

# Corporate Policy and Procedure



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Supersedes 2009 03 11

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TAB: ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
SECTION: NOISE POLLUTION AND CONTROL  
SUBJECT: NOISE ATTENUATION BARRIERS ON MAJOR  
ROADWAYS

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**POLICY STATEMENT** The City of Mississauga endeavours to ensure that noise attenuation barriers are constructed where necessary, and that any such barriers are maintained in good condition, both in structure and appearance.

**PURPOSE** This policy identifies responsibilities for construction and maintenance of noise attenuation barriers and is divided into four categories:

- noise attenuation barriers in existence at the time of approval of this policy that are to be replaced, as part of a replacement program;
- noise attenuation barriers to be constructed after approval of this policy, as part of new development;
- new noise barriers to be constructed after approval of this policy, where none currently exist, as part of a retrofit program; and
- noise attenuation barriers to be constructed after approval of this policy, as part of a capital works project.

**SCOPE** This policy applies to noise attenuation barriers which are or will be installed adjacent to municipal highways which are under the jurisdiction of the City of Mississauga.

**LEGISLATIVE  
AUTHORITY** This policy complies with the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Ontario Regulation 586/06, the Local Improvement Charges – Priority Lien Status, and the City of Mississauga’s Property Standards By-law. Should any of these be amended so that this policy no longer complies, the particular Act, Regulation, or By-law will

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take precedence.

## Installation Criteria

Installation of new noise attenuation barriers is subject to the following:

- The noise level must be greater than 60 dBA (Leq daytime). (Leq means “equivalent sound level” and daytime means 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Leq daytime means daytime average.)
- The residential area must be adjacent to arterial and major collector roads, as designated in the Official Plan. Retrofit or replacements will not be considered adjacent to freeways or railway tracks, as they are not under the jurisdiction of the City.
- Barriers must be installed on a complete block to ensure their effectiveness.

## REPLACEMENT PROGRAM CATEGORY – EXISTING BARRIERS

Should a noise attenuation barrier on private property require replacement, the City will construct a new noise attenuation barrier which will be situated, whenever possible, wholly on City property. The costs of construction of the new barrier will be 100 percent City funded. Ongoing maintenance and any future replacements of the noise attenuation barrier will be the responsibility of the City.

The replacement of deteriorated noise attenuation barriers will be determined based on priority, primarily according to the level of deterioration of the barriers. Priority listing will be reviewed annually and locations presented to Council for replacement approval.

Maintenance of noise existing attenuation barriers situated on private property will remain the responsibility of the property owner until such time as the City replaces the barrier and reinstalls it on City property. The Property Standards By-law establishes requirements of property owners with respect to the maintenance of their property. The City will ensure that noise

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attenuation barriers which are situated on private property are maintained to an acceptable level through enforcement of this by-law.

## RETROFIT PROGRAM CATEGORY – NEW BARRIERS

The City may install noise barriers along major collector or arterial roads in areas where such barriers were not previously installed. These installations may be initiated by the City or requested by private property owners by means of a petition. Installations will be dependant on the installation criteria in this policy being met.

The noise attenuation barrier will be situated on City property whenever possible. The costs of construction of the barrier will be shared on a 50/50 basis with the abutting private property owner. The necessary barrier end returns will be included in the overall estimated cost and the landowners will be assessed on the basis of their rear lot frontage. There will be no adjustments for irregular lot sizes. Ongoing maintenance and any future replacements of the noise attenuation barrier will be the responsibility of the City.

## Petition Required

A petition supporting the installation of a noise barrier and signed by the number of landowners as required under Ontario Regulation 586/06, *Municipal Act, 2001*, must be filed with the City Clerk.

Property owners wishing to oppose the installation of a noise barrier which was initiated by the City must file a petition with the City Clerk.

## CAPITAL WORKS PROJECT CATEGORY

Noise barriers may be constructed by the City in conjunction with a road widening project if no noise attenuation barriers exist, and the proposed additional lanes of traffic are found to adversely affect the daytime noise level beyond the established criteria (refer to the “Installation Criteria” section of this policy for the applicable criteria.). If the installation criteria are satisfied, the

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City may elect to pre-install a noise attenuation barrier up to three years prior to the scheduled road widening.

Noise attenuation barriers may be constructed by the City at 100% City cost, on arterial roads as part of a significant capital improvement project, such as improvements at major intersections, transit priority and/or related infrastructure improvements, and major asphalt resurfacing or reconstruction, where no road widening is being undertaken. The noise attenuation barriers must be installed where none currently exist and meet the criteria as outlined in the “Installation Criteria” section of this policy.

The cost of construction will be included in the project costs. The noise attenuation barriers will be situated on City property. Ongoing maintenance and future replacements will be the responsibility of the City.

## NEW DEVELOPMENT CATEGORY

Servicing Agreements for new developments which require the construction of a noise attenuation barrier will specify that the noise attenuation barrier be situated on City property. Costs of construction will be the responsibility of the developer. Ongoing maintenance and any future replacements of the noise attenuation barrier will be the responsibility of the City.

## REFERENCE:

OW-192-88 – 1988 05 24  
OW-114-92 – 1992 04 27  
GC-0169-2005 – 2005 03 30  
2007 08 23 Housekeeping amendment– to update Ont. Regulation 119/03 to Ont. Regulation 586/06)  
GC-0067-2009 – 2009 03 11 – construction of noise barriers without road widening  
GC-0166-2011 – 2011 04 13 – change in cost sharing to 100% City for replacement of deteriorated barriers

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