# Noise Analysis Study along I - 29

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### **Meeting Format**

#### Very informal

- Meeting is not recorded
- General questions after presentations
- Specific questions with staff after
- Written comments official record
- Is there someone who did not know about this meeting that should have?

### General Location of Noise Study



### Existing & Future Noise Levels

		Hourly Leq (h) dBA				
Receptor		2005	2025	2025	Difference	Difference
ID	NAC (dBA)	Existing	"No-Build"	"Build"	Existing/Build	Build/No-Build
MonLoc1	67	70	70	70	0	0
MonLoc2	67	70	72	72	+2	0
MonLoc3	67	67	69	69	+2	0
MonLoc4	67	59	60	60	+1	0
Reciever1	67	59	59	59	0	0
Reciever2	67	59	63	63	+4	0
Reciever3	67	68	69	69	+1	0
Reciever4	67	69	69	70	+1	+1
Reciever5	67	67	68	69	+2	+1
Reciever6	67	65	65	66	+1	+1
Reciever7	67	70	70	70	0	0
Reciever8	67	68	69	69	+1	0



### What does all this data mean?

- The current noise is above the 66 dBA criteria in eight locations
- The future noise projections do not show a substantial increase (15 dBA)
- The addition of the auxiliary lane has almost a negligible effect on the future noise.

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### History of Study Area

The interstate was constructed in 1960

Although noise data does not exist for this segment when it was developed, the majority of residences built/purchased their property knowing their close proximity to the interstate and its' traffic capacity.

### Aerial Photo (1962)



## Aerial Photo (1991)



## Aerial Photo (2004)



State and Federal Policy Regarding Noise Analysis & Mitigation
Federal Policy: Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)Title 23 Part 772

State Policy: PD-2004-02

### **Federal Policy**

- Defines the procedure for abatement of highway traffic noise and construction noise
  - Provides definitions
  - Defines what is applicable
  - Abatement measures used to reduce traffic noise levels. (7dBA)
  - Federal Participation
  - Analysis procedure
  - Traffic noise prediction
  - Local official information

### **State Policy**

- Noise analysis & abatement guidelines/policy
  - Defines locations to be considered
  - Outlines how data should be collected and future level predictions
  - Defines "Traffic Noise Impact"
  - Explains abatement considerations
  - Outlines the public involvement
  - Gives guidance on coordination with public officials
  - Supplies definitions of terms

### Noise Sensitive Land uses Locations

Homes
Schools
Churches
Hospitals
Libraries

### **Data Collection & Future Projections**

Data was collected according to FHWA "Sound Procedures for Measuring Highway Noise, Final Report"

Future projections were determined using the FHWA Traffic Noise Model Version 2.1

### Identification of Traffic Noise Impacts

• "A traffic noise impact occurs when the predicted levels approach or exceed the NAC when predicted traffic noise levels substantially exceed the existing noise level, even though the predicated levels may not exceed the NAC. "Approach" shall mean at least 1dBA less than the NAC and "substantially exceed the existing" noise levels" shall mean an increase of at least 15 dBA noise levels."

### **Consideration of Abatement**

Abatement measures must be feasible and reasonable.

Feasible – substantial noise reduction, topographically possible, no present safety or maintenance issues

Reasonable – 7 dBA noise reduction, Abatement shall not exceed \$15,000 / benefited residence, public hearings shall be held, future noise level must approach or exceed the NAC, timing of development adjacent to the highway.

### Public Involvement & Coordination with Local Officials

Public hearings shall be held to gain public opinion

DOT's & local officials' responsibilities: "Highway traffic noise should be reduced through a program of shared responsibility. Local government should use their power to regulate land development in such a way that noise sensitive land uses are either prohibited from being located adjacent to a highway or that the developments are planned, designed and constructed in such a way that noise impacts are minimized."

### Interpretation of DOT Policy for this project

In many locations the existing and future noise levels approach or exceed the NAC

### **Abatement Options**

**Options Considered to be Impractical** 

- Modify horizontal and/or vertical alignments of the roadway (Too expensive)
- Traffic management measures (speed limits, restrict truck traffic) (Not viable)
- Acquisition of property rights for construction of noise barriers (Too expensive)
- Acquisition of property to serve as buffer zone (Too expensive)
- Noise insulation of public use or nonprofit institutional structures (All structures are privately owned)

### Abatement Options (contd)

#### **Options considered for further review**

Construction of noise barrier along or within ROW
 Roadway surface type
 Vegetation

### Noise Barrier Locations

#### North Barrier

Located near apartment building north of 41<sup>st</sup> street on the west side of I-29

#### South Barrier

Located near houses on between 57<sup>th</sup> & 49<sup>th</sup> street on west side of I-29

#### East Barrier

Located near apartment buildings between 57<sup>th</sup> & 49<sup>th</sup> street on the east side of I-29



#### Figure 5

1-29 Traffic Noise Study

North Noise Barrier





### North Barrier

Barrier Wall/ Receptor	Barrier Length (ft)	A verage Barrier Height (ft)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Total Number of Shielded Receptors	Total Number of Impacted Receptors	Number of Benefited Receptors <sup>1</sup>
North Barrier	624	16	1-9	27	31	20
1.0			1.			

<sup>1</sup> Receptors where the noise level reduction from the barrier is at least 5 dBA.

Wall Cost = \$574,080 Number Benefited = 20 Cost/Number Benefited = \$28,704



### South Barrier

Barrier	Barrier Length (ft)	A verage Barrier Height (ft)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Total Number of Shielded Receptors	Total Number of Impacted Receptors	Number of Benefited Receptors <sup>1</sup>
South Barrier	2,671	19	4-13	106	48	103
<sup>1</sup> Recentors where i	the noise level reduc	tion from the barri	er is at least 5 dB	A		1

Wall Cost = \$2,918,067 Number Benefited = 103 Cost/Number Benefited = \$28,330



### East Barrier

Barrier	Barrier Length (ft)	A verage Barrier Height (ft)	Insertion Loss (dBA)	Total Number of Shielded Receptors	Total Number of Impacted Receptors	Number of Benefited Receptors <sup>1</sup>
East Barrier	1,039	16	4-8	60	52	58

<sup>1</sup> Receptors where the noise level reduction from the barrier is at least 5 dBA.

Wall Cost = \$955,880 Number Benefited = 58 Cost/Number Benefited = \$16,480



Feasibility and Reasonableness of Constructing Noise Walls

Noise walls are a feasible option

Meaning there would be a substantial noise reduction, topographically possible, no present safety or maintenance issues

Noise walls are not a reasonable option

There would be a 7 dBA reduction, but the construction cost must be below \$15,000 per number benefited, therefore none of the options are reasonable

### Abatement – Surface Type

If noise is taken into consideration when designing the surface of the new roadway the noise levels can be reduced by 4-7 dBA

- Asphalt
  - Results in a smoother pavement and therefore a quieter ride
- Concrete
  - Can be tined differently in order to maintain vehicle control and produce a quieter surface
  - Size and location of joints may be modified

### **Concrete Textures**

Broomed Surface

Buralp Drag

Transverse Tine

Longitudinal Tine





### **Asphalt Options**

Asphalt over Concrete



### **Surface Feasibility**

Alter the surface pattern on concrete  $\Box Cost = \$0$ Possible Number Benefited = 181  $\square$  Cost / Number Benefited = \$0Asphalt over Concrete (57<sup>th</sup> St to 41<sup>st</sup> St) • Cost = \$433,000Possible Number Benefited = 181 • Cost / Number Benefited = \$2,400

### Abatement – Surface type

### Feasibility

Meaning there would be a substantial noise reduction, topographically possible, no present safety or maintenance issues

#### Reasonableness

 A 7 dBA reduction is <u>possible</u>, and cost is below \$15,000 per number benefited.



Approximately 100' of dense vegetation would be needed for a 3dBA loss

- Feasible
  - There would not be a substantial noise reduction, not topographically possible, it might present safety or maintenance issues (snow, animal hits)
- Reasonableness
  - A 7 dBA reduction is not possible, and cost to purchase additional property to provide for dense vegetation would be above \$15,000 per number benefited. (Additional 100' – 300' of Right of Way would be needed)

### Where does this leave us?

- Modify horizontal and/or vertical alignments of the roadway (Not Reasonable)
- Traffic management measures (speed limits, restrict truck traffic) (Not Feasible or Reasonable)
- Acquisition of property rights for construction of noise barriers (Not Reasonable)
- Acquisition of property to serve as buffer zone (Not Reasonable)
- Noise insulation of public use or nonprofit institutional structures (All structures are privately owned)
- Construction of noise barrier along or within ROW (Feasible but not Reasonable due to cost)
- Alter the Surface type or texture (Feasible and Might be Reasonable)
- Vegetation (Not Reasonable or Feasible)

### **DOT's Recommendation**

Reconstruct segment and utilize noise conscious surfacing design to reduce noise 4-7dBA.

Measure the traffic noise after construction to see how we did.

### Questions????