# Noise Evaluation Process

**IDENTIFY** noise sensitive sites → **CALCULATE** existing and predicted future noise levels and determine any impacts → If impacts exist, **EVALUATE** ***reasonability*** and ***feasibility*** of noise barriers → **DETERMINE** If noise abatement is feasible → **NOT FEASIBLE** / **FEASIBLE**

## What Are "Noise Sensitive Sites"?

Noise sensitive sites are noise sensitive land uses, like residences, schools, hospitals, parks, libraries, and places of worship, that are identified by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as being noise sensitive.

## What is an "Impact?"

An impact is a noise sensitive site which has a noise level exceeding noise levels established by FHWA, or sites that have a substantial increase in noise as a direct result of the project.

## Considering Noise Reduction

**Reasonable** and **Feasible**

**Cost Effective:** The cost to construct the surface area of the barrier wall does not exceed 1,500 square feet per benefited receptor.

**Noise Reduction:** 7 dBA reduction for at least one benefited receptor.

**Acoustic Feasibility:** 5 dBA reduction for at least 50% of first-row impacted receivers, and benefit at least 2 impacted receptors.

**Constructibility:** Topography, drainage, maintenance, utilities, and other engineering factors.

**dBA, or decibels A, is a measurement for noise level*

- Inform public and conduct noise workshop
- Solicit viewpoints on proposed noise abatement
- Address comments and notify public of changes to design