

SOUND ATTENUATION WALLS

Sound attenuation walls may be required as part of the environmental process related to street improvement projects, may be required as mitigations for development projects causing significant traffic increases, or may be required in new development projects to mitigate noise impacts identified in environmental studies. It is the intent of this policy that such walls be designed in an esthetically pleasing manner, pursuant to the standards outlined below.

New sound attenuation walls shall ordinarily be constructed with slumped block, split face block, plaster or stucco surfaced block, or specially finished concrete, and clear lexan or laminated glass panels. For locations where the new wall will be integrated with existing walls, the new wall shall match existing walls if the specified degree of sound attenuation can be provided. Replacement of existing landscaping disturbed by wall construction shall be included in the wall projects.

An alignment incorporating staggered or offset panels may be utilized where adequate right of way exists, or additional space can be provided on private property. Standard roadway widths, sidewalk widths, and bicycle trail widths shall not be reduced in order to provide additional space for a staggered wall alignment.

Upgrading of materials, design, or landscaping is encouraged and may be included in the project if adequate funding can be provided.

Sound attenuation walls which are constructed in new development projects shall provide for generous landscaped setbacks, and shall incorporate materials and design features which will enhance the esthetic characteristics of the wall. Design concepts shall emphasize preservation of public views, consistent with providing the required sound attenuation.

Adopted - February 10, 1986

Amended - February 12, 1990

Reaffirmed - January 24, 1994

Amended - February 26, 1996

Formerly L-12