*This template may be used to prepare a ballot for property owners and residents to vote for or against a traffic noise barrier proposed for construction by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) as part of the noise workshop process. Ballots sent by mail must be accompanied by a noise workshop meeting notice, letter, or other documents that provide sufficient information about the proposed noise barrier so that the recipient can make an informed decision.*

*At a minimum, ballots must include identifying information for the affected receptor, a way to indicate the voter’s preference(s), a way to indicate status (owner, resident, renter, etc), a space for comments or questions, and a signature line. Other sections may be added to the ballot to indicate aesthetic preferences, such as wall designs or colors, if these options are available. ENV suggests including a stamped reply envelope with the ballot to help ensure that the ballot is returned.*

*TxDOT districts and local governments holding noise workshops are not required to follow this template, although there are some guidelines and required elements -- see Section 11.0 of* ***ENV’s Traffic Noise Policy Implementation Guidance****.* *If previous public involvement materials for the project were translated into other languages, such as Spanish, consider providing the notice and ballot in the alternate language.*

*To prepare the content required on a noise workshop ballot, enter project-specific information in the prompts of the template. Prompts are highlighted in grey and set off by brackets, <as shown here>. When all prompts have been addressed, ensure no prompts remain, and copy the content into the desired format for the ballot. Copy the ballot template below the line; this ensures that these instructions, the title of the template, and the headers and footers are not mistakenly included.*

# NOISE BARRIER BALLOT

# <ENTER PROJECT NAME OR ROADWAY NAME AND/OR NUMBER>

# <OPTIONAL: ENTER BARRIER NAME OR OTHER IDENTIFIER>

# NOISE WORKSHOP: <ENTER WORKSHOP DATE>

In conjunction with the <enter project name>, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is proposing to construct a noise barrier to reduce traffic noise levels. The proposed noise barrier (also called a noise wall or sound wall) would be located within TxDOT right-of-way <describe specific location. For example: along the southbound side of SH 123 between X Road and Y Street, adjacent to W subdivision, or between the mainlanes and frontage road near Z apartment complex>. The proposed wall would be <enter height or range of heights in feet> feet high and approximately <enter total length in feet> feet in total length.

However, the proposed noise barrier cannot be constructed without the approval of **property owners and residents who are adjacent to or would benefit from the proposed barrier.** The purpose of this ballot is to obtain your input regarding the proposed noise barrier.

**Property information (please print)**

 Full Name

 Property Address

 Mailing Address (if different from property address)

 E-mail address

 Telephone Number ( )

Check all that apply: [ ]  I live at this property [ ]  I rent/lease this property from someone else

[ ]  I own this property [ ]  Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*If you own, but do not live at this property, please share this information and ballot with your tenants.*

**Barrier Vote**

Are you FOR or AGAINST construction of the proposed noise barrier?

[ ]  **FOR** (I want the noise barrier.) [ ]  **AGAINST** (I do not want the noise barrier.)

**Comments** (use reverse if necessary):

**SIGNATURE** (required) DATE

* The ballot must be completed and signed by the owner or resident of a property that is adjacent to or that would be benefited by the proposed noise barrier.
* If possible, please bring your completed and signed ballot to the Noise Workshop meeting. <remove this bullet point and modify the next bullet if the workshop is being held virtually or only online.>
* If you are not able to attend the Noise Workshop meeting, please send your completed and signed ballot to the TxDOT <enter district name> District Office, <enter address>. **Ballots must be received or postmarked no later than <enter date>.**
* The voting results will be determined based on the votes received. Ballots will be counted for each affected property. Votes from property owners and residents will be weighted, with 90% of a property’s vote to the owner and 10% of a vote to the resident. If a **majority** of the weighted votes received are “for” the barrier, TxDOT will construct the noise wall.
* Adjacent property owners and residents will be notified of the results of the vote for or against the proposed noise barrier after all ballots have been received and counted.