

Public Comment

A-18



March 3rd, 2023

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my support for the construction of a sound wall along the 101 freeway in Montecito, specifically Segment 4D of the 101 Widening Project. As you may be aware, the noise from the freeway is a nuisance to nearby residents such as myself and my family. Unfortunately, with the additional traffic passing through our community on the 101 over the years, the situation is only getting worse.

My understanding is that CalTrans removed the wall from the scope of the project due to matters surrounding the debris flow. Despite being in a FEMA recovery map, sound walls were successfully built in Carpinteria along the 101 freeway to protect residents from noise pollution. It's clearly possible to prioritize the needs of residents and build sound walls even in areas with unique challenges.

Studies have shown that exposure to excessive noise can have negative impacts on health and quality of life, including increased stress levels, difficulty sleeping, and decreased productivity. Sadly, my family and I are finding these issues affecting us. Additionally, I'm concerned that the cost of inaction may be even greater, as noise pollution will lead to decreased property values. I'm not sure why exactly, but the noise is considerably more noticeable in the past couple of years and is now audible night and day.

I urge you to support the construction of a sound wall along the 101 freeway in Montecito. By doing so, we can prioritize the needs of our community and improve the quality of life for residents. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ryan Brown

1385 Virginia Rd, Montecito

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS