

Noise

Due to the expected increase in traffic volumes along the I-70 East corridor by 2035, and the changes proposed by the project alternatives, traffic noise will increase above the Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC) in some residential areas. The NAC represent noise levels that mandate consideration for mitigation measures. For residential areas, the NAC level is 66 A-weighted decibels (dBA).

Thorough analysis was conducted for each neighborhood and each alternative to determine locations where the NAC would be exceeded. Analysis then was completed to determine if noise walls would be reasonable and feasible in areas with NAC exceedances.

Noise walls in both Elyria and Swansea were recommended with both the No-Action Alternative and the Revised Viaduct Alternative. Noise walls were recommended in Elyria for the Partial Cover Lowered Alternative. The lowered highway and cover included as part of the Partial Cover Lowered Alternative also provide major noise reduction benefits. In addition, for all alternatives, safety barriers provide incidental noise benefits.

For locations of recommended noise walls, please see the following board.

