Transit Noise: What is it, and how is it addressed?

The Utah Transit Authority (UTA) assesses the potential noise impacts of its projects in accordance with its Noise Assessment and Mitigation procedure and the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Transit Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment Manual. Noise assessment is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Scan the code to view the UTA Noise Assessment and Mitigation procedure or visit *bit.ly/UTAnoise*

Noise Analysis Process

1

Could this transit project increase noise levels?

Yes

No

Noise analysis and evaluation of noise mitigation not required.

2

Conduct noise analysis.

- Noise sources
- Time when noise occurs
- How often noise occurs
- How long noise occurs
- Noise-sensitive areas (home, hospitals, school, library, church, etc.)

3

Determine noise impacts.

- Use FTA noise model
- Assess the change in noise due to the project

No noise impact.
Mitigation not required.

Moderate or severe noise impact.
Mitigation should be considered.

4

Identify appropriate mitigation measures, including potential location.

Evaluate Noise Source Measures.
Consider noise mitigation such as spring-rail frogs in the rail design.

Evaluate Noise Path Measures.
Consider noise barriers along the noise path between the noise source and the receiver.

Evaluate Noise Receiver Measures.
Consider building modifications such as installing new windows or doors.

5

Utilize mitigation criteria to evaluate potential noise mitigation measures.
Are the mitigation measures reasonable **AND** feasible?

Reasonable:

- Achieves noise reduction goals
- Is cost-effective
- Benefits majority of the people in the affected area

Feasible:

- Can be constructed and safely maintained
- Does not restrict access to facilities

No

Noise mitigation **does not** meet the criteria and will not be implemented. Other mitigations options might be considered.

Yes

Noise mitigation does meet the criteria.
Do mitigation measures include noise barriers?

No

Implement source and/or receiver measures.

Yes

6

Initiate public involvement for barriers.
Input from the community during the NEPA environmental study process will be considered in determining the implementation of certain noise mitigation measures. Public involvement outreach may include meetings, neighborhood canvassing as well as other methods. In some cases, landowners may petition against noise barriers.

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