**Noise Regulation Revisions**

Pursuant to changes in the Federal Code of Regulations, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has directed state departments of transportation to change several key elements of how noise impacts and noise mitigation are assessed and applied to federal projects.

Specific changes are included in the revised regulations 23 CFR 772 Procedures for Abatement of Highway Traffic Noise and Construction Noise.

Significant changes were made in the following areas:

* Type I projects changed for noise analyses
* Type III projects don’t require a noise analysis
* Noise threshold chart was expanded from 5 to 7 categories
* Thresholds for hotels and restaurants changed to 71dBA
* No thresholds for industrial & agricultural
* New reasonableness criteria for noise mitigation criteria including 7dBA reduction, new C/B thresholds and new preference survey for residents & owners
* 3rd party funding can’t be used to make a wall fly
* New CDOT Noise Mitigation Policy 1900.0

Documenting these changes required numerous changes to Chapter 18 Noise Guide in the *CDOT Roadway Design Guide*. An updated Chapter 18 is embedded here:



Revisions are highlighted by vertical change bars in the margins. Print it out and replace the old chapter in your copy of the *Roadway Design Guide*.

**References:**

Design Bulletins and the *Roadway Design Guide* can be found on the CDOT intranet at:

<http://www.coloradodot.info/business/designsupport/bulletins_manuals>