Noise

Noise specialists working on the Detroit River International Crossing Study followed transportation industry best practices in developing mitigation approaches to minimize any noise impacts resulting from this transportation project.

What did the study reveal?

The study determined that many locations adjacent to The Windsor-Essex Parkway will realize significant reductions in noise levels and all other locations will be below the threshold for hearing an increase in noise in comparison with future "no-build".

Also, the noise generated from the plaza is not expected to cause a high noise impact at the receptors closest to the plaza.

What does this mean for future noise levels?

The Recommended Plan will not result in any adverse noise condition changes and a number of residents will see a reduction in noise levels as compared to a future "no-build" scenario. In addition, as border-bound commercial traffic is removed from other local streets, there will be improvements to noise levels in other neighbourhoods. While a number of specific noise mitigation measures have been identified there will be an opportunity for further input and analysis during the design stage of the project to ensure noise reduction benefits are maximized.

How was the study done?

Noise models approved by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment allowed the DRIC study team to understand the future conditions of the Recommended Plan. The key components of the model included:

- Traffic volumes
- Number of trucks
- Traffic speed
- Road type and grade
- Topography
- Elevation of the freeway and service roads
- Distance between roadways and residential areas

By comparing the predicted noise levels after the implementation of The Windsor-Essex Parkway to the predicted future "no-build" noise levels experienced in noise sensitive areas such as homes, the experts identified where noise barriers and berms will be effective in reducing sound levels. These barriers are predicted to reduce sound levels to well below the "no-build" sound levels for the receptors near the highway.

More information on noise can be found by viewing the Draft Environmental Assessment report at www.partnershipborderstudy.com