Session 2:

After Impact and Abatement Analyses
Session 2

• Report Templates
• Citizen Education: what walls can/cannot do
• Timing of Benefited Receptor Surveys
• Noise Consultant Qualification
• Improving Tech Transfer, Training, Recruiting,
• Q & A
**Template**

A template is a file that serves as a starting point for a new document. When you open a template, it is pre-formatted in some way. For example, you might use template in Microsoft Word that is formatted as a business letter. The template would likely have a space for your name and address in the upper left corner, an area for the recipient's address a little below that on the left site, an area for the message body below that, and a spot for your signature at the bottom.
Timing of Benefited Receptor Surveys
Issues

• Voting too early
• Voting too late in process
• Who gets to vote
Timing of Benefited Receptor Surveys: Too Early

The polling should occur during the preparation of the revised EA (REA) (or prior to a FONSI if an REA is not issued) or FEIS but could occur while preparing the EA or EIS or just prior to final design for CE projects.

(from Section 7.4.1 OR DOT Noise Manual; July 2011)
Timing of Benefited Receptor Surveys: Too Late

- Project schedule threatened
- Lose flexibility
- Risk not meeting state requirements for voting (more than one balloting may be needed)
When to Vote for Abatement

- After NEPA Process Before/During Final Design
- Certainty of Abatement Recommendation
- Interpretation of Statement of Likelihood: when does State use?
- Start public involvement early but no promises of abatement
Who Gets to Vote

How are receptors assigned to TNM receivers?
I-5/Beltline Interchange Project

Benefited Properties
Receptor Assignment
Receptors/Receivers; Benefited
OR DOT Qualifications

- Lead Noise Analyst
- Oregon-registered Professional Engineer
- QA/QC Procedures, Staff Identified
Lead Noise Analyst

• At least 3 projects within the last 5 years

Lead Noise Analyst Performed:

- QC checks
- TNM 2.5 modeling
- Noise measurements
- Abatement analysis
- Report writing
Consultant Qualifications: PE

• Registered Professional Engineer, employed full-time by the Consultant, licensed to practice in the State of Oregon with sufficient knowledge to review the NTR.

• The Consultant is the Professional of Record for the work, which shall be executed by a lead noise analyst or other qualified professional
Consultant Qualifications: QA/QC

Consultant shall conduct quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) checks on all submittals to the Agency. This includes checking all modeling input and output, and tables and figures in draft and final Memorandum for errors. **These checks will be performed by someone other than the noise analyst.** Submittals to the Agency will be reviewed by senior Consultant staff other than the analyst, who is proficient in TNM, traffic noise impact and abatement analyses. Submittals to the Agency will be edited to eliminate grammatical errors, and to ensure consistency and readability.

Mentoring Program
Documented QA/QC Program
Improving Tech Transfer, Training, Recruiting

Engineering Flowchart

Does it move?

No

Should it?

No

No Problem

Yes

Should it?

Yes

No Problem

Yes

No

No Problem
Improving Tech Transfer

Lots of General Brain Picking
Minimum Qualifications:
A Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science, Civil Engineering, Surveying or Transportation-related Engineering and **two years of environmental science**, civil, or transportation-related engineering or surveying experience; **OR**
**Five years of** environmental science, civil, or transportation-related engineering or surveying experience. One year of this experience must have been independently planning and completing assignments; **OR**
An equivalent combination of education and experience.

*Note: Preference may be given to those applicants that possess knowledge, training, and/or experience with EPA and DEQ regulations, laws, and requirements in the area of Air Quality and Noise. Preference may be given to those applicants who have Modeling experience in the following areas: Air quality, GIS, 3-D, noise, and/or predictive environmental modeling.*
Oregon Experience in Recruiting

• Difficulty hiring qualified staff
• Need potential candidates to have transportation air and noise experience
• Difficult to poach from consulting world or other DOTs
• Small pool of local qualified individuals
• Upturn, Downturn of Economy
New Recruiting Strategy

• No short term strategy

• Mid – Long term Strategy: recent college graduates (let transcripts be your guide) with no work experience

• Find out about your states hiring policies:
  OR: Underfill to train with expectation of position bump when certain criteria met

• Sell DOT’s Noise Program: in Oregon, opportunity to work under a PE to satisfy licensing requirements
Serve as the **technical expert** in the discipline of transportation air quality and noise for the Oregon Department of Transportation and Local Agency Partners (LAP) in Region 1.

**Responsible** for directing, overseeing, and reviewing the work of consulting partners to ensure compliance with all pertinent Federal and state regulatory laws and statutes. This position reviews and approves all consultant-prepared technical reports for noise studies in coordination with Noise Program Leader.

**Responsibilities** may also include field noise measurement and analysis of existing noise levels, prediction of future noise levels, determination of noise impacts, and design of mitigation control measures to mitigate noise impacts.

This individual must have **experience and expertise in analyzing** and documenting the noise evaluations for transportation projects and other department activities.

This work includes knowledge of **developing project scopes of work and budgets** for conducting noise analysis, and the preparation of reports for compliance with laws and regulations. Often the job will include the planning and analysis of complex noise mitigation measures and their subsequent coordination and completion.

This position **provides quality control of technical documentation** prepared by or for the agency to comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations and the documentation for environmental impact statements, environmental assessments, permit applications, and various legal findings.

This position will also **coordinate with local jurisdictions** regarding noise ordinances related to construction work and obtaining noise variances as needed for construction and maintenance projects.

The position **will coordinate** with project leaders, consultant project managers, construction offices and Community Affairs to complete the noise variance application and participate as needed in public outreach activities including project open houses and City of Portland Noise Review Board hearings resulting in acquisition of a noise variance for project construction work.

The position will also **coordinate with Environmental Engineering Program Leader** (AQ) on air quality related work.
The primary purpose of the EPC1 position will be to **provide support** for the Air Quality and Noise Programs.

The position will provide direct support to the Section Manager, Unit Manager, Environmental Engineering Leader (Air Quality) and Noise Program Coordinator to **assist** the agency in meeting its responsibilities for regulatory compliance.

The position **will assist** in the review and approval for Air Quality and Noise Technical Reports, and will provide assistance to Region offices and Local Agency partners on Air Quality and Noise issues.

The position **will assist** in managing consultant contracts and provide guidance and technical support to consulting partners.

The position **will assist** in updating manuals, procedures, and practices for the air quality and noise programs.

The position may also **cross-train** to provide support for other environmental engineering-related disciplines, including energy.
OR DOT Noise Program Leader
HQ Salem (approx December 2018)

- Serve as the **principal statewide technical expert** in the discipline of transportation noise for the Oregon Department of Transportation.
- Responsible for **directing and overseeing and reviewing** the work of consulting partners, developing statewide policies, and developing procedural guidance to ensure compliance with all pertinent Federal and state regulatory laws and statutes.
- **Ability and experience to perform complex noise analyses** as required for NEPA environmental impact statements, as mandated by federal and state rule. Reviews and approves all consultant-prepared technical reports for noise studies.
- **Responsibilities** may also include field noise measurement and analysis of existing noise levels, prediction of future noise levels, determination of noise impacts, and design of mitigation control measures to mitigate noise impacts.
- **Expert knowledge** of developing project scopes of work and budgets for conducting research and analysis, and the preparation of reports for compliance of laws and regulations.
- **Provides statewide quality control of technical** environmental engineering documentation prepared by or for the agency to comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations and the documentation for environmental impact statements, environmental assessments, permit applications, and various legal findings.
- Assists manager in developing position statements, budgets, environmental engineering-related guidance, and education and **outreach to ODOT's five (5) regions and their consultants.**
Recruiting, Training, AND Succession Planning

Mentoring

Brain Dump