

March 22, 2001

To the Honorable, the Common Council

Subject: Noise Barrier #22 IH-94 Northbound on-ramp from West Holt Avenue

Dear Council Members:

In May of 1990 the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WISDOT) completed a study entitled Wisconsin Noise Barrier Study which identified 209 locations, state wide, that would benefit from the installation of noise barrier walls. In accordance with criteria established in TRANS 405 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code (1989) a cost of \$30,000 per residence abutting a barrier could be spent by the WISDOT on these projects. If the cost of the barrier exceeds \$30,000/residence then local participation would be required to fund the excess cost. Sixty-eight of the 209 state wide locations met the \$30,000 threshold thus requiring no local participation. With respect to the City of Milwaukee, sixty-seven locations were identified as being suitable for barriers with 35 falling under the No Local Participation threshold. Technical and fiscal review of the 67 locations indicated it prudent to apply to the WISDOT for only those locations where no local participation was applicable.

Common Council Resolution File Number 900693 adopted September 4, 1990, authorized and directed the City Engineer to submit applications to the WISDOT for programming the construction of freeway noise barriers in the City of Milwaukee requiring no local participation.

Application was submitted to WISDOT by the City for the programming of noise barrier Number 22 proposed to be located on the east side of I-94 northbound on-ramp from West Holt Avenue in the 14th Aldermanic District.

TRANS 405 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code established procedures and criteria to be used by the WISDOT to evaluate and select site location for freeway noise barriers to be constructed. Included in these procedures is the provision requiring WISDOT to hold a public informational meeting to solicit comments from the local residents and to seek Local Jurisdictional support prior to proceeding into final design and construction. Public information meeting for the noise barrier was held on August 31, 1992. The majority of the abutting local residents supported the barrier construction.

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Common Council Resolution File Number 950426 adopted July 14, 1995 supports in principle the construction of a freeway noise barrier contingent upon approval and freeway noise barrier final design, appearance and location by Common Council upon submission of same by WISDOT.

The WISDOT has submitted the final design, appearance and location of the noise barrier. Based on the above, we have prepared a resolution so that the Common Council can approve the final design, location, and appearance of the noise barrier as submitted by WISDOT.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey S. Polenske, P.E.
City Engineer

Mariano A. Schifalacqua
Commissioner of Public Works

JJM:cjt
Attachment
cc: Alderwoman Suzanne M. Breier