



NOISE WALL BALLOTING REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) completed a noise study in May 2017 for a new truck lane on westbound I-80 from Jeremy Ranch to Parleys Summit. This project will also include a wildlife crossing near Parleys Summit and wildlife fencing on both sides of the road throughout the project limits (see Figure 1).

1.2 NOISE REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

Initially, the May 2017 noise study recommended an 18-foot wall for noise abatement. After further refining the roadway design and adjusting the wall details to better address community feedback, UDOT determined that a 7- to 17-foot high wall on top of a variable berm would meet federal guidelines and adhere to UDOT’s Noise Abatement Policy (see Figure 2). This berm/wall combination was recommended in October 2017 and would provide a 5 dB(A) or greater noise reduction for 25 residential properties and two recreational areas as well as a 7 dB(A) or greater noise reduction in noise for five out of seven front-row properties, and has been determined cost and acoustic-reasonable and feasible under UDOT’s policy.

Figure 1. Project Map

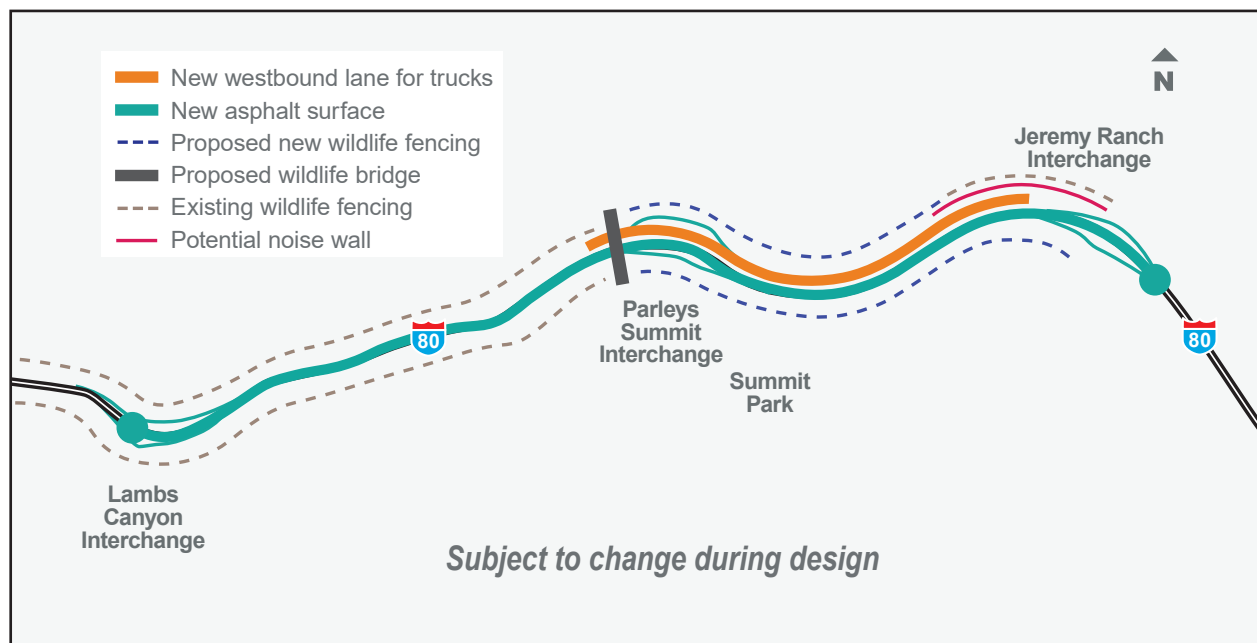
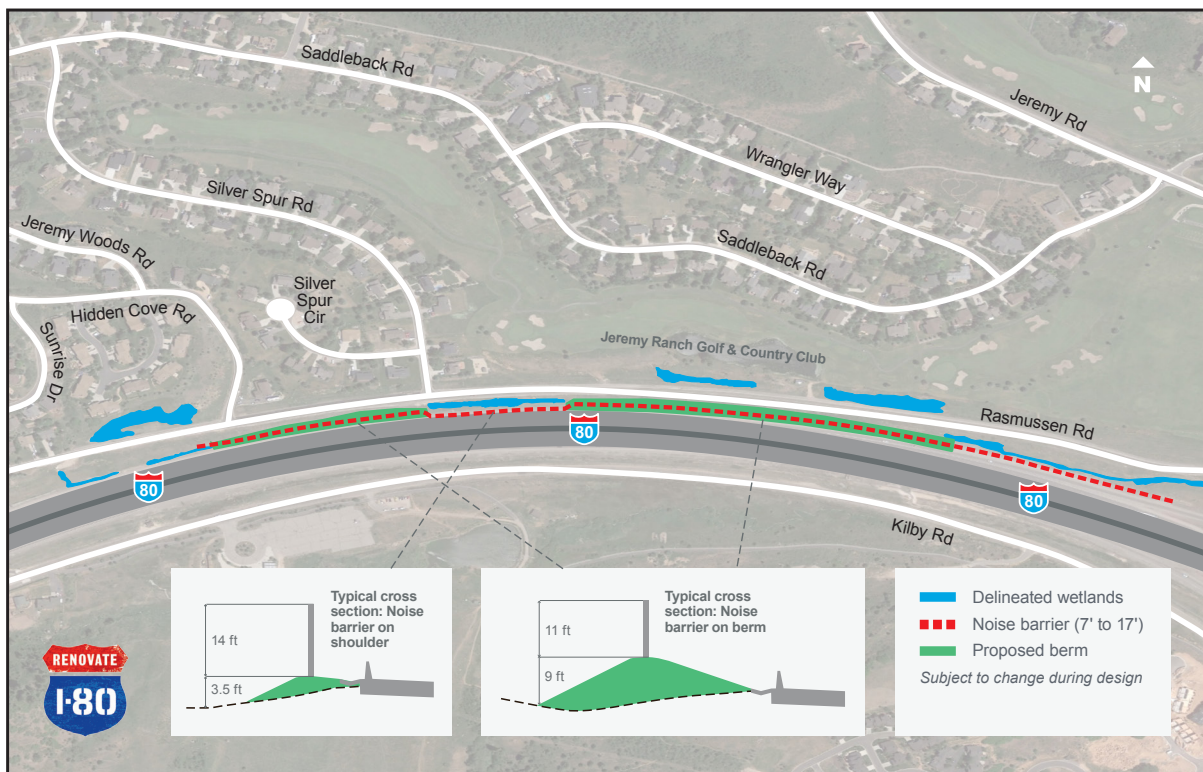


Figure 2. Noise Wall Design



2.0 NOISE WALL BALLOTING

2.1 NOISE ABATEMENT POLICY

The decision to construct a noise wall is partially determined by balloting. The balloting process, as defined by the UDOT Noise Abatement Policy, requires the following:

- A noise ballot is sent to property owners and residents who are either directly adjacent to the noise wall or would benefit from the noise wall (receive at least a 5 dB(A) reduction).
- At least 75 percent of ballots sent out must be filled out and returned.
- 75 percent of returned ballots must be in favor of the noise wall.

If property owners and residents vote to reject construction of a noise wall, there will not be another opportunity to address noise impacts until another project is planned that adds lanes or substantially changes the roadway in the same area.



2.2 BALLOTING ROUND ONE

Noise wall ballots were sent by certified mail to the mailing addresses on the Summit County land records on Nov. 14, 2017. Ballots were also sent to “Current Resident” at the property address if the occupant’s name was different than the name listed in the land records. Every property that would receive a 5 dB(A) reduction or more from the proposed noise wall was balloted. The first round of ballots had a due date of Nov. 30, 2017.

2.3 BALLOTING ROUND TWO

A second round of ballots was sent by certified mail to all addresses that did not respond to the first mailing by Nov. 30, 2017. This ballot had a postmark due date of Dec. 14, 2017.

2.4 RESULTS OF NOISE WALL BALLOTING

Table 1: Noise Balloting Results

Benefited Properties	Owner-Occupied Properties	Owner/Renter Properties	Total Number of Ballots Mailed	Total Number of Ballots Returned	Percent of Returned Ballots
27*	25	2	29	29	100%

Returned Owner-Occupied Votes		Returned Owner/Renter Votes				Benefited Property Decision		Percent In Favor of Wall	Percent Against Wall
		Owner		Renter					
In Favor	Against	In Favor	Against	In Favor	Against	In Favor	Against	93% ***	7%
23	2	2 **	0	2 **	0	25	2		

*Ballots were mailed to 27 property owners and two tenants for a total of 29 ballots. 100 percent of the ballots were returned which met the response requirement of 75 percent.

**Property owner votes and tenant votes are weighted differently when a tenant resides on the property. Votes from the property owner have a weight of five, while tenant votes have a weight of one for the property’s decision.

***This percentage surpasses the 75 percent in favor threshold required to move forward with a noise wall as per UDOT’s Noise Abatement Policy.