



**Idaho Transportation Department**  
**Basis for Establishing Cost Per Benefited Receptor**  
**November 2024**

***Proposed Barrier Cost and Justification***

The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is proposing a minimum reasonable cost of abatement of \$40,000 per benefited receptor with barrier costs of \$48.21 per square foot (walls less than ¼ mile) and \$40.30 per square foot (walls greater than ¼ mile). For purposes of our Noise Guidance we are rounding the cost per square foot to \$48.00 and \$40.00, respectively.

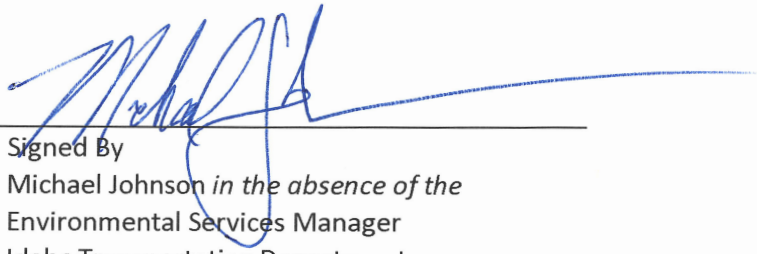
The cost-per-benefited receptor and barrier -cost-per-square-foot requires Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approval, and will be re-calculated on a regular interval, not to exceed five years, based on an estimated 4% annual increase or otherwise agreed to by ITD and FHWA.

Once the interim update to the Noise Policy has been approved by FHWA, all noise studies moving forward will need to reflect the updated cost per benefited receptor. For projects with previously approved noise studies that have not gone to construction, the noise studies will need to be updated as part of the environmental re-evaluation.

<b>INCREASE by 4% annually</b>	Barrier Cost per-square-foot	Barrier Cost per-square-foot	Cost per Benefited Receptor
YEAR	Cost (<1/4 mile)	Cost (>1/4 mile)	minimum
Noise Policy 2011 (existing) 2011	\$29.00	\$24.25	\$24,250
2012	\$30.16	\$25.22	\$25,220
2013	\$31.36	\$26.22	\$26,220
2014	\$32.61	\$27.26	\$27,260
2015	\$33.91	\$28.35	\$28,350
2016	\$35.26	\$29.48	\$29,480
2017	\$36.67	\$30.65	\$30,650
2018	\$38.13	\$31.87	\$31,870
2019	\$39.65	\$33.14	\$33,140
2020	\$41.23	\$34.46	\$34,460

2021	\$42.87	\$35.83	\$35,830
2022	\$44.58	\$37.26	\$37,260
2023	\$46.36	\$38.75	\$38,750
2024	\$48.21 (rounded to \$48)	\$40.30 (rounded to \$40)	\$40,300 (rounded to \$40k)

Rationale for increase: ITD has been using \$29/square foot for < ¼ mile and \$24.25 square foot for > ¼ mile for thirteen years. Few walls were built over that period, so there is not reliable data that can be used. ITD calculated a 4% annual average inflation cost to account for the steady inflation rate between 2012 to 2020 and the increase in inflation from 2021-2023.



Signed By  
Michael Johnson *in the absence of the*  
Environmental Services Manager  
Idaho Transportation Department

Approved By  
Wendy Terlizzi  
Environmental Program Manager  
Federal Highway Administration – Idaho Division