

TRAFFIC NOISE

Highway traffic noise depends on four main factors

1. Number of vehicles
2. Speed of traffic
3. Vehicle types (cars, medium trucks, heavy trucks, and motorcycles)
4. Distance of noise receptors from the highway.
 - Noise receptors are outdoor areas of noise sensitive locations such as homes and schools, typically within 500 feet of the freeway.

How is traffic noise evaluated?

- NDOT measures existing noise levels near the freeway and uses computer modeling to predict the future noise level if the project is built.
- Steps for evaluating traffic noise:
 1. Select noise receptors near the freeway.
 2. Make a computer model of vehicle traffic using an FHWA-approved model.
 3. Use the model to estimate future noise levels.
 4. Compare future noise levels to existing noise levels.
 5. Identify which receptors are impacted by noise.
 6. Assess the location of mitigation (soundwalls) for impacted receptors and propose wall locations, in accordance with NDOT policy:

<https://www.dot.nv.gov/Home/ShowDocument?id=14255>

How would DAP mitigate any traffic noise impacts?

- NDOT will construct soundwalls in accordance with NDOT policy in areas where there is a noise impact. The location of proposed soundwalls will be available when the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is released (tentatively scheduled for May 2024).