

SECTION 6

SOUND BARRIER & SECURITY WALLS

6-1 LOCATION REQUIREMENTS

Sound barriers or security walls may be required along the rear and side property lines of residential developments adjacent to freeways, major highways, arterials, collectors, and other ground level noise generators in order to achieve the noise objectives of the County of Yolo General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, or as required by the project conditions of approval.

Rear and side yard security fencing adjacent to publically owned lands, rights of ways, or road easements shall not be wood fences. Acceptable materials for sound barriers are masonry or concrete. Where sound barriers are not a necessary component, security walls may be constructed of chainlink or tubular steel fencing.

6-2 DESIGN

The sound barrier shall be designed to meet noise reduction objectives established for the project. Structural calculations prepared by the Design Engineer in accordance with Building Code requirements shall be submitted for review and permitting by the County Chief Building Official. Wall design details and submittals shall also be reviewed and approved by the County Engineer.

Design Details shall include, but are not limited to:

- Materials; either masonry or concrete, including reinforcement
- Wall height and thickness
- Footings
- Earth retention allowances
- Construction requirements
- Special inspection requirements
- Architectural features and any painting, considering colors that can be matched for ease of graffiti abatement

Standard sound barrier designs may be approved for use in the County of Yolo. Any such request shall include plan details and calculations prepared and signed by an appropriate Design Engineer. The Developer shall make an application and pay all related review and approval costs.

Sound barriers shall be installed outside of public rights of way, and shall have a minimum design life of 30 years.

Sound barriers constructed along freeways, or at the back of sidewalk along the outside of curved major streets, shall incorporate a barrier-type design element to minimize the potential for vehicles penetrating the wall. Other locations that represent a higher potential for run-off-road accidents shall be required to incorporate a Caltrans Type 60 (or equivalent) barrier-type design element.

All open or non-reinforced cells in masonry block sound barriers shall be fully grouted. Special inspection shall be required. Decorative split face block, decorative caps, and decorative pilasters may be required.

6-3 PLAN REQUIREMENTS

All construction details for sound barriers and security walls, including the locations and limits, shall be shown on the site improvement plans.

Sound Wall construction details shall comply with APWA “Greenbook” Standard Plan 601-1 unless a project specific design is submitted along with design calculations for review and approval.