modeled on the south side of I-229 Northbound, west of Minnesota Avenue, to mitigate impacts to the receptors located at Yankton Trail Park. The noise barrier was unable to achieve a 5 dBA noise reduction for 60% of the front row receptors directly behind the noise barrier and is not considered feasible. For the reasonableness determination, at least 40% of the benefited receptors achieved a noise reduction of 7 dBA or more, however, the cost per benefited receptor is \$316,680, which exceeds the allowable CE threshold of \$25,000 benefited receptor. Therefore, the barrier is not considered feasible or reasonable and is not proposed.

5.2.4 Noise Area 4 – South of I-229 Northbound (East of Minnesota Avenue)

Land uses south of I-229 Northbound, east of Minnesota Avenue consist of Tomar Park and picnic areas along the Sioux Falls Bike Trail. Noise levels were modeled at 6 receptor locations in Noise Area 4. Modeled noise levels approached or exceeded the Federal NAC at 3 of 6 receptor locations with future (2050) Build conditions.

5.2.4.1 Barrier 4-1

An approximately 1,965 foot long, 13.1-foot high (average) noise barrier was modeled on the south side of I-229 Southbound, east of Minnesota Avenue, to mitigate impacts to the receptors located at Tomar Park. The noise barrier was unable to achieve a 5 dBA noise reduction for 60% of the front row receptors directly behind the noise barrier and is not considered feasible. For the

reasonableness determination, at least 40% of the benefited receptors achieved a noise reduction of 7 dBA or more, however, the cost per benefited receptor is the cost per benefited receptor is \$446,186, which exceeds the allowable CE threshold of \$25,000 benefited receptor. Therefore, the barrier is not considered feasible or reasonable and is not proposed.

5.2.5 Noise Area 5 – Minnesota Avenue, West (North of I-229 Interchange)

Land uses along the west side of Minnesota Avenue, between I-229 and 39th Street consists of 2 commercial receptors. Noise levels were modeled at 2 receptor locations in Noise Area 5. Modeled noise levels approached or exceeded the Federal NAC at 0 of 2 receptor locations with future (2050) Build conditions. With no impacted receptors, noise mitigation was not evaluated.

5.2.6 Noise Area 6 – Minnesota Avenue, East (South of I-229 Interchange)

Land uses along the east side of Minnesota Avenue, between I-229 and 39th Street consists of 6 residential receptors. Noise levels were modeled at 6 receptor locations in Noise Area 6. Modeled noise levels approached or exceeded the Federal NAC at 0 of 6 receptor locations with future (2050) Build conditions. With no impacted receptors, noise mitigation was not evaluated.

6 Construction Noise

The construction activities associated with implementation of the proposed project will result in increased noise levels relative to existing conditions. These impacts will primarily be associated with construction equipment and pile driving.

The following table (**Table 4**) shows peak noise levels monitored at 50 feet from various types of construction equipment. This equipment is primarily associated with site grading/site preparation, which is generally the roadway construction phase associated with the greatest noise levels.

Table 4 – Typical Construction Equipment Noise Levels at 50 Feet

Equipment Type	Manufacturers Sampled	Total Number of Models in Sample	Peak Noise Levels (dBA)	
			Range	Average
Backhoes	5	6	74-92	83
Front Loaders	5	30	75-96	85
Dozers	8	41	65-95	85
Graders	3	15	72-92	84
Scrapers	2	27	76-98	87
Pile Drivers	N/A	N/A	95-105	101

Source: United States Environmental Protection Agency and Federal Highway Administration

Elevated noise levels are, to a degree, unavoidable for this type of project. SDDOT will require that contractors comply with the sound control requirements identified in the SDDOT Standard Specifications for Roads and Bridges. Construction noise abatement will be determined by weighing the duration of the project, benefits achieved, overall adverse social, economic and environmental effects, and cost of abatement measures.

It is anticipated that night construction may be required to minimize traffic impacts and to improve safety. However, construction will be limited to daytime hours as much as possible. If necessary,

a detailed nighttime construction mitigation plan will be developed during the project final design stage.

Any associated high-impact equipment noise, such as pile driving, pavement sawing, or jack hammering, will be unavoidable with construction of the proposed project. Pile-driving noise is associated with any bridge construction and sheet piling necessary for retaining wall construction. High-impact noise construction activities will be limited in duration to the greatest extent possible. While pile-driving equipment results in the highest peak noise level, as shown in **Table 4**, it is limited in duration to the activities noted above (e.g., bridge construction). The use of pile drivers, jack hammers, and pavement sawing equipment will be prohibited during nighttime hours.

7 Conclusions

Noise levels surrounding the I-229/Minnesota Avenue interchange project area exceed Federal NAC criteria for several single-family receptors and recreational receptors under the future (2050) Build conditions.

In general, the reconstruction of the I-229 interchange (Exit 3) at Minnesota Avenue will result in increases in traffic noise levels compared to the existing conditions. Modeled build (2050) condition noise levels increase from 0.4 dBA to 4.6 dBA over the existing (2018) conditions.

Generally, traffic noise levels are increased with the proposed build project due to many factors. Some of the major changes that influence the increases are as follows:

- Traffic demands will increase between the existing (2018) conditions and future (2050) conditions.
- The I-229 corridor will be widened to three through-lanes, plus the reconstruction of the interchange into a SPU. The construction of additional lanes along I-229 and widening of Minnesota Avenue shifts the traffic closer to the existing receptors, resulting in increased noise levels.

Acoustic reasonableness and cost effectiveness were calculated for each of the 4 noise barriers that were evaluated for this study. None of the noise barriers were found to be both reasonable and feasible and will not be proposed to be incorporated into the project.

If there are any significant changes to the final design of the I-229 and Minnesota Avenue Interchange project, the environmental document may need to be re-evaluated.

Tables

Table 3 – Noise Analysis Summary Table

Table 3
Noise Analysis Summary
Existing and Future Scenarios

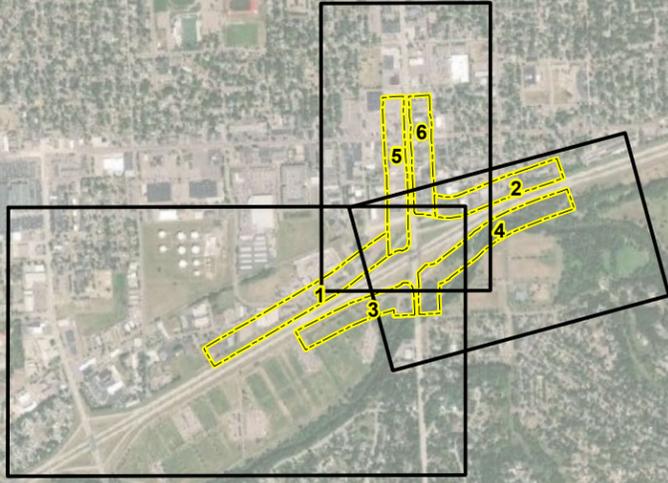
Noise Level Comparison to Standards	
XX	Bold ; Approach or Exceeds FHWA Activity Criteria
XX	<u>Underline</u> ; substantial increase (15 dBA) in noise levels
N/A	Receptor does not exist in Scenario

Receiver		FHWA Activity (dBA)		Existing Modeled 2018 Conditions	Future Build Conditions	Difference - Existing and Build
Receptor ID	Land Use	Activity Category	Criteria L_{eq}	L_{eq}	L_{eq}	L_{eq}
Noise Area 1 - North of I-229 Southbound, West of Minnesota Ave						
1-1	General	C	67	73.2	74.6	1.4
1-4	Commercial	E	72	67.8	69.3	1.5
Noise Area 2 - North of I-229 Southbound, East of Minnesota Ave						
2-3	Commercial	E	72	73.3	75.0	1.7
Noise Area 3 - South of I-229 Northbound, West of Minnesota Ave						
3-1	Park/Sports Area	C	67	60.2	62.1	1.9
3-2	Park/Sports Area	C	67	64.7	66.8	2.1
3-3	Park/Sports Area	C	67	64.4	66.0	1.6
3-4	Park/Sports Area	C	67	63.8	66.0	2.2
3-6	Park/Sports Area	C	67	62.6	63.0	0.4
3-8	Park/Sports Area	C	67	59.0	60.8	1.8
3-9	Park/Sports Area	C	67	64.7	66.3	1.6
3-10	Park/Sports Area	C	67	67.2	68.7	1.5
3-11	Park/Sports Area	C	67	62.5	64.2	1.7
3-12	Park/Sports Area	C	67	61.3	62.9	1.6
3-13	Park/Sports Area	C	67	65.2	66.6	1.4
3-14	Park/Sports Area	C	67	63.9	64.9	1.0
3-15	Park/Sports Area	C	67	63.2	64.0	0.8
3-16	Park/Sports Area	C	67	61.0	61.4	0.4
3-17	Park/Sports Area	C	67	63.0	63.6	0.6
3-18	Park/Sports Area	C	67	59.2	61.4	2.2
3-19	Park/Sports Area	C	67	59.0	59.6	0.6
3-20	Park/Sports Area	C	67	59.2	60.2	1.0
3-21	Park/Sports Area	C	67	59.8	61.0	1.2
3-22	Park/Sports Area	C	67	58.0	59.6	1.6
3-23	Park/Sports Area	C	67	58.5	60.2	1.7
3-24	Park/Sports Area	C	67	59.3	61.1	1.8
3-25	Park/Sports Area	C	67	59.6	61.5	1.9
Noise Area 4 - South of I-229 Northbound, East of Minnesota Ave						
4-2	Park/Sports Area	C	67	60.3	63.0	2.7
4-3	Park/Sports Area	C	67	67.3	71.9	4.6
4-4	Park/Sports Area	C	67	66.3	68.6	2.3
4-5	Park/Sports Area	C	67	61.1	63.3	2.2
4-6	Park/Sports Area	C	67	64.4	66.6	2.2
4-7	Park/Sports Area	C	67	62.1	64.4	2.3
Noise Area 5 - Minnesota Avenue, West (North of I-229)						
5-1	Commercial	E	72	64.8	65.8	1.0
5-2	Commercial	E	72	67.7	68.7	1.0
Noise Area 6 - Minnesota Avenue, East (North of I-229)						
6-15	Residential	B	67	62.2	64.3	2.1
6-16	Residential	B	67	61.7	63.5	1.8
6-17	Residential	B	67	62.4	64.7	2.3
6-18	Residential	B	67	60.6	62.6	2.0
6-19	Residential	B	67	60.2	62.1	1.9
6-20	Residential	B	67	60.8	63.1	2.3

Appendix A

Noise Analysis Overview Map (1)

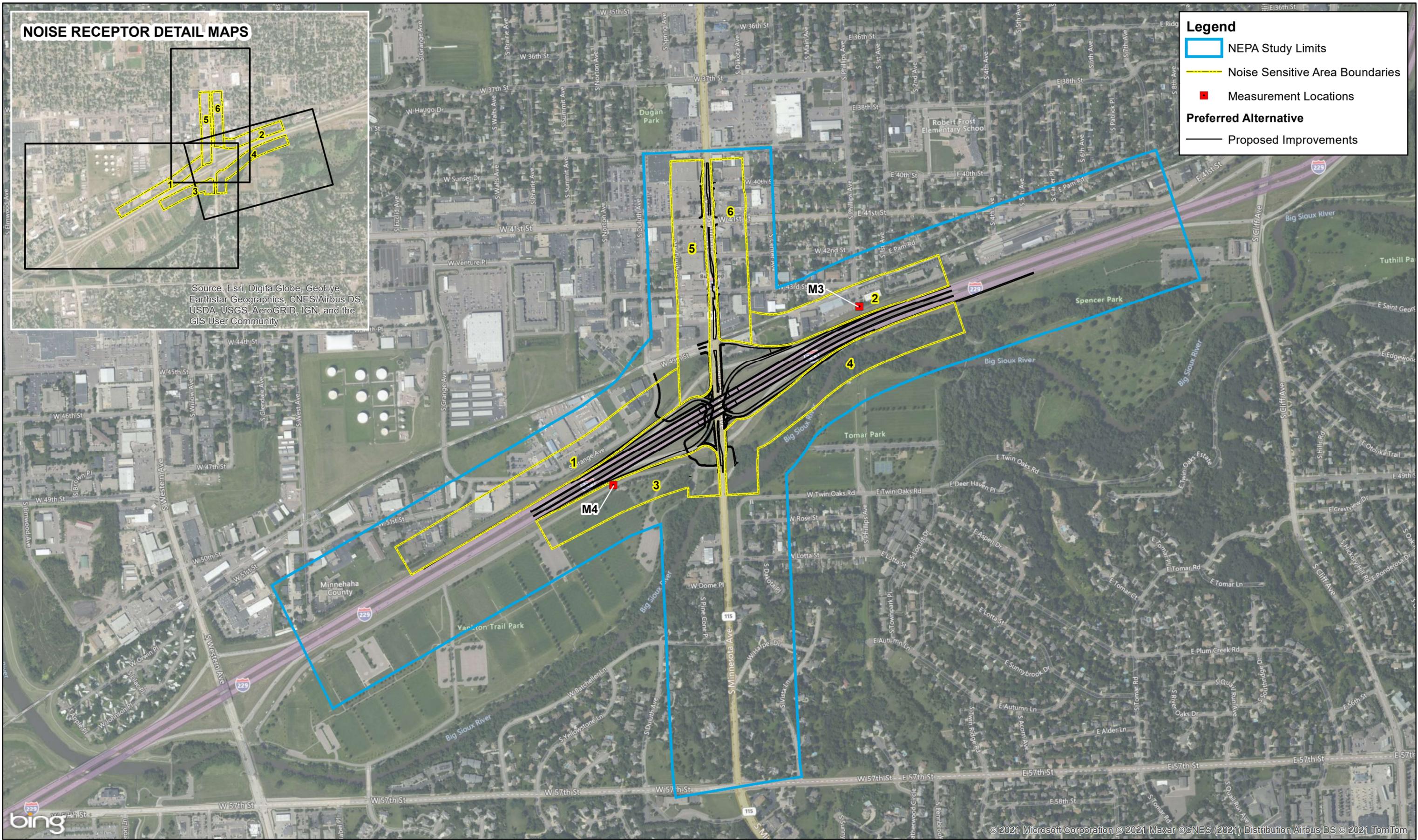
NOISE RECEPTOR DETAIL MAPS



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Legend

- NEPA Study Limits
- Noise Sensitive Area Boundaries
- Measurement Locations
- Preferred Alternative**
- Proposed Improvements

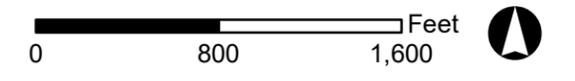


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SEH
 401 East 8th Street
 Suite 309
 Sioux Falls, SD 57103
 (605) 330-7000

Print Date: 10/5/2021
 Source: Bing Maps,
 Lincoln County
 Map by: mfalk
 Projection: State Plane
 South Dakota S

Noise Analysis Overview Map
 Exit 3 (Minnesota Avenue) Interchange
 Minnehaha County, SD



Appendix B

Noise Barrier Tables

**Table B1
Build Noise Barrier Cost Effectiveness (Noise Area 1)
Barrier 1-1**

Noise Barrier	Receiver	Land Use	FHWA Noise Standard (Leq dBA)	Future Noise Levels		Acoustic Effectiveness			Cost Effectiveness (\$52/SF)					Feasible/ Reasonable
				Build (Leq dBA)	Build with Barriers (Leq dBA)	dBa Reduction	Number of Receptors	² Front Row Benefited Receptors (-5 dBA)	Barrier Length (ft)	Average Barrier Height (ft)	Area of Barrier (SF)	Total Cost	Cost per Benefited Receptor	
1-1	1-1	C	67	75.3	68.3	-7.0	1	1	400	12.9	5152	\$267,904	\$267,904	NO

Number of Benefited Receptors (Front Row) = 1 (100%)

¹Total Number of Benefited Receptors = 1

Number of Benefited Receptors meeting Design Goal (7 dBA Reduction) = 1 (100%)

Goal of 60% or greater

Goal of 40% or greater

¹All receptors with a noise reduction of at least 5 dBA from the barrier

²Non-front row receptors denoted with a dash

**Table B2
Build Noise Barrier Cost Effectiveness (Noise Area 2)
Barrier 2-1**

Noise Barrier	Receiver	Land Use	FHWA Noise Standard (Leq dBA)	Future Noise Levels		Acoustic Effectiveness			Cost Effectiveness (\$52/SF)					Feasible/ Reasonable
				Build (Leq dBA)	Build with Barriers (Leq dBA)	dBa Reduction	Number of Receptors	² Front Row Benefited Receptors (-5 dBA)	Barrier Length (ft)	Average Barrier Height (ft)	Area of Barrier (SF)	Total Cost	Cost per Benefited Receptor	
2-1	2-3	E	72	75.0	68.0	-7.0	1	1	350	10.9	3798	\$197,470	\$197,470	NO

Number of Benefited Receptors (Front Row) = 1 (100%)

¹Total Number of Benefited Receptors = 1

Number of Benefited Receptors meeting Design Goal (7 dBA Reduction) = 1 (100%)

Goal of 60% or greater

Goal of 40% or greater

¹All receptors with a noise reduction of at least 5 dBA from the barrier

²Non-front row receptors denoted with a dash

**Table B3
Build Noise Barrier Cost Effectiveness (Noise Area 3)
Barrier 3-1**

Noise Barrier	Receiver	Land Use	FHWA Noise Standard (Leq dBA)	Future Noise Levels		Acoustic Effectiveness			Cost Effectiveness (\$52/SF)					Feasible/ Reasonable							
				Build (Leq dBA)	Build with Barriers (Leq dBA)	dB A Reduction	Number of Receptors	² Front Row Benefited Receptors (-5 dBA)	Barrier Length (ft)	Average Barrier Height (ft)	Area of Barrier (SF)	Total Cost	Cost per Benefited Receptor								
3-1	3-1	C	67	62.1	56.6	-5.5	1	-	5000	12.2	60900	\$3,166,800	\$316,680	NO							
	3-2	C	67	66.8	60.6	-6.2	1	1													
	3-3	C	67	66.0	58.5	-7.5	1	1													
	3-4	C	67	66.0	59.0	-7.0	1	1													
	3-6	C	67	63.0	62.5	-0.5	1	0													
	3-8	C	67	60.8	56.6	-4.2	1	-													
	3-9	C	67	66.3	58.6	-7.7	1	1													
	3-10	C	67	68.7	59.4	-9.3	1	1													
	3-11	C	67	64.2	58.0	-6.2	1	1													
	3-12	C	67	62.9	56.4	-6.5	1	-													
	3-13	C	67	66.6	60.3	-6.3	1	1													
	3-14	C	67	64.9	61.6	-3.3	1	0													
	3-15	C	67	64.0	60.8	-3.2	1	0													
	3-16	C	67	61.4	58.6	-2.8	1	0													
	3-17	C	67	63.6	60.2	-3.4	1	0													
	3-18	C	67	61.4	55.6	-5.8	1	-													
	3-19	C	67	59.6	55.9	-3.7	1	-													
	3-20	C	67	60.2	56.2	-4.0	1	-													
	3-21	C	67	61.0	56.4	-4.6	1	-													
	3-22	C	67	59.6	55.0	-4.6	1	-													
	3-23	C	67	60.2	55.6	-4.6	1	-													
	3-24	C	67	61.1	56.2	-4.9	1	-													
	3-25	C	67	61.5	57.9	-3.6	1	-													
	Number of Benefited Receptors (Front Row) =														7	(58%)	Goal of 60% or greater				
	¹ Total Number of Benefited Receptors =														10						
Number of Benefited Receptors meeting Design Goal (7 dBA Reduction) =								4	(40%)	Goal of 40% or greater											

¹All receptors with a noise reduction of at least 5 dBA from the barrier

²Non-front row receptors denoted with a dash

**Table B4
Build Noise Barrier Cost Effectiveness (Noise Area 4)
Barrier 4-1**

Noise Barrier	Receiver	Land Use	FHWA Noise Standard (Leq dBA)	Future Noise Levels		Acoustic Effectiveness			Cost Effectiveness (\$52/SF)					Feasible/ Reasonable
				Build (Leq dBA)	Build with Barriers (Leq dBA)	dB A Reduction	Number of Receptors	² Front Row Benefited Receptors (-5 dBA)	Barrier Length (ft)	Average Barrier Height (ft)	Area of Barrier (SF)	Total Cost	Cost per Benefited Receptor	
4-1	4-2	C	67	63.0	60.3	-2.7	1	-	1965	13.1	25742	\$1,338,558	\$446,186	NO
	4-3	C	67	71.9	62.7	-9.2	1	1						
	4-4	C	67	68.6	61.6	-7.0	1	-						
	4-5	C	67	63.3	58.6	-4.7	1	-						
	4-6	C	67	66.6	61.6	-5.0	1	-						
	4-7	C	67	64.4	62.5	-1.9	1	-						

Number of Benefited Receptors (Front Row) =	1	(100%)	Goal of 60% or greater
¹ Total Number of Benefited Receptors =	3		
Number of Benefited Receptors meeting Design Goal (7 dBA Reduction) =	2	(67%)	Goal of 40% or greater

¹All receptors with a noise reduction of at least 5 dBA from the barrier

²Non-front row receptors denoted with a dash

Appendix C

Future Build and Barrier Results Figure (1-3)

Legend

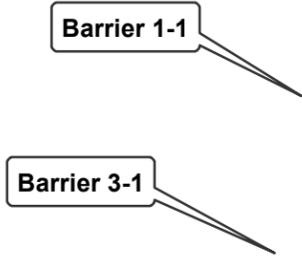
-  NEPA Study Limits
-  Noise Sensitive Area Boundaries
-  Modeled Noise Barriers

Noise Receptors

-  Impacted
-  Not Impacted

Preferred Alternative

-  Proposed Improvements



Barrier 2-1

Barrier 4-1

Legend

-  NEPA Study Limits
-  Noise Sensitive Area Boundaries
-  Modeled Noise Barriers

Noise Receptors

-  Impacted
-  Not Impacted

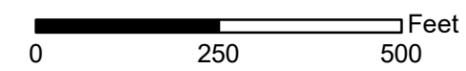
Preferred Alternative

-  Proposed Improvements

401 East 8th Street
Suite 309
Sioux Falls, SD 57103
(605) 330-7000

Print Date: 10/22/2021
Source: Bing Maps,
Lincoln County
Map by: mfalk
Projection: State Plane
South Dakota S

Future Build and Barrier Results Figure - NSA's 2 and 4
Exit 3 (Minnesota Avenue) Interchange
Minnehaha County, SD



Legend

-  NEPA Study Limits
-  Noise Sensitive Area Boundaries

Noise Receptors

-  Impacted
-  Not Impacted

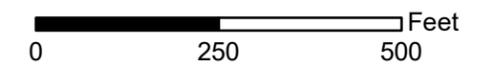
Preferred Alternative

-  Proposed Improvements

401 East 8th Street
Suite 309
Sioux Falls, SD 57103
(605) 330-7000

Print Date: 10/22/2021
Source: Bing Maps,
Lincoln County
Map by: mfalk
Projection: State Plane
South Dakota S

Future Build and Barrier Results Figure - NSA's 5 and 6
Exit 3 (Minnesota Avenue) Interchange
Minnehaha County, SD



Appendix D

Noise Monitoring Data

Summary

File Name 831_Data.063
 Serial Number 0004132
 Model Model 831
 Firmware Version 2.314
 User Graham Johnson
 Location Sioux Falls, SD
 Job Description I-229 Exits 3 & 4
 Note

Monitoring Location M3:

North of I-229 SB (S Phillips Ave)

Coords: 43.51254 N, 96.72609 W

Traffic (Cars/MT/HT estimated hourly from short count):

NB - 1620 / 273 / 54

SB - 1206 / 312 / 33

Measurement Description

Start 2018-12-18 16:11:04
 Stop 2018-12-18 16:31:33
 Duration 00:20:29.2
 Run Time 00:20:25.6
 Pause 00:00:03.6

 Pre Calibration 2018-12-18 16:09:22
 Post Calibration None
 Calibration Deviation ---

Overall Settings

RMS Weight A Weighting
 Peak Weight A Weighting
 Detector Fast
 Preamp PRM831
 Microphone Correction Off
 Integration Method Linear
 Gain 0.0 dB
 Overload 144.3 dB

	A	C	Z
Under Range Peak	76.9	73.9	78.9 dB
Under Range Limit	26.6	27.0	32.9 dB
Noise Floor	17.4	17.9	23.3 dB

Results

LAeq 74.6 dB
 LAE 105.5 dB
 EA 3.905 mPa²h
 LApeak (max) 2018-12-18 16:17:06 95.0 dB
 LAFmax 2018-12-18 16:20:31 82.9 dB
 LAFmin 2018-12-18 16:28:25 64.2 dB
 SEA -99.9 dB

Exceedance	Count	Duration
LAF > 65.0 dB	2	1225.4 s
LAF > 85.0 dB	0	0.0 s
LApeak > 135.0 dB	0	0.0 s
LApeak > 137.0 dB	0	0.0 s
LApeak > 140.0 dB	0	0.0 s

Community Noise	Ldn	LDay 07:00-23:00	LNight 23:00-07:00	Lden	LDay 07:00-19:00	LEvening 19:00-23:00
	74.6	74.6	-99.9	74.6	74.6	-99.9
LCeq	77.8 dB					
LAeq	74.6 dB					
LCeq - LAeq	3.2 dB					
LALeq	75.3 dB					
LAeq	74.6 dB					
LALeq - LAeq	0.7 dB					
# Overloads	0					
Overload Duration	0.0 s					

Statistics

LAF5.00 77.5 dB
 LAF10.00 76.8 dB
 LAF33.30 75.1 dB
 LAF50.00 74.1 dB
 LAF66.60 73.1 dB
 LAF90.00 71.0 dB

Calibration History

Preamp	Date	dB re. 1V/Pa	6.3	8.0	10.0
PRM831	2018-12-18 16:09:20	-26.9	49.2	58.3	60.3
PRM831	2018-12-18 15:30:09	-26.9	65.5	62.1	58.1
PRM831	2018-12-18 14:41:14	-26.9	79.4	66.7	69.6
PRM831	2018-11-29 16:32:07	-26.9	57.1	64.2	58.9
PRM831	2018-11-27 14:50:27	-26.8	61.0	64.9	52.8
PRM831	2018-08-08 11:30:10	-26.8	59.1	62.3	73.2
PRM831	2018-08-08 11:29:18	-26.8	64.5	59.1	64.4
PRM831	2018-06-18 14:38:18	-26.9	63.8	57.0	57.1
PRM831	2018-06-18 14:35:13	-26.9	64.1	67.4	59.7
PRM831	2018-06-18 14:28:37	-26.9	50.1	60.6	64.6
PRM831	2018-06-14 09:37:59	-27.0	50.9	65.4	65.2

I-229 / Exits 3&4 (noise monitoring)

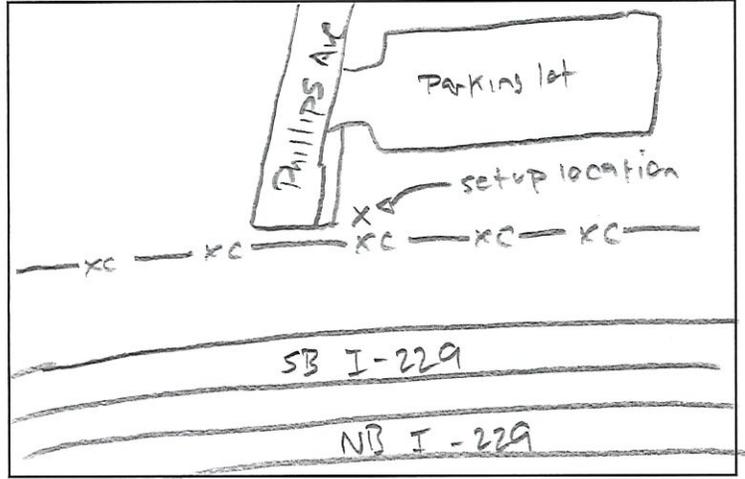
Date: 12/18/18
 Location: Phillips Ave + I-229
 GPS Coordinates: 43.51254 -96.72609
 Start time: 16:11
 Finish time: 16:31

Photos Taken: Yes/No
 Calibration of Unit: Yes/No

Wind: 3 Mph From SE

Vehicle Count		I-229 South Bound	Total
passenger car	26 26 26 26	 	540
single-unit truck			91
bus		1	1
semi truck / heavy truck			18
Total			

Site Set-up Diagram



Noise Comments

- Semi Truck turning from J.H. Larson onto Phillips Ave. at 16:29 (approximate time)
- First 30 seconds I spoke when standing next to microphone.



Site M3: North of I-229 SB, at Phillips Ave end. Camera facing southeast (12/28/2018)

Summary

File Name 831_Data.064
 Serial Number 0004132
 Model Model 831
 Firmware Version 2.314
 User Graham Johnson
 Location Sioux Falls, SD
 Job Description I-229 Exits 3 & 4
 Note

Monitoring Location M4:

South of I-229 NB (Yankton Trail Park)
 Coords: 43.50822 N, 96.73507 W
 Traffic (Cars/MT/HT estimated hourly from short count):
 NB - 1485 / 558 / 93
 SB - 2151 / 345 / 39

Measurement Description

Start 2018-12-18 16:44:08
 Stop 2018-12-18 17:04:46
 Duration 00:20:38.5
 Run Time 00:20:19.3
 Pause 00:00:19.2

 Pre Calibration 2018-12-18 16:41:39
 Post Calibration None
 Calibration Deviation ---

Overall Settings

RMS Weight A Weighting
 Peak Weight A Weighting
 Detector Fast
 Preamp PRM831
 Microphone Correction Off
 Integration Method Linear
 Gain 0.0 dB
 Overload 144.3 dB

	A	C	Z
Under Range Peak	76.9	73.9	78.9 dB
Under Range Limit	26.6	27.0	32.9 dB
Noise Floor	17.5	17.9	23.4 dB

Results

LAeq 72.6 dB
 LAE 103.4 dB
 EA 2.447 mPa²h
 LApeak (max) 2018-12-18 17:03:58 94.6 dB
 LAFmax 2018-12-18 16:48:46 84.3 dB
 LAFmin 2018-12-18 16:47:32 63.4 dB
 SEA -99.9 dB

LAF > 65.0 dB (Exceedance Counts / Duration)	1	1219.1 s
LAF > 85.0 dB (Exceedance Counts / Duration)	0	0.0 s
LApeak > 135.0 dB (Exceedance Counts / Duration)	0	0.0 s
LApeak > 137.0 dB (Exceedance Counts / Duration)	0	0.0 s
LApeak > 140.0 dB (Exceedance Counts / Duration)	0	0.0 s

Community Noise	Ldn	LDay 07:00-23:00	LNight 23:00-07:00	Lden	LDay 07:00-19:00	LEvening 19:00-23:00
	72.6	72.6	-99.9	72.6	72.6	-99.9
LCeq	77.3 dB					
LAeq	72.6 dB					
LCeq - LAeq	4.7 dB					
LAeq	73.3 dB					
LAeq	72.6 dB					
LAeq - LAeq	0.7 dB					
# Overloads	0					
Overload Duration	0.0 s					

Statistics

LAF5.00 75.9 dB
 LAF10.00 74.8 dB
 LAF33.30 72.8 dB
 LAF50.00 71.8 dB
 LAF66.60 70.8 dB
 LAF90.00 68.7 dB

Calibration History

Preamp	Date	dB re. 1V/Pa	6.3	8.0	10.0
PRM831	2018-12-18 16:41:37	-26.9	66.1	60.1	70.0
PRM831	2018-12-18 16:09:20	-26.9	49.2	58.3	60.3
PRM831	2018-12-18 15:30:09	-26.9	65.5	62.1	58.1
PRM831	2018-12-18 14:41:14	-26.9	79.4	66.7	69.6
PRM831	2018-11-29 16:32:07	-26.9	57.1	64.2	58.9
PRM831	2018-11-27 14:50:27	-26.8	61.0	64.9	52.8
PRM831	2018-08-08 11:30:10	-26.8	59.1	62.3	73.2
PRM831	2018-08-08 11:29:18	-26.8	64.5	59.1	64.4
PRM831	2018-06-18 14:38:18	-26.9	63.8	57.0	57.1
PRM831	2018-06-18 14:35:13	-26.9	64.1	67.4	59.7
PRM831	2018-06-18 14:28:37	-26.9	50.1	60.6	64.6

I-229 / Exits 3&4 (noise monitoring)

Date: 12/18/2018
 Location: Vankton Trails Park
 GPS Coordinates: 43.50822, -96.73507
 Start time: 16:44
 Finish time: 17:04

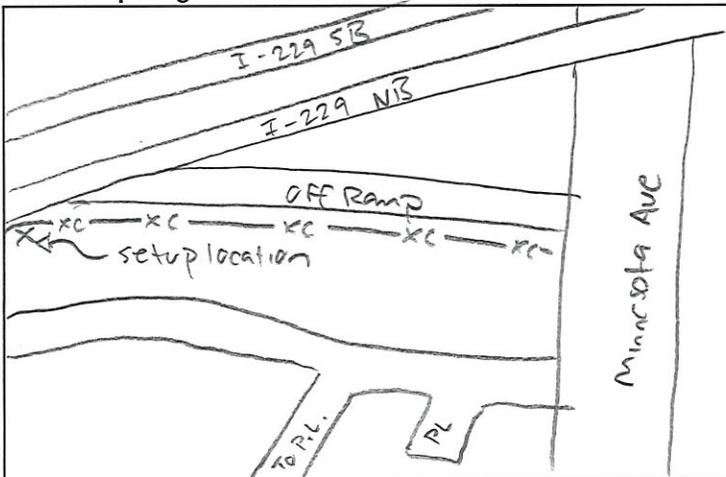
Photos Taken: Yes/No
 Calibration of Unit: Yes/No

Wind speed 4 mph From SE

Southbound I-229

Vehicle Count		Total
passenger car	26 29 30 31 27	717
single-unit truck		115
bus		0
semi truck / heavy truck		13
Total		

Site Set-up Diagram



Noise Comments

None.



Site M4: South of I-229 NB, at Yankton Trail Park. Camera facing northwest (12/28/2018)



Building a Better World for All of Us®

Building a Better World for All of Us®

Sustainable buildings, sound infrastructure, safe transportation systems, clean water, renewable energy and a balanced environment. Building a Better World for All of Us communicates a companywide commitment to act in the best interests of our clients and the world around us.

We're confident in our ability to balance these requirements.

