Noise Public Involvement (PI) Survey Notification Letter Checklist

and Sample Letter

December 2016

1. Customize The Letter And Noise Wall Location Mapping For Each Noise Sensitive Area (NSA) As Needed
2. Discuss What Are We Proposing To Build And Why
3. Discuss Why Are We Doing The Project
4. Discuss If A Noise Analysis Was Prepared, And If So, What Were The Conclusions
5. Where They Can View The Noise Analysis (Provide Web Link) (Optional)
6. Discuss Why They Are Getting This Letter And/Or Survey Form
7. Discuss The Purpose Of The Noise Barrier
8. Discuss What Type Of Noise Reduction Will They Get From The Barrier
9. Provide The Proposed Noise Barrier Height, Location, Limits, Material (Include A Noise Barrier Location Aerial Map)
10. Discuss If The Benefited Recipients Have To Pay For Anything
11. Discuss What The Recipients Are Voting For
12. Discuss If Trees Need To Be Removed Or Trimmed To Build The Noise Barrier
13. State That Their Responses Will Not Be Shared With Their Neighbors
14. Provide The Deadline For Comment/Response
15. Discuss If A Noise Barrier Public Meeting Will Being Held And The Details
16. Discuss What Is Needed For The Noise Barrier To Move Forward Into Design And Construction
17. Discuss What Happens If There Is A Lack Of Responses
18. State That ODOT Will Inform The Benefited Recipients Of The Final Results Of The Noise PI
19. Provide The Anticipated Construction Date Of The Project Or Noise Barrier
20. Provide The Contact For Any Questions
21. Attach The Traffic Noise Educational Activity Tri-Fold
22. Include The NEPA Assignment Language
Dear Resident/Property Owner;

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is proposing to widen US Route 99 from the existing four-lane roadway configuration to a six-lane roadway from the Interstate 230/US 99 interchange to the Hamilton Road/US 99 interchange. The project will reduce congestion and improve safety. The new travel lanes would be constructed along the existing outside lanes of US 99. Construction is scheduled to begin during the summer of 2017, although the schedule is dependent upon available funding, among other factors.

As part of the environmental process, a traffic noise analysis was completed for the project. The analysis determined that noise abatement, in the form of a noise barrier wall is warranted for the project and that your property was identified as a location where noise levels would be substantially reduced by a noise barrier wall. The noise analysis can be viewed from the following link _______________. The approximate location of the noise barrier wall and the locations of properties benefited by the noise barrier wall are shown on the enclosed map. The purpose of a noise barrier wall is to substantially reduce the level of traffic noise near your property; it will not eliminate all traffic noise. Homes located the closest to US 99 will have noise levels reduced by approximately half with construction of the noise barrier wall. Other benefited homes will receive a minimum 5-decibel noise reduction, which is considered a substantial noise reduction. If constructed, the noise barrier wall would be approximately 14 feet in height and 1000’ in length and constructed along the US 99 edge of shoulder. Construction of the noise barrier wall will result in no cost to property owners. Note that trees in ODOT’s right-of-way may need to be removed or trimmed to build the noise barrier.

Property owners and occupants benefiting from the noise barrier are asked to provide input on whether or not they desire to have the recommended noise barrier wall constructed as part of the roadway project. The decision to construct a noise barrier wall will depend on the benefited property owners/occupants response to the enclosed noise wall survey. If the majority of benefitted property owners/occupants do not want the noise barrier wall, or if there is a lack of interest or lack of response to the survey, then ODOT will not construct the noise barrier wall. Likewise, if the majority of benefitted property owners/occupants are in favor of a noise barrier wall, then ODOT will include the construction of the noise barrier wall in the project.

Please take a few minutes to provide feedback:

1. Please fill out the enclosed postage-paid noise wall survey form to let ODOT know whether the recommended noise barrier wall should or should not be constructed, or indicate if you have no opinion. You may also call or e-mail Joe Bob at ODOT District 13 to inform them of your desires for or against the noise barrier wall.

2. On the attached survey form, please select the color and texture that you would prefer for the residential side of noise barrier wall. Please pick only one color and one texture.

3. Please return the completed survey by __________. If you do not respond, it will count as “no opinion.” A low response rate from your neighborhood will be considered a lack of interest and may result in the noise barrier wall not being constructed. Also, please be advised that ODOT representatives may visit your neighborhood to discuss the recommended noise wall with individuals who have not returned the noise wall survey. Note that any responses received will not be shared with any neighbors. ODOT will inform the benefitted receptors of the final results of the noise survey. A Traffic Noise Educational Activity Tri-Fold is enclosed for your information and education.

If you have any questions or need additional information about the recommended noise wall or the proposed road-widening project, please feel free to contact us:

Joe Bob, District Environmental Coordinator
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614-555-5555

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by ODOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 11, 2015, and executed by FHWA and ODOT.