Air & Noise
Noise Assessment Process – Federal-Aid Projects

Highway Noise Abatement Policy for Federal-aid Projects

Is the Project a Type I or Type III Project? *(Refer to definitions for each project type in the current GDOT Noise Policy)*

Type I Project

Methodology Memo *(When necessary – see note)*

Field Information
- Desktop research of existing conditions.
- Field evaluation of existing conditions and assigning NAC categories.
- Collection of field measurements to validate the TNM model use.

Data Gathering
- Approved traffic data (report and diagrams)
- Design files
- Issued building permits
- Existing noise wall envelopes (if applicable)

TNM Modeling Runs
- Existing condition
- Design year no build condition
- Design year build condition
- TNM validation
- Vacant land use / study areas
- Noise barrier analysis (refer Noise Barrier Flow Chart)

Report
- OES report format
- Tables
- Figures showing location and clearly identifying impacted receivers
- TNM runs (input and output)
- Approved traffic data
- Field data forms
- NEPA summary letter
- Letter to local officials

Why Prepare a Methodology Memo?
For complex projects, it’s advisable to develop a Methodology Memo for use in discussions with OES. This Memo includes details on assumptions and methods to be employed for the analysis and can help minimize or avoid review and approval delays. Methodology memos should be provided in cases where LOS C traffic volumes are being considered for use.

Verify Proposed Vertical Elevation Changes
To verify if there are expected to be any substantial vertical elevation changes, first verify if there are any noise sensitive resources in the project area, then confirm if there would be any change to the existing line-of-sight between the roadway and the nearby resources. If this is still unclear, detailed modeling using TNM may be required and discussion provided in the conclusion of the Type III report.

Complete the Type III Report *(with Language determining No Substantial Vertical Elevation Change, if Warranted)*

*Type II Projects are for projects on existing highways. GDOT does not have a noise abatement program for Type II projects. Type II noise analyses are not conducted in Georgia.*