



Noise Meeting Summary Report

APPENDIX D

Noise Meeting Minutes



**US 6/Wadsworth
Environmental Assessment
Including Improvements from 4th to 14th Avenues**

Purpose:	Noise Assessment and Mitigation Meeting- present noise analysis on existing and future noise levels and locations for the proposed and reconstructed noise barriers		
Day:	Wednesday	Date:	June 4, 2008, 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Location:	Lakewood Cultural Center, 470 S. Allison Parkway, Lakewood		

Participants:

Attendee	Representing
See meeting roster in <i>US 6/Wadsworth Environmental Assessment Noise Assessment and Mitigation Meeting Summary Report</i>	Individuals interested in the project.
Aaron Swafford	CH2M HILL
Allen Albers	City of Lakewood
Alexis Moore	City of Lakewood
Cecilia Lazo	CH2M HILL
Colleen Kirby Roberts	CH2M HILL
David Singer	CDOT R6
Fawn Friend	CH2M HILL
Kirk Webb	CDOT R6
Mandy Whorton	CH2M HILL
Mike Hankard	Hankard Environmental
Randy Furst	CDOT R6
Seyed Kalantar	CDOT R6
Tim Eversoll	CH2M HILL
Vanessa Henderson	CDOT EPB
Zeke Lynch	CH2M HILL

Discussion Items

The purpose of this meeting was to present the noise analysis on existing and future noise levels, and to show locations for the proposed and reconstructed noise barriers.

Approximately 64 people, not including CDOT, the consultant, or Lakewood staff, attended the meeting. Sign-in sheets for this meeting are included in the *US 6/Wadsworth Environmental Assessment Noise Assessment and Mitigation Meeting Summary Report*.

The meeting was an open house format from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., supplemented by a formal presentation given at 6:00 p.m. A Spanish translator was available, but no Spanish-only speakers were present at the meeting. An unsupervised children's area was available, and one family took advantage of this service.

For the Open House portion of the meeting, three information stations were set up to cover the following topics: project purpose and need, and study schedule; noise information; and, reference materials and handouts. CDOT and consultant staff were available at the stations and talked with meeting participants about the information provided. At each of the stations, displays boards were used to illustrate aspects of the projects. Reduced sized copies of the display boards are included in the *US 6/Wadsworth Environmental Assessment Noise Assessment and Mitigation Meeting Summary Report*.

For the formal presentation, Randy Furst, CDOT Region 6 Resident Engineer, introduced the project and the participants and provided an overview of CDOT's mission and goals for the Environmental Assessment. Mandy Whorton, CH2M HILL Environmental Manager, presented information about the EA process and information about the alternatives development and screening process. Kirk Webb, CDOT Region 6 Environmental Manager and noise specialist, presented information on CDOT's Noise Policy. Mike Hankard, Hankard Environmental noise consultant, presented information about the noise analysis of existing and future noise levels, the range of noise control measures considered, and the locations of the proposed noise walls.

A copy of all written comments received is available in the *US 6/Wadsworth Environmental Assessment Noise Assessment and Mitigation Meeting Summary Report*. The verbal comments received are presented below, categorized by topic.

Noise Walls

- Most meeting attendees were strongly in favor of noise walls along US 6 between Wadsworth Boulevard and Garrison Street.
- There is concern that the noise barriers will negatively affect air quality for the homeowners adjacent to the highway by concentrating pollution.
- There is a desire to construct walls where graffiti is easily removed.
- Several property owners fear that the walls will simply reflect the noise farther back into the neighborhoods if the walls are not absorptive.
- The length and height of the sound walls might limit sight distance along the frontage road, especially at on-ramps.
- The proposed noise barriers will block business visibility from US 6.
- How far back were noise levels measured? Despite being farther away from the highway, residences that are elevated from the highway experience high noise levels.
- Several residents commented that noise levels increased when noise walls were constructed. There is concern that the proposed walls will worsen noise levels once constructed.
- Is it possible to measure before and after noise levels when the noise walls are constructed?

- Shadows from the sound walls on the north side of US 6 will create ice patches during the winter.
- Because US 6 is elevated at Garrison Street, one resident would like the sound walls to extend farther west than proposed to block visibility to US 6.
- The City of Lakewood wants to be involved in the discussion about the proposed sound barrier along the northeast quadrant's frontage road because of aesthetics. Lakewood also noted that noise barriers are permitted only along US 6 and US 285 in the City.

Frontage Road

- Headlights intruding into homes along the proposed frontage road will not be welcomed.
- There is concern about cut-through traffic on Vance Street and Broadview once the frontage road is constructed.
- Two-way traffic is a good idea for frontage road.
- The frontage road needs to be sloped well so that when ice melts in the winter, it drains properly.
- There is concern about truck traffic being able to negotiate tight curves along the northeast quadrant frontage road.
- There are several questions about where property owners will have access to a public street once the frontage road is constructed.
- Perhaps a wider sidewalk could be constructed closer to the frontage road in the northeast quadrant.

Access and Traffic Issues

- Several comments have been made asking to install a light at the intersection of Highland Avenue and Wadsworth Boulevard so that vehicles exiting the neighborhood from the east can make a left turn onto Wadsworth.
- When US 6 is backed up traveling eastbound, vehicles illegally exit the highway via the Carr Street on-ramp. A resident asked that CDOT install a longer barrier between US 6 and the frontage road to restrict this movement.

Miscellaneous

- Have rising gas prices been considered when making traffic projections?
- Trucks and motorcycles generate extremely loud noise levels from the highway.
- Where will the CDOT plows put the snow from US 6, as it is currently plowed onto the frontage road? Snow is then plowed from the frontage road onto residents' driveways, left for them to clear, and CDOT plows often hit mailboxes when clearing snow.
- Has CDOT considered implementing tire regulations that could lessen the noise levels?

- Where will the ditch on the southern side of US 6 be relocated when the frontage road is constructed? Would the relocation of the ditch make accessing properties more difficult?
- How much do alternatives cost? What percentage of funding is federal versus state?
- Are emergency services being consulted about the design concepts?