



Policy

TxDOT Noise Wall Removal

TxDOT does not remove noise walls unless required due to a conflict with TxDOT projects. This noise wall removal policy applies to noise walls, either constructed or under construction using state or federal funds.

Request for Wall Removal

In the event that a noise wall is no longer wanted (for any reason), local governments, organizations, or individuals may request TxDOT's approval to completely or partially remove a noise wall. The request must be in writing and must be submitted to the TxDOT District Engineer. The request must be supported with documentation demonstrating 100% of the current property owners have agreed to the removal. Responses must be obtained from all the properties that border or benefit from the noise wall, as determined in the original Type I noise analysis. TxDOT will not assist with or bear any costs associated with obtaining this documentation. The request must also include an offer to reimburse TxDOT for TxDOT's costs in originally constructing the noise wall (adjusted for inflation).

TxDOT may agree to waive all or part of such reimbursement.

Upon receipt of a written request meeting the above-stated requirements, TxDOT, in its sole discretion, will approve or refuse the request. If TxDOT approves the request, the local government, organization, or individual will be responsible for removal of the noise wall and restoration of the area previously occupied by the noise wall to a condition that is acceptable to TxDOT.

Cost and Demolition

Reimbursement to TxDOT for costs to construct the noise wall (adjusted for inflation) is required, unless TxDOT agrees to waive all or part of those costs. If federal aid dollars were used for the noise wall's original construction, TxDOT is obligated to reuse the reimbursement elsewhere on federal aid projects.

TxDOT will not bear any costs or other liability associated with complete or partial removal of a noise wall or restoration of the area previously occupied by the noise wall.

Prior to beginning any demolition or other activities on TxDOT property, the local government, organization, or individual must obtain TxDOT's written approval of its plans for partial or complete removal of the noise wall and restoration of the area previously occupied by the noise wall.

To reduce liability and at TxDOT's discretion, TxDOT may instead collect removal and restoration costs from the local government, organization, or individual for TxDOT to perform the removal.

Future Considerations for Noise Abatement

If a noise wall is removed, in part or entirely, TxDOT will not reconstruct the noise wall unless a new Type I project proposes a new wall that meets all of the requirements in TxDOT's Traffic Noise Policy and Implementation Guidance.