

Permanent Noise Barriers

Noise barriers are being constructed in the Windsor-Essex Parkway. The locations and heights of the noise barriers were identified during the Detroit River International Crossing (DRIC) study and documented in the approved in the Environmental Assessment Report.

Noise barriers will be constructed in three forms:

- noise walls
- earth berms
- a combination of walls and berms.

Noise Walls

An aesthetic design plan has been developed for the Parkway with input from residents and stakeholders. Based on feedback collected during the DRIC study, a natural Tallgrass Prairie theme known as “Carolinian Canada” was selected for the Parkway, and will be applied in the aesthetic treatment of noise walls. The noise walls will be manufactured with specialized material that reflects light. In general, noise walls will be installed when technically feasible in consideration of the construction schedule.

The design considers the perspectives of drivers on the freeway and on service roads and residential communities adjacent to the noise walls. The design also takes into account species at risk protection.

Driving Experience: Creating a rhythmic and unique driving experience is central to the design of the Parkway. Visual interest in the noise walls is created by using a combination of solid and textured panels building from the bottom upwards to evoke a grassland pattern.

Residential Experience: A combination of textured panels, colour and vegetation will be effectively used to reduce the visual impact of noise walls from the residential perspective. The colour palette includes earth tone hues. Where space permits, vegetation will be planted to further screen the noise barriers. Plant species will be selected based on screening characteristics, seasonal interest and compatibility with the surrounding ecological landscapes.

The illustrations below provide a Highway Face, being the one the travelling public will see, and the Community Face, being the one residents will see when looking in the direction of the Parkway.



Highway Face



Community Face

Earth Berms

Earth berms are mounds of earth raised to a specific height to serve a purpose. For the Windsor-Essex Parkway, earth berms will be used to provide noise attenuation and will have landscaping on them. Appropriate landscaping for the berms is being determined by the Landscape Architects to ensure that the berms are visually pleasing.

Noise Wall-Earth Berm Combinations

In some areas, a noise wall-earth berm combination will be used where there is sufficient area to do so in an effort to have the corridor visually interesting.

Details Pertaining to Each Permanent Noise Barrier

A series of community meetings will be held during fall 2012 to present to each neighbourhood adjacent to the Parkway details on the landscaping, noise barriers, trail bridges and landscape elements designed for their neighbourhood. Mail drops will be used to ensure that each resident is aware of the meeting and can attend to hear the proposal for their neighbourhood. For those unable to attend the community meeting, information will be provided on www.weparkway.ca or provided by mail to those residents who request that the information be provided in that fashion.

Who can I contact if I have a question or concern?

It is one of the project team's goals to work with the community throughout the construction of this project.

If you have any concerns regarding construction of the Parkway, please contact or visit the Windsor Essex Mobility Group's Public Liaison Office at 1-877-937-5929, 2187 Huron Church Road Suite 340, or wep-plo@wemg.ca.

Please visit www.weparkway.ca to learn more about the Windsor-Essex Parkway. Updates will be posted on Twitter (www.twitter.com/weparkway) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/weparkway) and photos and videos will be posted on Flickr (www.flickr.com/weparkway) and YouTube (www.youtube.com/weparkway).