

Status of Current FHWA Noise Activities



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What Happened to the 1995 Policy Paper Revision?

- Draft went out to FHWA Division Offices and State DOTs in Feb/March 2007.
 - Comments received have been applied.
- OMB's "Final Bulletin for Agency Good Guidance Practices"
 - Establishes policies and procedures for the development, issuance and use of significant guidance.
- Some changes require a regulatory change.

Changes to 23 CFR 772

- Possible changes to include:
 - Additional definitions, clarification, common practices
 - Several sections reworked and expanded
 - Allowable cost of abatement determination
- Process:
 - Notice of Proposed Rule Making
 - Public comment through Federal Register Notice
 - Address comments, publish Final Rulemaking
 - Once Federal Register process is complete, the guidance document will be updated

FY06/FY07 Noise STEP Projects

- **FHWA Traffic Noise Model Version 3.0 Development (\$125,000)**
 - The FHWA TNM Version 3.0 will contemporize the code to prevent an obsolete model due to platform incompatibility; re-organize the code to allow for more efficient future software development and maintenance; and update/removal of an aging third party database that is becoming obsolete.

STATUS: In-progress, earliest date of completion is anticipated in the end of 2008, depending on additional items and funding.

- **FHWA Traffic Noise Model Increased Ldn Capability (\$25,000)**

- To make more flexible for TNM users, addressing daytime/nighttime percentages and traffic distribution.

STATUS: This specific project has not begun, but Volpe is currently working with HUD on their Ldn procedures.

- **FHWA Traffic Noise Model/Pavement Validation Study (\$110,000)**

- To determine the validity of the FHWA TNM v2.5 in relation to varying the pavement type.

STATUS: This specific project has as not begun, but Volpe is currently working on the addition of pavements into the FHWA TNM.

- **Tire/Pavement Noise Measurements:
Temperature Effects Study (\$30,000)**
 - To better understand the impact that temperature can have on tire/pavement noise and the resulting highway traffic noise that reaches communities

STATUS: To begin in Fall 2007
- **Tire/Pavement Noise Research Consortium
Pooled Fund (\$10,000)**
 - To provide a forum for State DOTs to discuss noise issues, utilize the same techniques to build a larger database, and share data
 - STATUS: In progress

FY08 STEP for Noise

- \$200,000 anticipated
- Submit feedback by August 26, 2007 via the website at:
<http://knowledge.fhwa.dot.gov/cops/step.nsf/home/>
- Anticipate applying funds to the development of the FHWA TNM version 3.0.

FHWA Traffic Noise Model

- Version 3.0 Development
 - Many “wish list” items will be taken care of due to Version 3.0 being developed in a MS windows environment.
 - Looking into the ability to read-in and read-out in GIS
 - May include an upgraded Ldn capability.
- Validation Efforts: to be reported jointly
 - Pavement Types: Completed
 - Ground Types: To begin late Summer 2007
- TPF-5(158): CA, OH, PA, TX, WA (\$160,000)
- Pavements Effects Implementation Study
- NCHRP 08-56: Truck Source Mapping

Tire/Pavement Noise

- TPF-5(135): CA, KS, MN, MT, NC, OH, TX, WA (\$160,000)
 - Policy ETG
 - OBSI Rodeo and wind tunnel
 - Public Outreach Information
- Tire/Pavement Noise 101 Workshop
- NCHRP 1-44: Measuring Tire-Pavement Noise at the Source
- NCHRP 10-76: Initial Cost Benefits on Quieter Pavement Compared with Other Forms of Noise Mitigation.
- NCHRP 10-67: Texturing of Concrete Pavements

Noise Barrier Research

- NCHRP 25-25 Task 40: New Noise Barrier Products and Noise Barrier Approval Research and Guidelines
 - Objective is to develop guidelines for the selection and approval of noise barrier types and materials
- 2005-2007 Noise Barrier Inventory

NHI Noise Course

- NHI Course #142051 is now available
- Visit website at <http://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov/home.aspx>
- Confirmed: Washington, Illinois, and Missouri
- Requested: Colorado and Kentucky

NHI Instructors are:


Bill Bowlby	Judy Rochat
Paul Burge	Darlene Reiter
Jim Cowan	Mike Staiano
Harvey Knauer	Roger Wayson
Soren Pedersen	

FHWA Instructors are:

Mark Ferroni
Mike Roberts
Maryann Rondinella

FHWA Noise Homepage

- Webpage shutdown
 - trafficnoisemodel.org
 - rcnm.us
- Expanded FHWA Noise Webpage
 - Download
 - TNM Look-up Program
 - RCNM
 - Handbooks, documents, etc.
 - TNM FAQs
 - Use Re:NEPA for TNM forum

Address  <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/noise>

Environment

Highway Traffic Noise

- [Construction Noise](#)
- [NHI Noise Training](#) **New 7/2/07**
- [Noise Compatible Planning](#)
- [Noise Policy Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Products](#)
- [Regulations and Policy](#)
- [Tire-Pavement Noise](#)
- [Traffic Noise Model](#) **New 4/26/07**

Questions ?