January 2023

SECTION 12: SOUND BARRIER DESIGN

12-1 GENERAL

Existing and projected noise levels adjacent to new residential developments shall not exceed 60 dba at a point (4) feet above finished floor level. Sound barriers shall be constructed, if necessary, to achieve this level.

12-2 SOUND STUDIES

When required by the City Engineer, a Sound Study, prepared by an Acoustical Consultant, shall be submitted to the Development Services Department prior to approval of the Improvement Plans. Submission of this study may be required when installation of a sound barrier is required as a condition of approval of a project or when the City Engineer feels that existing or projected noise levels may necessitate the installation of such a barrier. The Sound Study shall include technical information and computations to support the recommendation.

12-3 LOCATION REQUIRMENTS

Sound barriers shall be located along the rear and side property line of residential developments adjacent to freeways, arterials, collectors, and industrial streets. The wall shall be located in the public easement or right-of-way.

12-4 DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

Sound barriers shall be designed in accordance with landscaping requirements for the area in which the project is located. Walls shall be designed for a minimum longevity of 50 years. Walls shall have a minimum height of six (6) feet measured from the highest adjacent grade elevation. Footings and reinforcing steel shall be designed for a height of six-feet in height plus the retaining wall height, as applicable. All soundwalls shall be designed for 75 MPH wind loads at exposure Level C. Structural calculations shall be provided to the Development Services Department for all proposed soundwalls. All construction details for sound barriers, including locations and limits, shall be shown on the improvement plans.

Anti-graffiti coating shall be applied to the City side of the soundwall. Coating shall be as specified in the Construction Standards 71-5F.