

# NOISE ABATEMENT PROCESS

**Warranted:** Do any residences warrant highway traffic noise abatement consideration?

Projected design year noise levels must be at or above 66 decibels (dBA), or must demonstrate a 10 dBA increase above existing noise levels.

**Feasible:** Is the proposed abatement feasible?

This question considers whether it would be physically possible to construct noise walls or earth berms at locations under study, and whether noise abatement would provide a measurable benefit for the majority of impacted residences – noise level reduction of at least 5 dBA. Additional feasibility considerations include access, safety, impacts to utilities, and drainage.

**Reasonable:** Is it reasonable from a cost/benefit, maintainability, and land use conformity consideration?

To be considered reasonable, the area of the noise wall must not exceed 2000 square feet per benefited residence, and it must provide a noise level reduction of at least 7 dBA for at least one residence. Community concurrence is also required.

*Final noise mitigation commitments will be made during the project's final design phase.*