Session 3 Panel Discussion: Proposed Regulation Changes

• Consideration of Existing Noise Barriers in a Type I Noise Analysis (FHWA-HEP-12-051): consideration of actual improvement in the noise environment

• Voting of Benefited Receptors: consider properties that are affected by barriers but do not benefit, not eligible to vote

• Part of project Type 1 – all of project Type 1: consideration of combined projects - DOTs may combine projects (e.g. ½ mi Aux Lane project with 11 miles of paving)
Consideration of Existing Noise Barriers in a Type I Noise Analysis (FHWA-HEP-12-051):

consideration of actual improvement in the noise environment

Table: Noise Reduction: Potential Future Mitigation Compared to Existing Mitigation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No Existing Mitigation (dBA)</th>
<th>Existing Mitigation (dBA)</th>
<th>No Exist Mit - Existing Mit (dBA)</th>
<th>14' wall replacement (dBA)</th>
<th>Existing Mit - 14' Wall (dBA)</th>
<th>RECOMMENDED 8' Wall to Bridge Gap (dBA)</th>
<th>Existing Mit - 8' wall Bridging Gap (dBA)</th>
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PROPOSED REGS./GUIDANCE CHANGES

A PANEL DISCUSSION

6/28/18
• Is the definition acceptable? What is a Type I project? More detail? Should these clarifications go into the regs. or just guidance?

• **Project corridor considerations**... Project area? Refine modeling requirements to “zones”?

• Screen for Type I projects that meet certain criteria (answer: low volume road tool?)
CATEGORY: TYPE II DEFINITION

- Change the % of the Type II community that must predate the highway to meet the definition of Type II?
- Others?
TEMPLATES FOR WHAT TO INCLUDE IN A NOISE REPORT

• “What’s a good report.” What is a good report?, Guidance which includes a checklist?
• What is included in a noise report for different levels of environmental documents (CE, EA, FONSI, EIS)
CATEGORY: COST REASONABLENESS

- What costs are included? Guidance?
WHAT ROLE DOES GUIDANCE PLAY?

• Allow SHAs the flexibility to tailor their noise policy to their particular philosophy.
• What should/shouldn’t SHAs be able to decide?
• Feasibility and reasonableness criteria, multi-story?
• Is it possible to expand on guidance and simplify the federal code?