

**Stouffville RER Stations Project
Agincourt Village Community Association
Noise Wall Meeting**

Tuesday, June 25, 2019 (6:30 p.m.)
Stouffville Community Office (4142 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto)

ATTENDEES	Rhoda Potter	President, Agincourt Village Community Association and Agincourt Drive Resident
	Randy MacDougall	Agincourt Village Community Association
	Kitty Feng	AVCA, Dowry Street Resident
	Fred Shen	AVCA, Dowry Street Resident
	Julie Chatten	Project Coordinator, Metrolinx
	Shawn Brown	Project Manager, Metrolinx
	Manuel Pedrosa	Manager, Communications and Stakeholder Relations, Metrolinx
	Prince Hall	Community Relations & Issues Specialist, Metrolinx
	Shannon McNeill	Metrolinx, Senior Manager, Environmental Programs
	John Dyk	Technical Advisor to Metrolinx, Aecom
	Andrew Southam	Design Manager, EllisDon Transit Infrastructure
	Matthew Carter	Project Coordinator, EllisDon Transit Infrastructure
	Georgia Tsoromocos	Lucent Quay Consulting Inc.

Noise Wall Overview (A. Southam, EDTI)
<p>Noise Wall Overview:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of two noise wall options – stone finish or stone finish with acrylic panel • Require feedback from community on where (geographically) the transparent acrylic panel(s) shall be used (to max of 20% of wall). Please note that the transparent panel has black stripes applied vertically or horizontally for bird protection. A preference on the direction of stripe is also requested. EDTI will consult with the wall manufacturer what flexibility may exist for the placement of transparent acrylic panels within the wall. • Post-Meeting UPDATE The acrylic panels will maintain a minimum mass of 20Kg/m² for the noise barrier wall system when using 20mm thick sheet. This will ensure that a minimum STC (Sound Transmission Class) of 0.32 is maintained as required per the project agreement. • Post-Meeting UPDATE: EDTI has confirmed that 40% of the noise wall can be transparent acrylic panels and that there would be NO detriment to the overall performance of the noise wall. • Stone finish – brought in the sample last fall at the meeting with the AVCA community; foresee this as the final (residents’ side) may be minor differences with the noise wall and footings, depends on the supplier. • Location of noise wall on site – provided overview of where noise walls are situated in relation to property lines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally follows property boundary • Offset from property line to maintain structure on Metrolinx lands • In some locations, the project team has been able to pull the walls in an additional distance onto Metrolinx property for the purpose of saving some trees • Showed plan view (bird’s eye view) of noise wall (<i>See drawings appended to meeting minutes</i>):

- Red line – property line / blue line – noise wall line
- Showed areas where EllisDon was able to pull in noise wall additional distance to save trees
- Some conflicts in some areas due to a bioswale; able to pull back on west property line to avoid removing/injuring trees in that area
- Limited in some areas by parking restrictions, maintaining clearances between buildings, and sidewalks
- Insets in some areas for drainage
- Noise wall that leads down to Sheppard Avenue; leads to Sheppard Avenue stairway

Overview of the elevations relative to the properties:

- Areas along the property lines are relatively flat; there is a curve that leads up to platform from Sheppard Avenue
- The site layout (from rail to east side properties) is: platform, maintenance pathway, noise wall, subdrain (150mm “V” ditch at base of wall on resident side, on MX Property)

Some locations are more pronounced and treated as retaining structures for a portion of the wall (refer to shaded area on the diagram; thicker panel required to hold soil surcharge – gray area in drawing is retaining wall)

On the west side of the noise walls (townhomes on Dowry Street), the privacy fence will be removed and replaced with a noise wall.

- The project team requests your input on the noise wall finishes
- We can have 20 per cent of the wall as a transparent acrylic panel. EllisDon will consult with wall manufacturer regarding use of up to 40% acrylic panels and effect on noise mitigation. See post-meeting UPDATE above.

Drainage Overview:

- Drainage ditch on east side of site is located within Metrolinx lands. Drainage ditch designed to accommodate 100-year storm event
- Provided to convey surface water to storm sewer
- It is important that residents do not block or fill in the drainage ditch

Review of Noise Study (RWDI Report) – EDTI/Metrolinx

RWDI Consulting Engineers and Scientists (RWDI) prepared and completed a report for Metrolinx included in the 2014 Environmental Assessment for the Stouffville Corridor because of the anticipated increase of the noise in area due to the increase in train service. Noise walls are required to mitigate the increase in noise as determined in this study. The study included:

- A review of the mitigation levels and values that feed into the wall heights and performance criteria for the wall heights
- Two barriers that are captured within the Agincourt footprint are barriers #8 and #11; measured by the location of sensitive receptors in “worst case” locations
- RWDI used modelling software called CadnaA (Computer Aided Noise Abatement), which is more conservative than the STEAM model (MOE developed in 1990). Existing and future noise levels were modelled to inform mitigation. Receptors were identified for worst-case potential noise impacts.

Action: Metrolinx will send the AVCA a link to the report and the appendices.

Questions and Responses

Question: Do people know they will lose their trees?

Response: If they haven't received letters, they will per Urban Forestry standards and the tree removal permitting process. **Post-meeting UPDATE:** notices re: tree removals on the west side have been sent; first round went out July 9th and second round July 16th; Permits will be issued July 31st.

Question: Are you cutting into the existing grade separation retaining wall on the east side for the grade separation at Sheppard Avenue?

Response: Yes. A new stairway will be provided for pedestrian connectivity to the new East platform.

Question: Regarding the effectiveness of sound wall at different heights, in some locations, the train will be higher than the noise walls. How will the noise walls be effective?

Response: The noise study looks at receptors; the elevation of the sound wall is at five metres at the property lines. The RWDI report says that based on the property line, topography and the current top of rail, that to attenuate the sound according to the MoE specifications, the requirement for sound attenuation is a 5-metre-high noise wall. The top of rail height and the property line height is the same now as when the study was conducted.

Question: We would like information about the calculations and analysis made to determine the sound wall locations and heights.

Response: Calculations completed according to MoE standards (RWDI report). **Post-meeting UPDATE:** Metrolinx will send the AVCA a link to the report and the appendices.

Question: Do you test the noise wall effectiveness once complete? If not, how do we get someone to retest?

Response: Metrolinx is reviewing this scope and will provide a response.

Question: Are you concerned about noise today?

Response: The noise barrier wall will be at a greater distance from the noise source, you will have additional space, you will also have a canopy structure capturing and directing the noise. The noise barrier wall is only part of the equation. As you get farther away from the tracks, the noise wall will be more effective. The noise barrier wall is both reflective and absorptive, principally an absorptive barrier wall in the lower sections. This information and the location of the sensitive receptors is addressed in the RWDI report. (Absorption and reflection of noise performance is based on frequency of the noise [tone], density of the panel material, surface characteristics of the panel material and mounting method of the panels)

Comment: The noise wall is built very close and will block the light at the townhomes. If it falls down, it will damage the building.

Response: The noise wall will have at the top portion a transparent acrylic panel that will allow light, as per requirements. The noise wall is designed for various loading conditions to prevent it from falling down.

Question: Is there flexibility for the location of the transparent acrylic panel on the noise wall?

Response: We do not think this is possible, however, we will consult with the wall manufacturer to explore this possibility and identify impact on noise mitigation. Please see post-meeting UPDATE above.

Question: In light of the noise wall by the Dowry townhomes, how effective will the noise wall be?

Response: It will be more effective as the townhomes are further away from the source of noise.

Question: Your noise wall does not reach the third floor of the townhomes. How will it be effective in mitigating noise heard on the third floor?

Response: EDTI is building to the specification requirements of 5 metres as per the RWDI Noise and Vibration report in order to mitigate the issues identified in the Noise and Vibration report

Comment: AVCA did not hear back from all residents about the noise wall finish. From those who replied, they indicated a preference for a solid noise wall on the east side. Emails and flyers were distributed to all affected residents last fall.

Comment: Metrolinx will provide more detail and link to the noise and vibration reports that were developed for the Stouffville project/electrification.

Question: With respect to Kitty and Frank's concerns who live on Dowry Street, how can the same height of the noise wall (5 metres) be used on both the east side and west side? Why can't we have a noise wall that is 50% acrylic panel and 50% solid to allow for more light?

Response: EDTI follows the specifications. We understand the concerns. Will review and get back to you regarding the 50% request. Please see post-meeting UPDATE above.

Question: Will buses come into the Kiss and Ride?

Response: No, they will not.

Question: For drainage, is this going to be the ground shape? 15 cm is not very deep. You will have different water volumes at different areas.

Response: The design has accounted for these differences in order to meet the 100 year storm event.

Question: We would like more information about noise wall drainage (in Part I).

Response: They have been installing subdrains (Julie/Metrolinx). We will investigate and report back as this is outside of the Stations project scope.

Question: Can we ask about noise walls north of this area (Marilyn to Finch). What are the noise wall specifications for Part I?

Response: Based on the noise study in 2014, the study was completed for the Stouffville Corridor Environmental Assessment, based on diesel trains.

Question: Do you still think electrification is on schedule for 2025?

Response: It is an iterative process; currently in the procurement phase. We are targeting for some electrification in 2025.

Comment: There is consistent noise at the station; the noise goes beyond just trains passing by. There is other noise.

Response: The report takes into account different types of noise. The report considers a number of inputs such as wheel squeal, train idling, trains running, and other factors included in the 2014 Stouffville Corridor Environmental Assessment.

Question: When you say the increase in noise, what do you mean? Two trains can occupy the tracks at the same time? Each train will still have the same noise profile.

Response: It considers all of those factors – increase in train service and frequency. The model gets an average reading.

Comment: We have not talked about the timeline for noise wall construction. You have removed trees, our

natural noise barrier. We are dealing with announcements from Agincourt GO Station, diesel fumes, and noise.

Response: Anticipated start of construction for noise walls: west side is end of July; east side is mid-July.

Post-Meeting UPDATE: Start of construction for east side noise wall is August 25/19, west side date to be confirmed.

Question: What should residents do if they are dissatisfied with the noise wall mitigation once built?

Response: This bridges back to your earlier question about the testing once the noise wall is constructed. Metrolinx is reviewing the testing requirements.

Comment: Some residents in Part I have indicated the noise walls that have been built are not effective. The Agincourt community would like to observe the noise testing once the walls are built.

Comment: Sunlight is a concern for the Dowry Street residents.

Response: Metrolinx has noted this as a takeaway item and will respond to you.

Next Steps

AVCA meeting – will occur in September (Prince Hall to confirm)

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.