



**CHARLOTTE**  
CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG  
PLANNING

# Noise Walls

## I-77 High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lane Project

Community Meeting

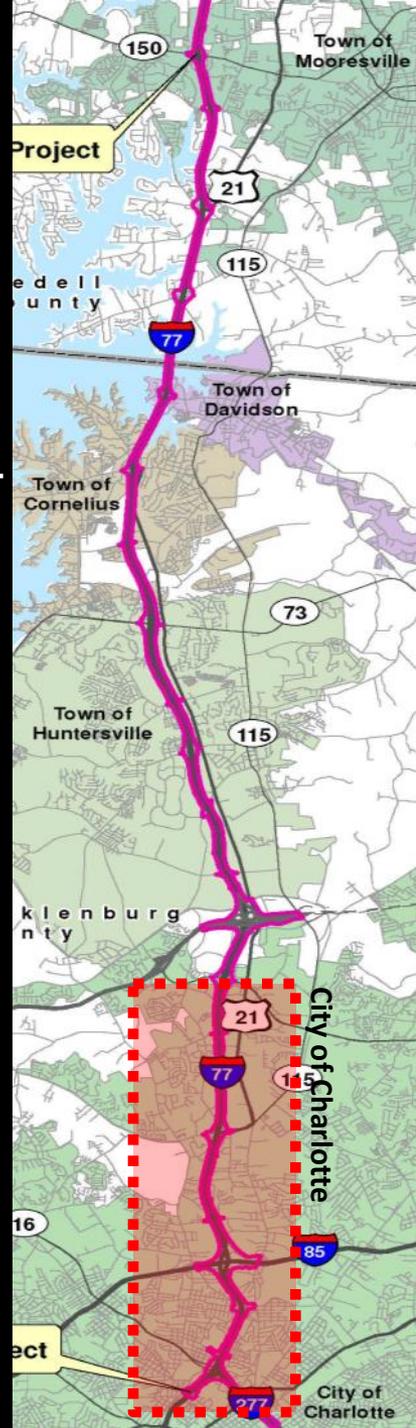
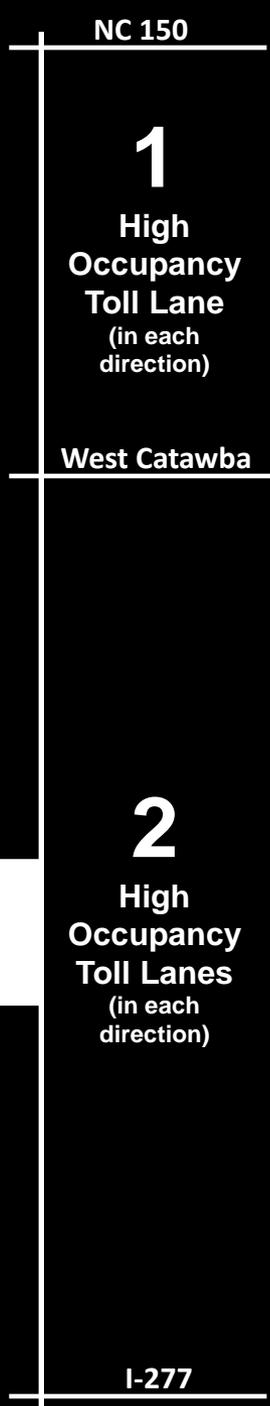
February 6, 2014



# Tonight's Objective

- 1. Noise Wall Treatment Recommendations**
- 2. Ballots & City Council Decision Steps**
- 3. On-Going Coordination**

# I-77 High Occupancy Toll Lanes: Overview





# Tonight's Objective

- 1. Noise Wall Treatment Recommendations**
2. Ballots & City Council Decision Steps
3. On-Going Coordination

**Context:**  
Proposed Noise  
Walls

*Corridor includes  
different conditions*

1

**North of I-85**

**Context:**

- Mix of neighborhoods & commercial
- Existing concrete noise walls

2

**South of I-85**

**Context:**

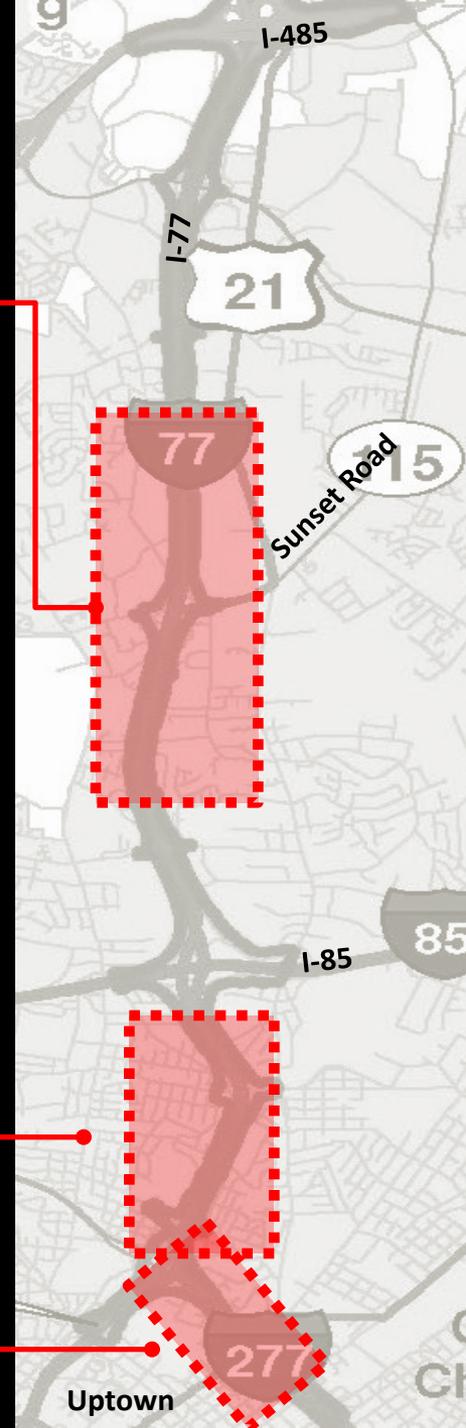
- Established neighborhoods
- Existing aesthetic brick walls

3

**Uptown & 4<sup>th</sup> Ward (I-277)**

**Context:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Ward neighborhood
- Uptown/Center City





North of I-85

## Context

Existing walls - exposed concrete aggregate face, steel columns

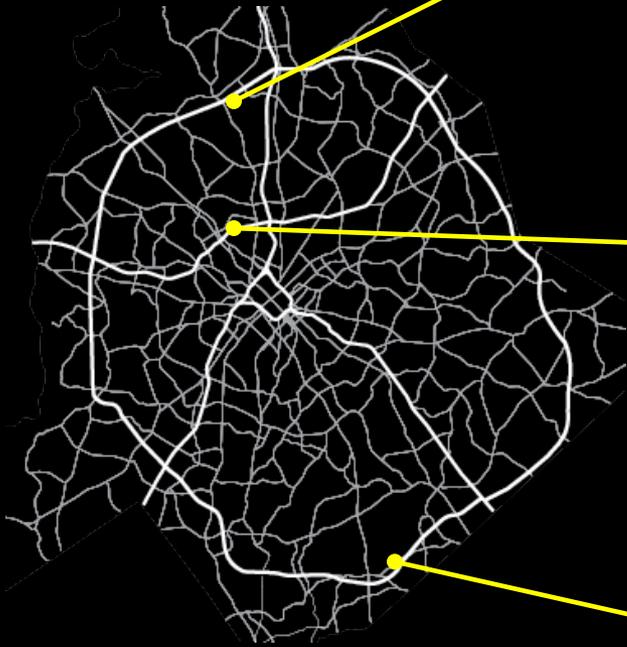
New walls will extend or be adjacent to existing walls

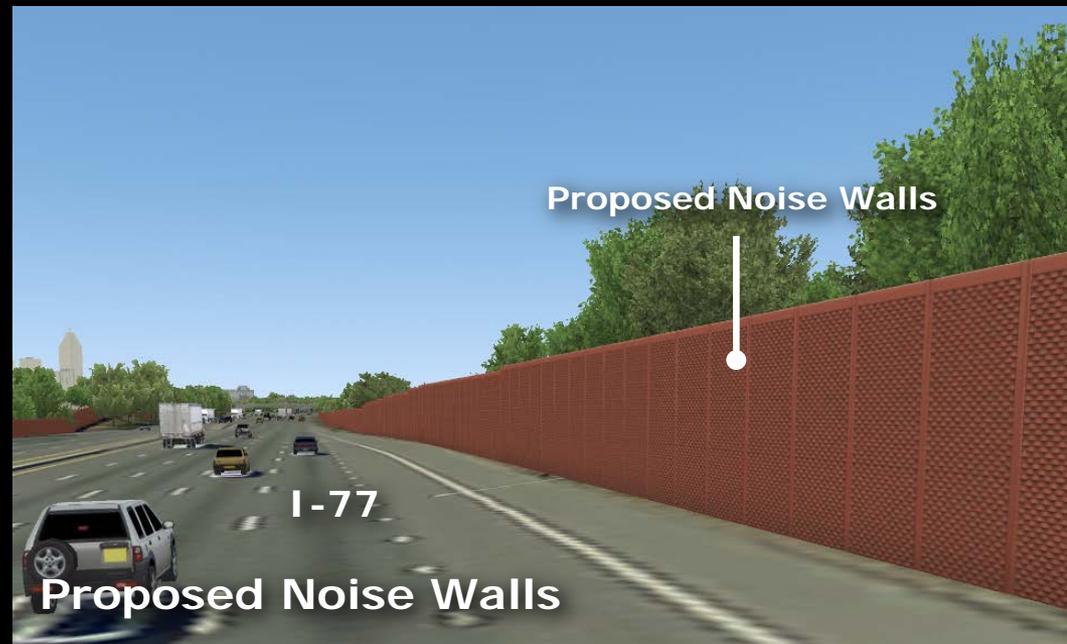
## Recommendation

New walls to match existing walls

**Color/Texture:** exposed concrete aggregate face, steel columns

Consistent with the look of existing noise walls in Charlotte...





South of I-85

## Context

Existing brick aesthetic walls

New walls will be located between freeway and existing brick walls

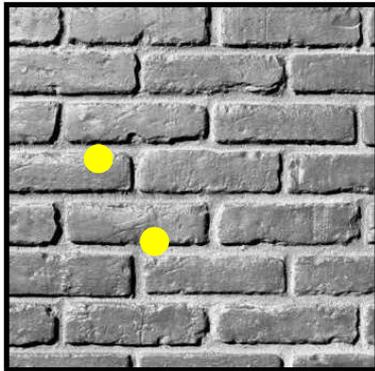
Some existing brick walls to be replaced with new noise wall

## Recommendation

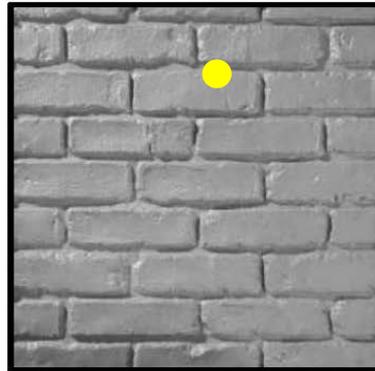
New noise walls to match existing brick walls

**Color/Texture:** stamped concrete in brick pattern and medium brown color

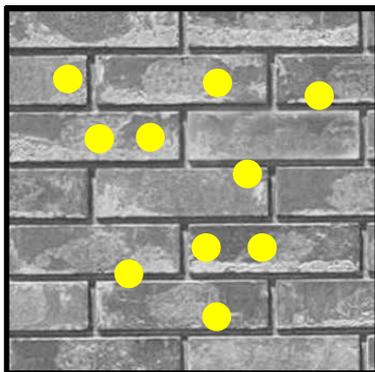
# Community Preference: (December Meetings)



1. Used Brick



3. Old Brick



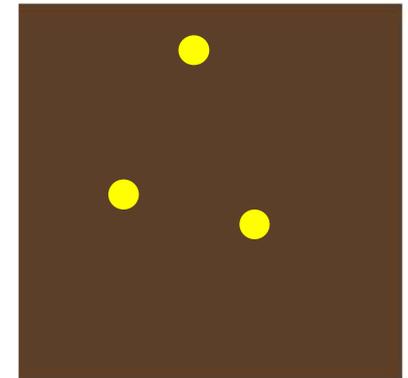
2. Utility Brick



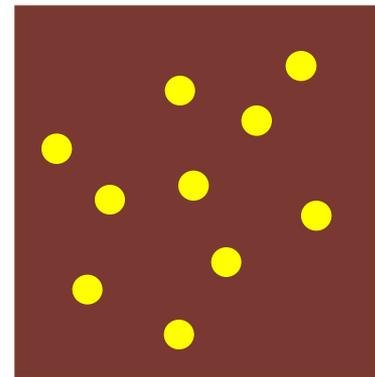
4. Smooth



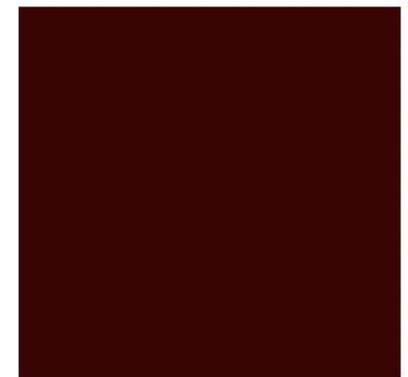
1. Dark Brown



3. Light Tan



2. Medium Brown



4. Dark Tan

# Community Preference: (December Meetings)

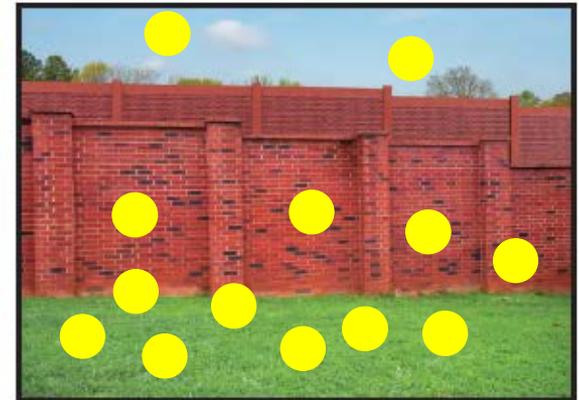
## Noise Wall Staining Options



Option 1  
Medium Brown - Panel Only



Option 2  
Medium Brown - Panel and Top of Wall



Option 3  
Medium Brown - Entire Wall



Option 4  
Dark Brown - Panel Only



Option 5  
Dark Brown - Panel and Top of Wall



Option 6  
Dark Brown - Entire Wall



## Example Visualization:

- Brick Texture
- Medium Brown Color
- Color Panels & Columns



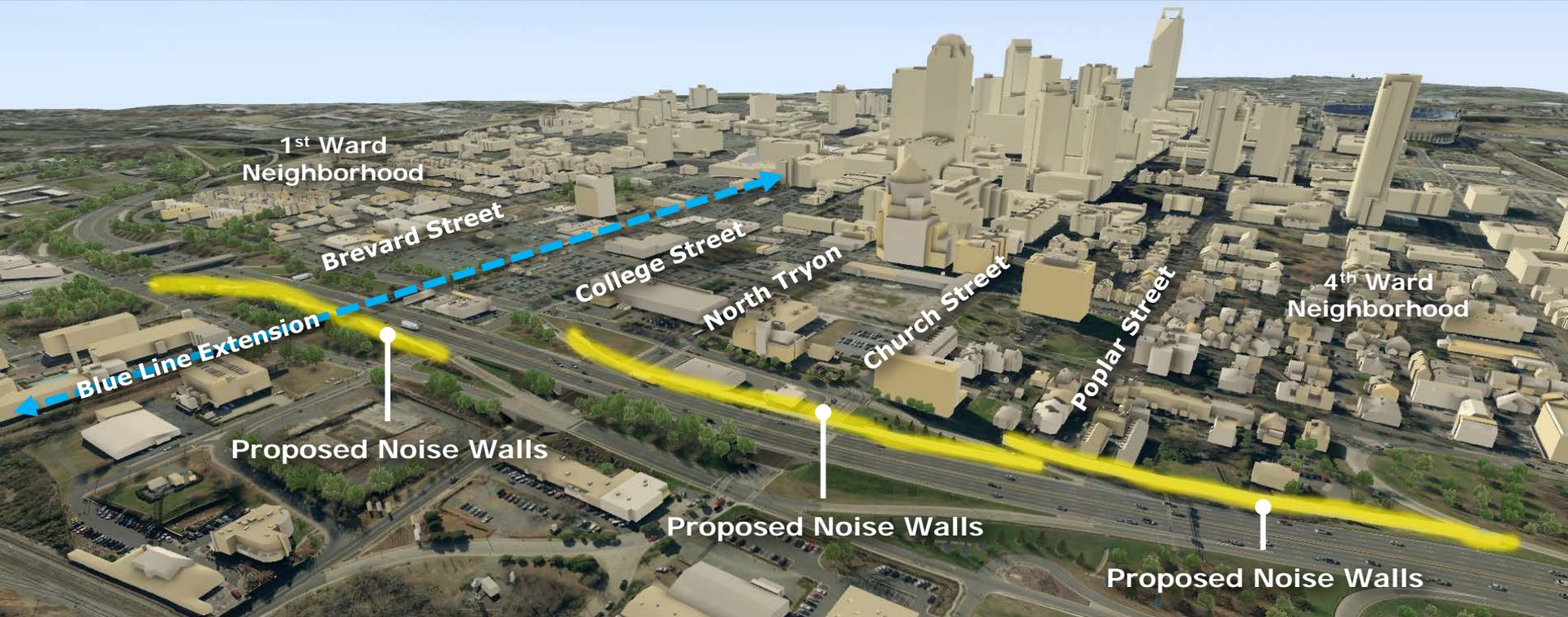
## Example Visualization:

- Brick Texture
- Medium Brown Color
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## Example Visualization:

- Brick Texture
- Medium Brown Color
- Color Panels & Columns



## Uptown (I-277)

### Context

- Urban City Center
- Skyline Views
- Elevated Freeway

### Recommendation

If noise walls are voted “yes” by impacted properties...

City of Charlotte to work with NCDOT to evaluate appropriate design options



## Design Considerations:

- Protecting skyline views
- Minimizing barrier effect
- Color & materials that reflect the character of Uptown



## Design Considerations:

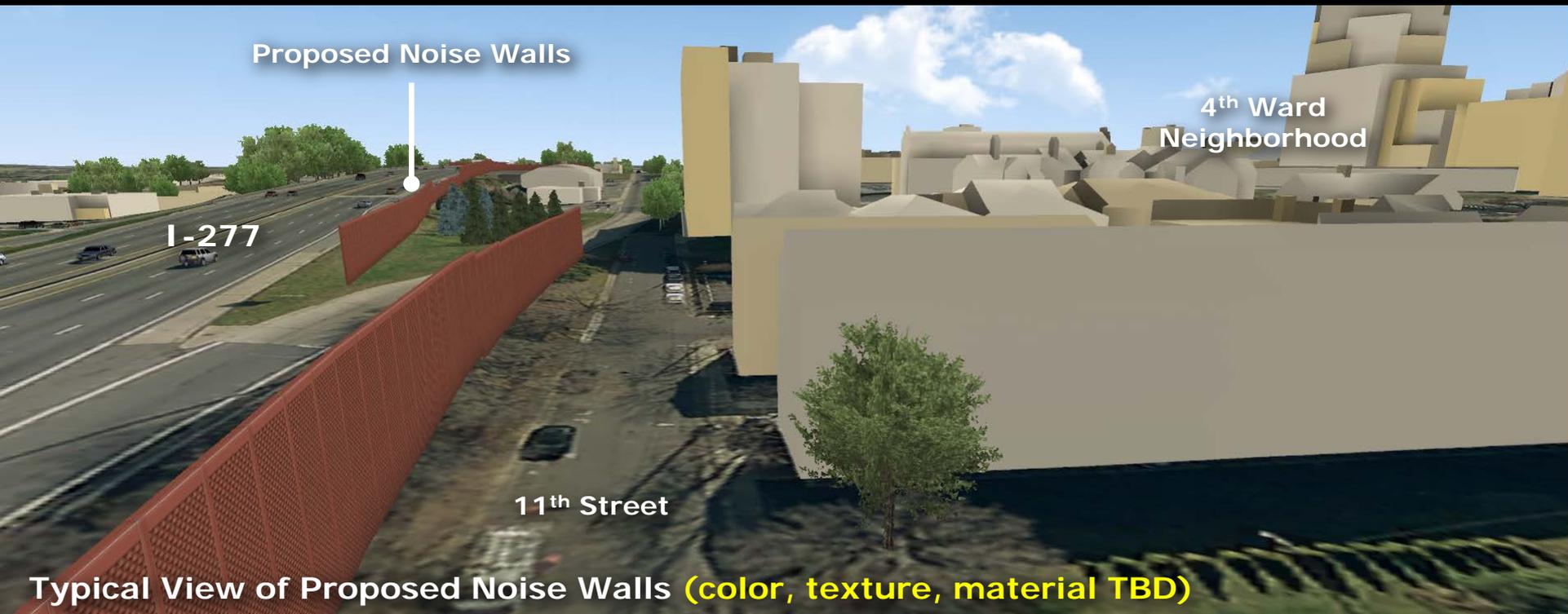
- Protecting skyline views
- Minimizing barrier effect
- Color & materials that reflect the character of Uptown



Typical Existing View

## Design Considerations:

- Maintaining visual screening between freeway and neighborhood
- Widening impact on 11<sup>th</sup> Street
- New retaining walls, additional landscaping?



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# Tonight's Objective

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## Who

## What

## How/When

1

**Impacted/ benefited residential properties**

(historically eligible neighborhoods: McCrorey Heights, Oaklawn Park, Dalebrook)

**Wall color and texture**

(neighborhood side)

**Ballot/vote**

**Due Feb. 21**

2

**Impacted/ benefited residential properties**

(Uptown/4<sup>th</sup> Ward Neighborhoods)

**Wall or No Wall**

**Ballot/vote**

**Due Feb. 21**

3

**City of Charlotte**

**Wall color and texture**

Freeway & neighborhood sides

**Community Input, Staff Recommendation, Council Action**

**Feb. 24**

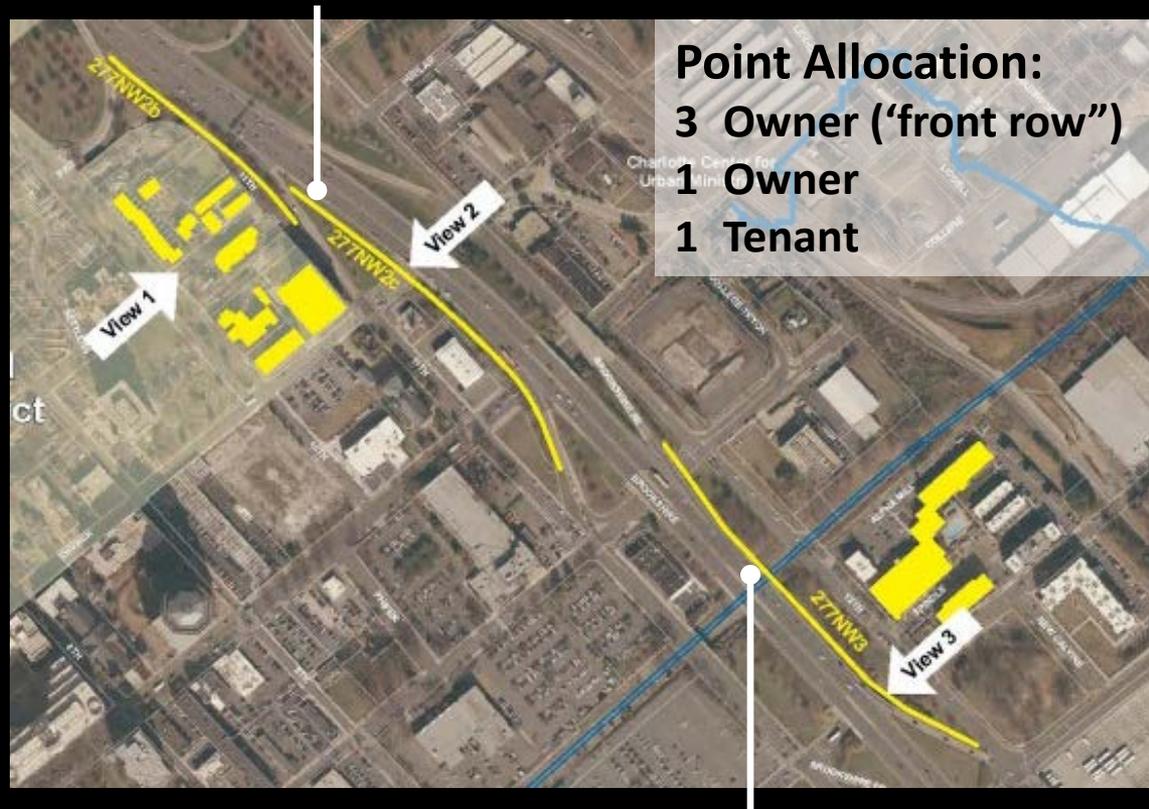
**67 Properties**

**162 Points**

**82 Points required to “veto” wall**

## Uptown Wall: Vote Summary

- The owners and tenants of residential property that receive at least a 5-decibel reduction in noise
- Wall assumed “yes” unless a majority (more than 50%) of ballots/points are returned indicating “no”



**25 Properties**

**60 Points**

**31 Points required to “veto” wall**



# City Council

Approval - Wall  
Treatment

- **Transportation & Planning Committee**

(Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 3:30pm, Room 280)

- **City Council Update**

(Feb 17<sup>th</sup>, Zoning Dinner Meeting, 5:00pm, CH-14)

- **City Council Action**

(Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, Business Meeting, 7:00pm, CMGC Chamber)



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# On-Going Coordination

- **Storm Water**
- **Maintenance & Security**
- **State Noise Abatement Policy**
- **Overall Project Environmental Impacts**

## Issue: Storm Water

### Site Specific:

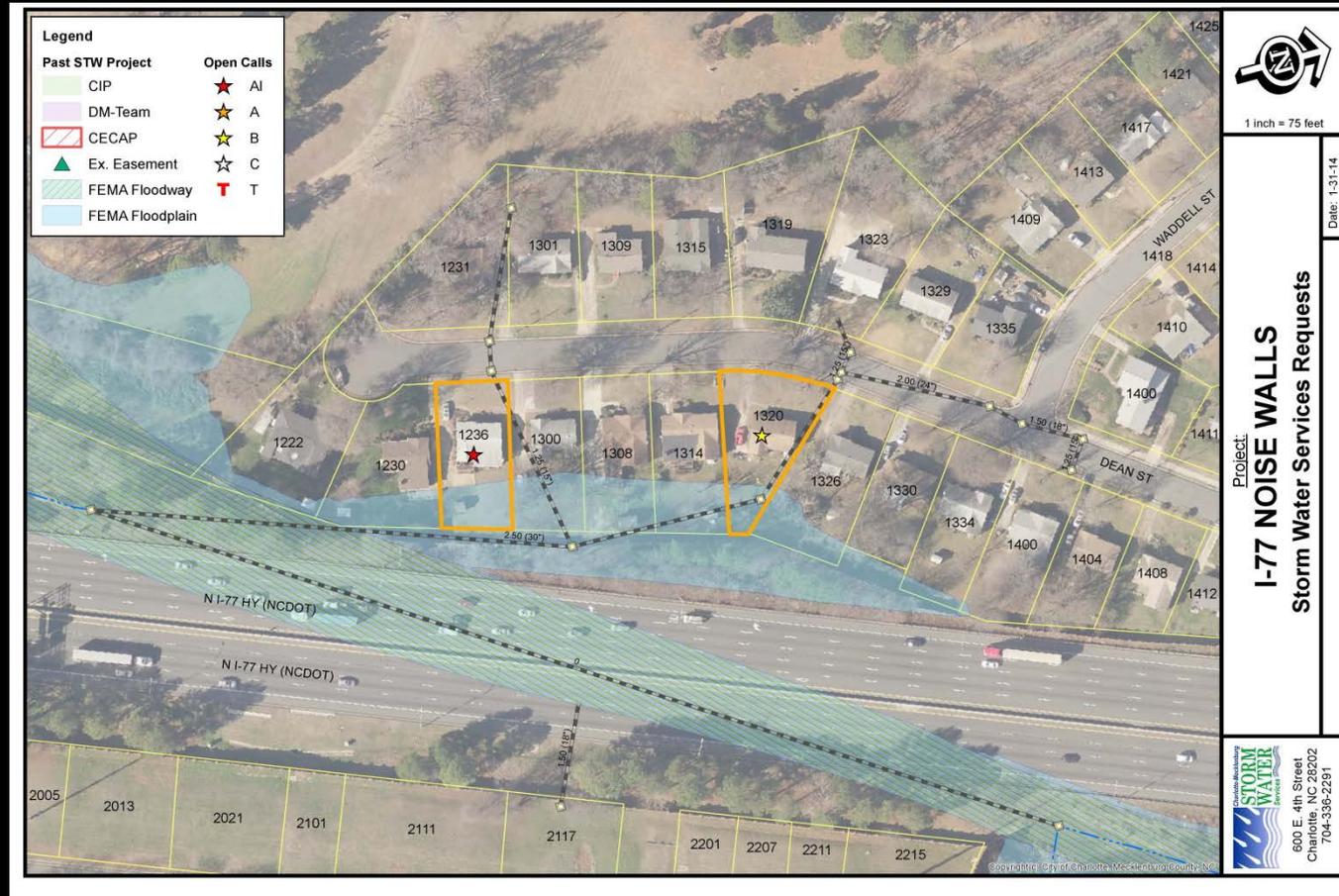
City has received (2) service requests:

Erosion is occurring likely due to aging storm water pipes

Goal to have a plan ready for construction in 6-12 months

### Project Coordination:

City & County Storm Water staff will be involved in review of I-77 widening project



## Issue: Maintenance & Security

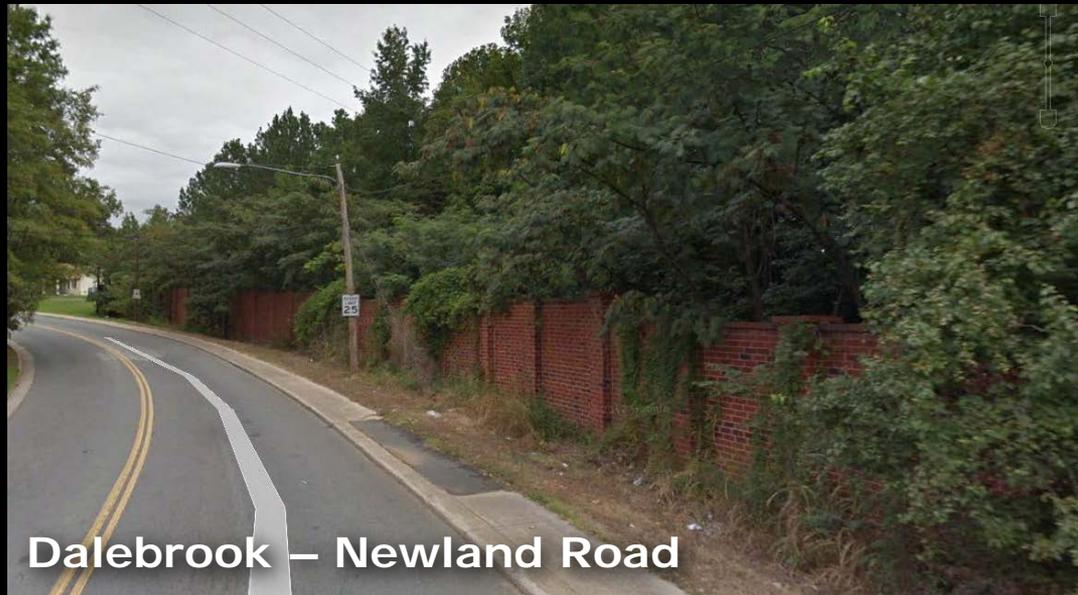
*space "between walls"*

Need to clear under brush and limb up trees to provide a clear line of sight & maintain wall.

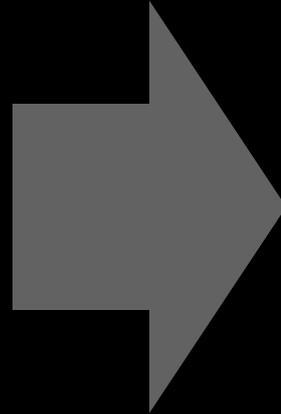
Police Department concerned about controlling access with gates - makes it more difficult to patrol and access.

### Next Steps:

City staff to coordinate additional discussions with NCDOT to establish maintenance and security approach



**Issue:**  
**State Noise  
Abatement  
Policy**



NCDOT to identify future noise abatement policy enhancements based on concerns expressed during this process

**Issue:**  
**Overall Project  
Environmental  
Impacts**



NCDOT staff is willing to schedule additional meetings to discuss concerns



# Additional Questions?

**City of Charlotte Contact:**

**Bridget Dixon**

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704.432.4493

[www.charlottenc.gov](http://www.charlottenc.gov)

Charlotte Mecklenburg  
Planning Department

## **One-on-one with staff...**

- Draft Design Recommendations
- Storm Water
- Maintenance & Security
- Environmental Impacts