

# **Traffic Noise Policy SER-009-027 Resident Engagement and Access**

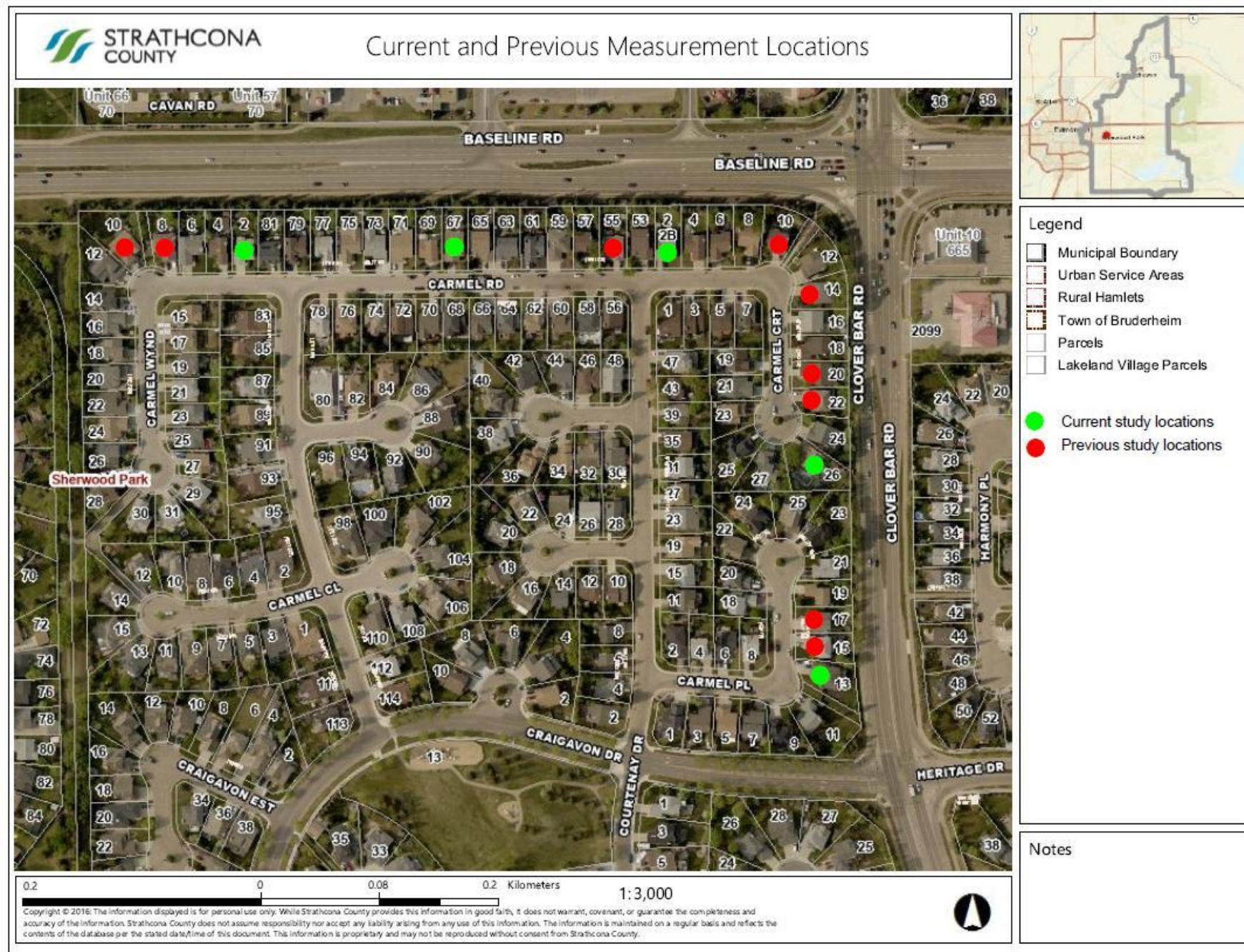
Council Meeting  
December 6, 2022

Transportation Engineering and Operations

# Purpose

- On July 19, 2022, Council passed a Notice of Motion for administration to engage with residents along Carmel Place, Carmel Court, Carmel Road and/or Carmel Wynd that back on to either Clover Bar Road or Baseline Road, to request to schedule access to their back yards to complete up to five sound measures as may be required to effectively measure traffic noise according to Traffic Noise Policy SER-009-027, and prepare a report with an assessment of current traffic noise levels for Council's consideration by the end of the fourth quarter of 2022.

# Background



- Administration selected five previously unmeasured properties; three along Baseline Road and two along Clover Bar Road, to conduct 24-hour noise measurements



# Background

- During the months of August and September, administration reached out to the selected five property owners to acquire permission to enter their backyards to conduct the required noise measurements according to our current Traffic Noise Policy SER-009-027.
- 24-hour noise measurements were conducted on mid-weekdays between September 13 and September 28.

**STRATHCONA COUNTY**  
Initiating department: ☒ Planning & Development Services  
☐ Recreation, Parks & Culture  
☐ Transportation & Agriculture Services  
☒ Transportation Planning & Engineering  
☐ Utilities

780-464-8080  
780-467-2211  
780-417-7100  
780-464-8277  
780-467-7785

**Strathcona County**  
(hereinafter referred to as "the County")  
- and -  
(hereinafter referred to as "the Owner")

The County wishes to enter the property of the Owner described as:  
Property address: \_\_\_\_\_ Subdivision: Craigavon  
Legal description: Lot \_\_\_\_\_ or Condo unit \_\_\_\_\_ Block \_\_\_\_\_ Plan V4  
(if applicable) Quarter NW Section 36 Township 52 Range 23 Meridian

I/we the undersigned, owner(s) or lessee(s) of the said land, do hereby grant permission to Strathcona County, its employees, servants, agents, contractors and those that have been duly appointed collectively called "the County", the right, licence, liberty, privilege to enter upon the land to and following work:  
Place/remove noise monitoring equipment as required to conduct a noise study.

Other conditions (if applicable):  
If required, COVID-19 protocols will be followed.  
Call before placement/pick up of equipment if pet on site. No calls will be made between 11:00am and 8:00am if equipment needs to be picked up due to change in weather.

The County agrees to make good and relieve the owner from any responsibility for liability from the performance of this Work and/or entry onto the property, whether due to accident or otherwise.

This agreement shall terminate and be of no further effect on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

I/we acknowledge and agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement to Enter - A Noise Study.

For the County:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Transportation Planning and Engineering

For the Owner:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner


August 24, 2022  
Dear Resident:  
**Re: Permission to Enter Property**

On July 19, 2022, Strathcona County Council passed a motion to have Strathcona County administration engage with residents who live along Carmel Place, Carmel Court, Carmel Road, and/or Carmel Wynd and back on to either Baseline Road or Clover Bar Road to schedule access to their backyards to measure traffic noise. In order to effectively measure traffic noise, up to five sound measurements may be required, in accordance with the County's Traffic Noise Policy SER-009-027. Once the study has been conducted, a report will be prepared to include an assessment of the current measured traffic noise levels for the corridors mentioned above in relation to the Traffic Noise Policy.

Your property has been selected as one of the locations to conduct a 24-hour noise study. The gathering of this data is tentatively scheduled between September 12 to October 7, 2022, weather permitting. Studies are conducted from either Tuesday to Wednesday or Wednesday to Thursday. Please complete, sign, and date the attached "Permission to Enter Property-Agreement" by **September 9, 2022**. Once completed, scan and e-mail the form to [transportationplanningandengineering@strathcona.ca](mailto:transportationplanningandengineering@strathcona.ca), or deliver it in person to the north tower in the Community Centre at 401 Festival Lane (see map attached) from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Staff from TPE will follow up with you directly to arrange a specific date to conduct the study in early September.

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Yanitski, Supervisor Traffic Operations and Management at 780-464-8282.

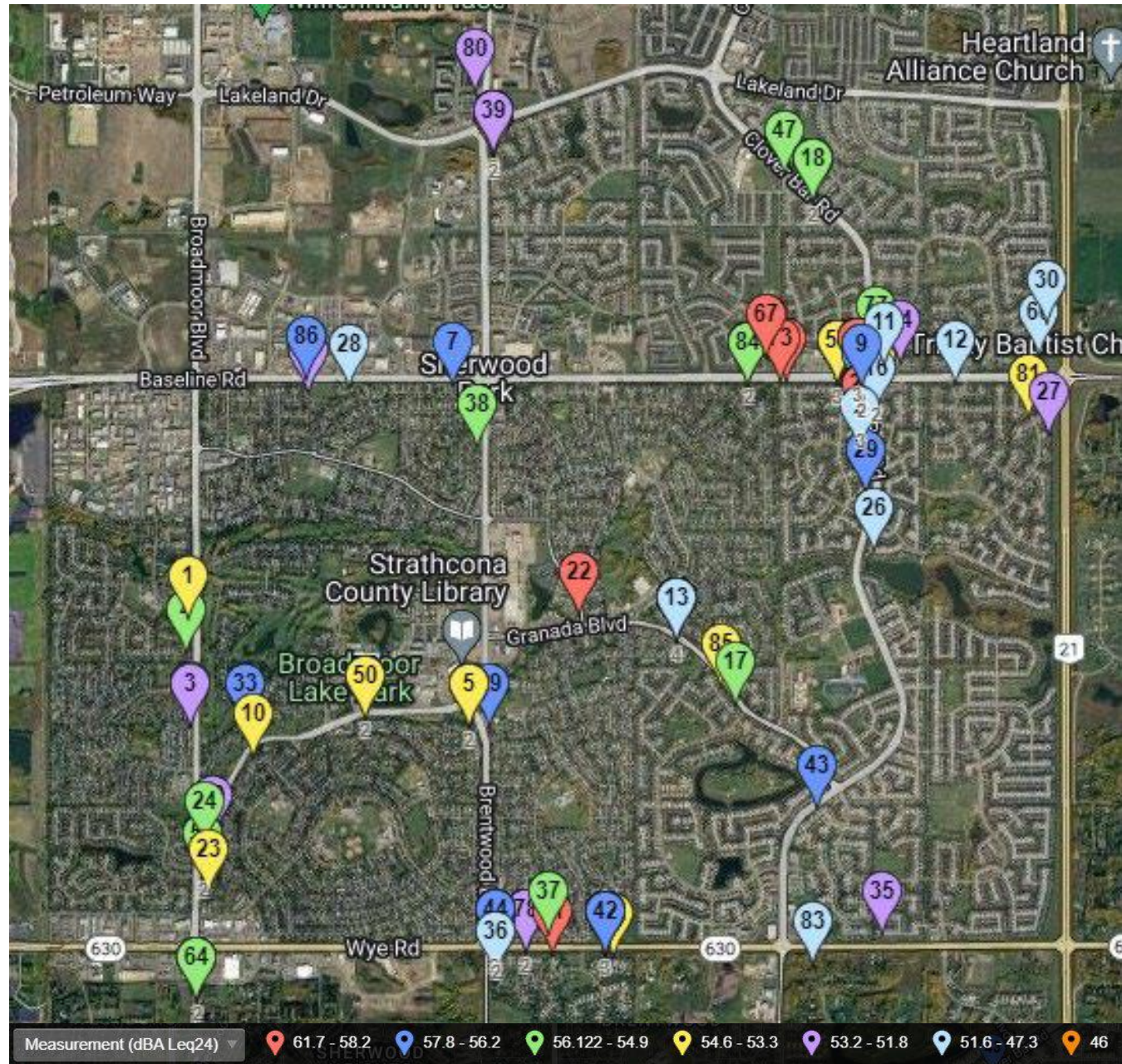
Regards,  
\_\_\_\_\_  
h.(Eng.), P.L.(Eng.)  
on Network Management  
g and Engineering  
ter Property - Agreement



(c) NoiseMeters



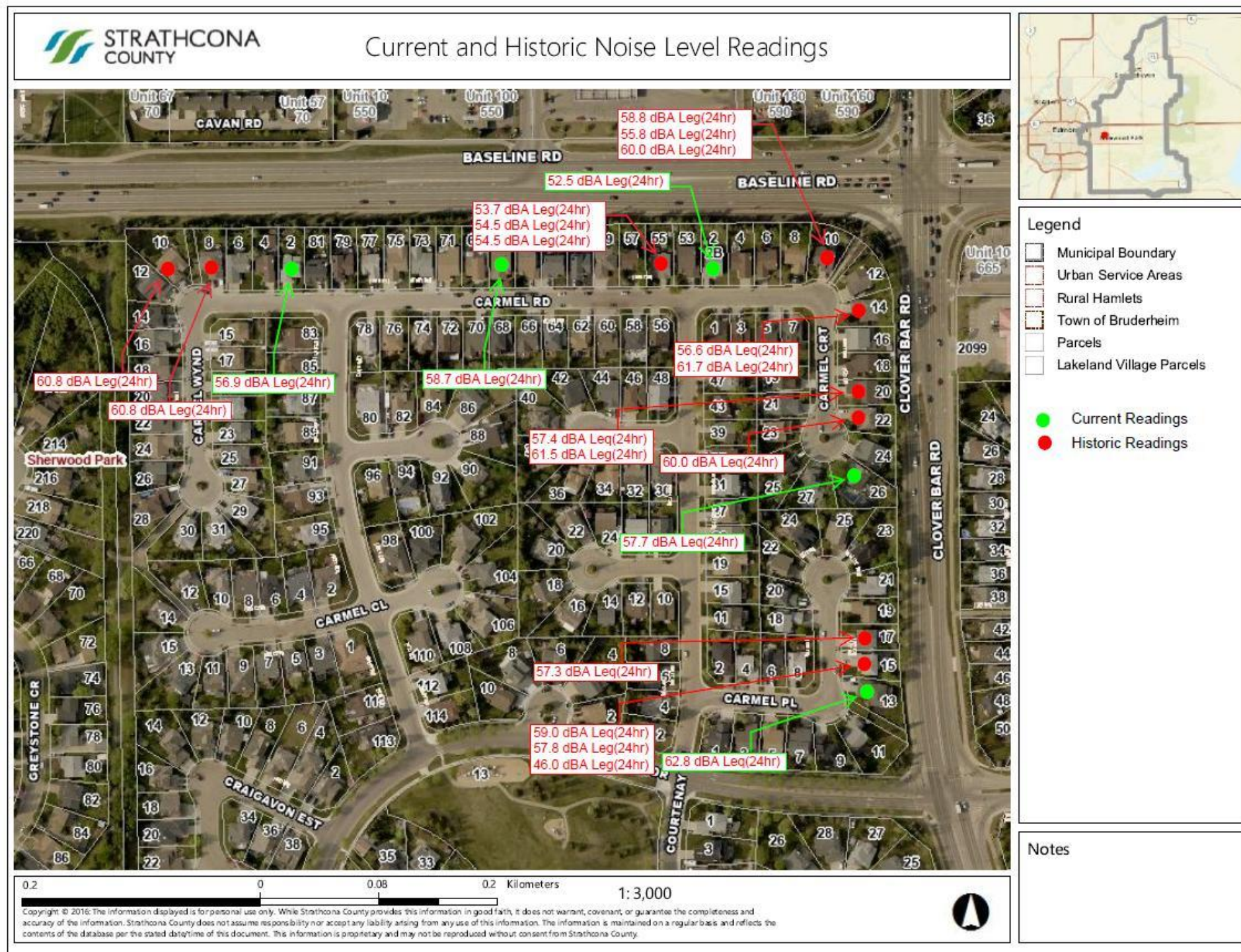
# Traffic noise studies



- Over the years, a number of properties backing onto these corridors have been studied to evaluate resident concerns.
- Traffic volumes play a role in noise levels. As development and growth in Sherwood Park and surrounding area have evolved, so have the traffic patterns and volumes.



# Results and assessment



- Measurements ranged from 52.5 dBA Leq(24hr) to 62.8 dBA Leq(24hr).
- Results are consistent with historical noise level readings.
- Based on the current readings, none of the five study locations exceeded the defined policy thresholds to require additional noise attenuation measures.



# Next steps and potential options

- Do nothing
- Residents may wish to pursue fence improvements with noise attenuation on their own
- Residents may organize and petition Council for a local improvement project for additional attenuation measures

**STRATHCONA COUNTY**

**Local Improvement Petition Checklist**

The content supplied on this page is intended to provide general information regarding petitions and is not a replacement for consulting the *Municipal Government Act* or obtaining legal advice.

☐ The local improvement petition must be signed by 2/3 of the owners who would be liable to pay the local improvement tax, and the owners who sign the petition must represent at least 1/2 of the value of the assessments for the parcels of land on which the tax would be imposed

☐ Each page of the local improvement petition must contain an identical statement of purpose

☐ For each petitioner, the petition must include:

- ☐ The printed surname and given name or initials
- ☐ The petitioner's signature
- ☐ The street address or legal description of the land at which the petitioner lives
- ☐ The petitioner's telephone number or email address, if any

☐ Each signature must be witnessed by an adult who will:

- ☐ Sign opposite the signature of the petitioner
- ☐ Take an affidavit that to the best of the person's knowledge the signatures witnessed are valid (sample affidavit on County website)

☐ The local improvement petition must have all affidavits attached

☐ The local improvement petition statement of representative c

☐ Every page of the local imprc information contained in the administrative officer and t used for any purpose other

**NOTE: Signatures collected outside**

**Within 45 days after the date or made to Council whether the p**

**Province of Alberta**

**MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT**

**Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000**

**Chapter M-26**

**Current as of August 1, 2022**

**SAMPLE**

**PETITION FOR A LOCAL IMPROVEMENT**

(pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c. M-26)

TO: THE COUNCIL OF THE SPECIALIZED MUNICIPALITY OF STRATHCONA COUNTY, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

THE UNDERSIGNED persons, as the owners who would be liable to pay the local improvement tax, hereby petition Strathcona County, pursuant to Division 7 of the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c. M-26 to undertake the following local improvements:

<provide a clear description of actual services and work to be provided and include the following in the description>, as well as the incidental and other expenses incidental to the undertaking of the local improvement and to the raising of revenue to pay for it.

I (we) understand that the estimated cost of the local improvement in the amount of \$ ( ) will be paid for by

<INSERT: MANNER OF CALCULATION OF TAX RATE - I.E. A UNIFORM TAX RATE TO BE IMPOSED BASED ON ASSESSMENT, ON EACH PARCEL, ON EACH UNIT OF FRONTAGE OR EACH UNIT OF AREA. SEE SECTION 395(1)(C) FOR OPTIONS>

and will be amortized over a fifteen (15) year period (or whatever term is chosen) as a charge against the lands in question. I (We) further understand that the local improvement charge assessed against the lands in question may be prepaid at any time.

The personal information contained in this petition will not be disclosed to anyone except the chief administrative officer and the chief administrative officer's delegates, if any, and will not be used for any purpose other than validating the petition.

Printed Surname and Given Name	Signature of Petitioner	Street Address or Legal Land Description	Telephone Number or Email Address, if any	I am the registered owner who would be liable to pay the local improvement tax.	Date	Signature of Adult Witness
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

Page 1 of 1

1. Attach all Affidavits of Execution of Witness.  
2. Attach Statement of Representative.  
3. If more than one page is needed to collect the required number of signatures, all pages must contain a header identical to the one on this page and the pages are to be numbered.  
4. This form is a suggested form only for the information and convenience of interested individuals. It has no legislative effect. For certainty, legal advice should be sought when a petition is being considered.

# Considerations

## Local improvement option

- Residents could organize a petition for a local improvement project
- Petition must meet these criteria
  - signed by 2/3 of the property owners who would be liable to pay the local improvement tax
  - The property owners must represent at least 1/2 of the assessments for the lots on which the tax would be imposed; and
  - The petition is properly completed and submitted with all supporting documents.
- Municipality must maintain ownership of the improvement
- The County would be responsible for all maintenance and future replacement of that asset.



# Considerations

- Based on quick cost calculations to remove the existing fences and construct a 2.4m high double wood-board attenuation fence, we estimate an expense of roughly \$650 per lineal meter.
- Impact to individual property owners will range from an estimated \$7800 to \$24000 depending on the width of their back yard fence.
- Potential de-registration of Restrictive Covenant on each lot and replace it with an easement or utility right-of-way agreement against each title to the affected private lots at an estimated cost of \$800 per lot.
- In order to ensure a discernable difference in noise levels (3 to 5 dBA), a noise attenuation design for each segment by an external consultant could be considered. This would be an additional cost to the local improvement project.

# Considerations

- Frequencies of sound – some frequencies are easier to attenuate than others. Lower frequencies tend to “step over” barriers due to their longer and deeper wave lengths. These sounds typically are exhaust and engine noise. Higher frequencies, with shorter and shallower wave lengths, can be blocked fairly well. Tire noise is generally in this category.



# Next steps

- If residents want further information on Local improvement petitions it can be found on our website here: <https://www.strathcona.ca/council-county/mayor-council/petition-guide/>

# Questions