

Noise Barrier Change "Opt-Out" Policy

Purpose

To provide a procedure for interested parties to request changes to proposed noise barrier design.

Procedures

- The RTD will determine the reasonability and feasibility of any recommended change
- Full and complete costs (if any) are to be borne by the proponents of the change.
- At least 75% of all parties affected by the change must be in agreement with the change.
- "Affected parties" means the owners of the properties identified in the technical noise report that are expected to receive a perceptible benefit.
- Any changes must comply with local city codes

1: Increase Noise Barrier Height

- Wall must be increased in 2' increments
- Cost is borne by the affect property owners (est. \$30/sq foot)

2: Decrease Height of Noise Barrier

- Wall must be decreased in 2' increments
- There is no additional compensation

3: Eliminate Noise Wall

- A 6' wooden privacy fence on property lines will be built OR
- Cash equivalent of 6' wooden privacy fence (\$30/lineal foot) to provide individual mitigation (double pane windows, landscaping etc)

Noise Mitigation for Moderate Impacts

1. All “severe” noise impacts will be mitigated. This is a FTA requirement.
2. RTD Moderate Impacts Policy determines if noise mitigation is fair, reasonable and effective for residences with moderate impacts
3. Properties with Moderate Impacts are evaluated as follows:

- Is the property in the upper 50% of the moderate impact range?

If not, then a noise wall is not effective

If so, then . . .

- Is a noise wall cost effective per property?

If not, then a noise wall is not effective

If so, then . . .

- Are there at least 10 parties affected (this can be a combination of severe and moderate impacts) OR at least 800’ of noise barrier?

If not, then a noise wall is not effective

If so, then unless there are other extenuating circumstances, a noise wall will be provided.

At this point, if 75% of the affected parties choose to change or eliminate the noise wall they may follow the RTD Noise Barrier Change (Opt-Out) policy.

Noise Wall Options

Properties with noise walls planned have the following options:

- 1. Keep the noise wall OR**
- 2. Work with your neighbors to either change, eliminate or reduce the wall via the “opt-out” procedures.**

Additional options for property owners who have opted-out of the noise walls

- 1. 6’ wooden privacy fence on your property line provided by RTD**
 - The property owner would be responsible for all future warranties, maintenance etc of these items.
 - Must comply with city codes and zoning requirements
- 2. Equivalent of 6’ wooden privacy fence in cash**
 - Can be used to provide your own mitigation (i.e. double pane windows, additional landscaping, etc)
 - Must comply with city codes and zoning requirements

Noise Walls Process & Timeline

Late May - Noise Study Completed which identified impacted properties and level of impact

Mid- June - Moderate Impacts Policy applied to determine noise wall locations

Late June - Wall heights and locations presented to the public

July-December - Affected Parties determine if they want to keep walls or go with other options

*City of Lakewood is available to assist

Aug – Dec Evaluate Aesthetic treatments

Early 2008 Final wall heights and locations conveyed to design team