



HIGHWAY TRAFFIC NOISE GUIDANCE MANUAL

Version 9 Update

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Noise Guidance Manual Updates

In-Kind Noise Barrier Replacement

- Streamlines the relocation of noise barriers that would otherwise be physically impacted by the project

Activity Category C - Barrier Evaluations for Recreational Areas

- Expands upon the ability to incorporate “usage” into barrier reasonableness calculations for trails, parks, cemeteries, etc.

Date of Public Knowledge

- Outlines criteria to determine whether it may change for NEPA document re-evaluations

Noise Guidance Manual Updates

Traffic Noise Model (TNM)

- Requires use of TNM version 2.5, or the latest FHWA-approved noise model

VDOT Rest Areas

- Considers short-term transportation-related land uses that are not considered noise sensitive

Noise Barriers on Structures (e.g., bridges, retaining walls)

- Requires the minimization of the height of barriers on structures without adversely affecting noise-impacted receptors