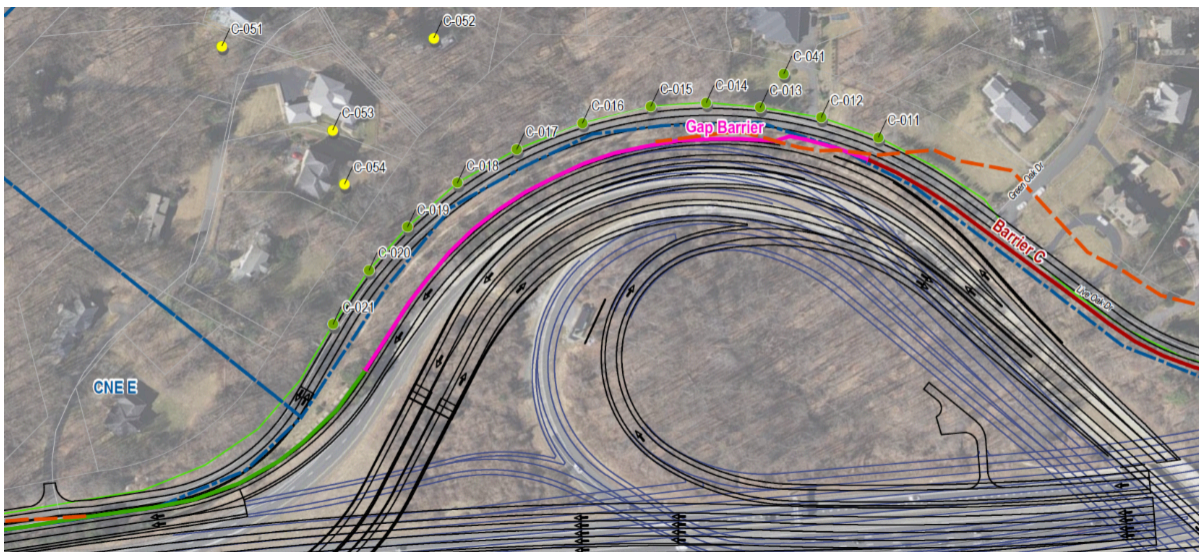


Update for Live Oak Drive Community on Noise Barriers

April 5, 2024

As part of the I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension Project (495 NEXT), the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and project partner Transurban, along with design-builder Lane Construction, would like to share updates concerning the Gap Barrier and Noise Barrier C along Live Oak Drive.



Future Noise Barriers Along Live Oak Drive

Realignment and Shortening of Noise Barrier C

Background

Noise Barrier C was originally planned to be located along the east side of Live Oak Drive from about 150 feet south of Green Oak Drive to about 50 feet south of Rivercrest Drive. This noise barrier was determined to be the best solution available to reduce roadway noise at nearby properties and the Potomac Heritage Trail.

In late May 2023 and June 2023, VDOT solicited the required votes and input from property owners most acoustically and visually benefitted by the barrier on whether to proceed with building Noise Barrier C. Eligible voters supported building Noise Barrier C. Input received from the supplemental surveys mailed to eligible properties, as well as feedback from a community meeting on June 21, 2023, also confirmed support for building Noise Barrier C.

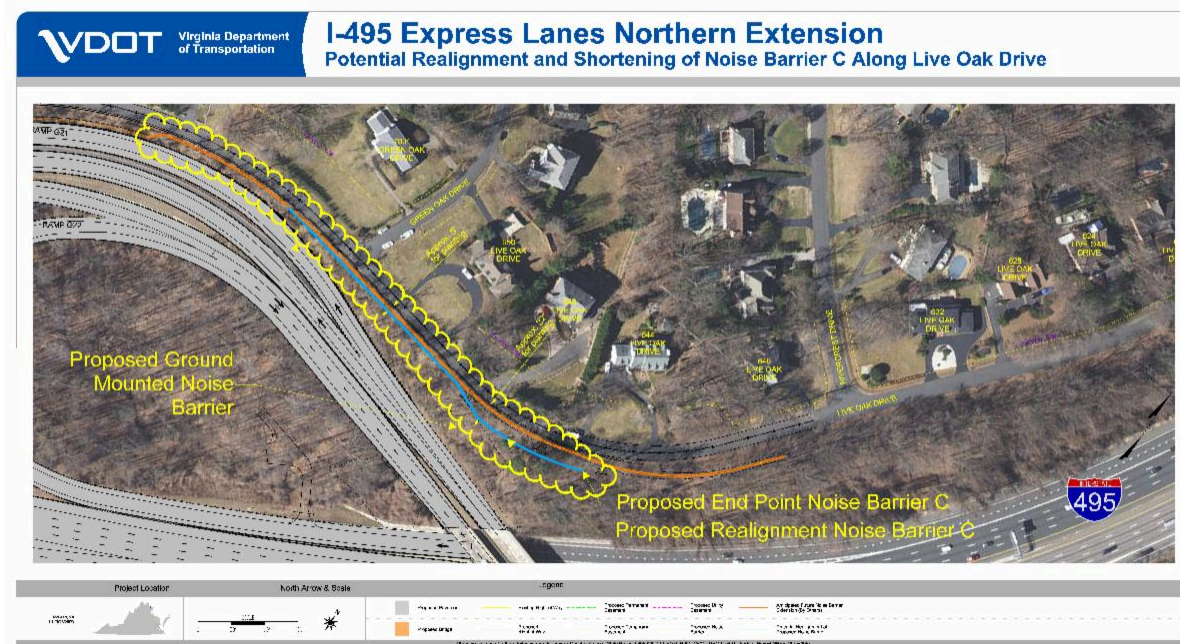
Based on community engagement and input, modifications to Noise Barrier C were evaluated. VDOT and its project partners determined that Noise Barrier C from 7001

Green Oak Drive to 644 Live Oak Drive would be shifted to the original location farther away from Live Oak Drive toward I-495 and shortened at the northern terminus by approximately 300 feet. Noise Barrier C would still provide an adequate level of noise reduction at residential homes with these design changes in compliance with federal and state regulations. This shift would result in approximately 4 to 22 feet of space for future revegetation between Live Oak Drive and the noise barrier in this area. Additional analysis involving these changes can be found in detail in VDOT's [Final Noise Abatement Design Report Technical Memorandum for Noise Barrier C](#).

Latest Updates

In November 2023, VDOT reached out to the benefited receptors (property owners), as well as property owners most acoustically and visually affected by the barrier, to obtain input on the proposed modifications. The results indicate overall support for the changes, including 50 percent or more of the received surveys from the identified benefitted property owners voting in favor of the changes. Specific results are:

Modified Noise Barrier C Survey Results		
	Residential	National Park Service (NPS)
Surveys Sent	9	1*
Surveys Received as of 12-14-23 [Yes/No]	4 [4/0]	1* [4/0]
Outstanding Surveys	5	0
* The NPS represents 4 receptors associated with the National Potomac Heritage Trail. They provided their input following review of the residential survey and vote.		



[Click Here for a Closer View of This Graphic](#)

Next Steps

The team is continuing to develop the modified design plans for Noise Barrier C, as well as a revegetation plan consisting of native plant species suitable for the available space. A conceptual design will be shared at the upcoming **public meeting**.

Learn More About the Project

Check out 495NEXT.vdot.virginia.gov for additional information.

[Sign up](#) here to receive project email updates.



Questions?

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