



Mississippi Department of Transportation

# Improvements to I-55 Noise Barrier Locations

Hinds County, MS

## Open Forum Public Meeting

August 2012

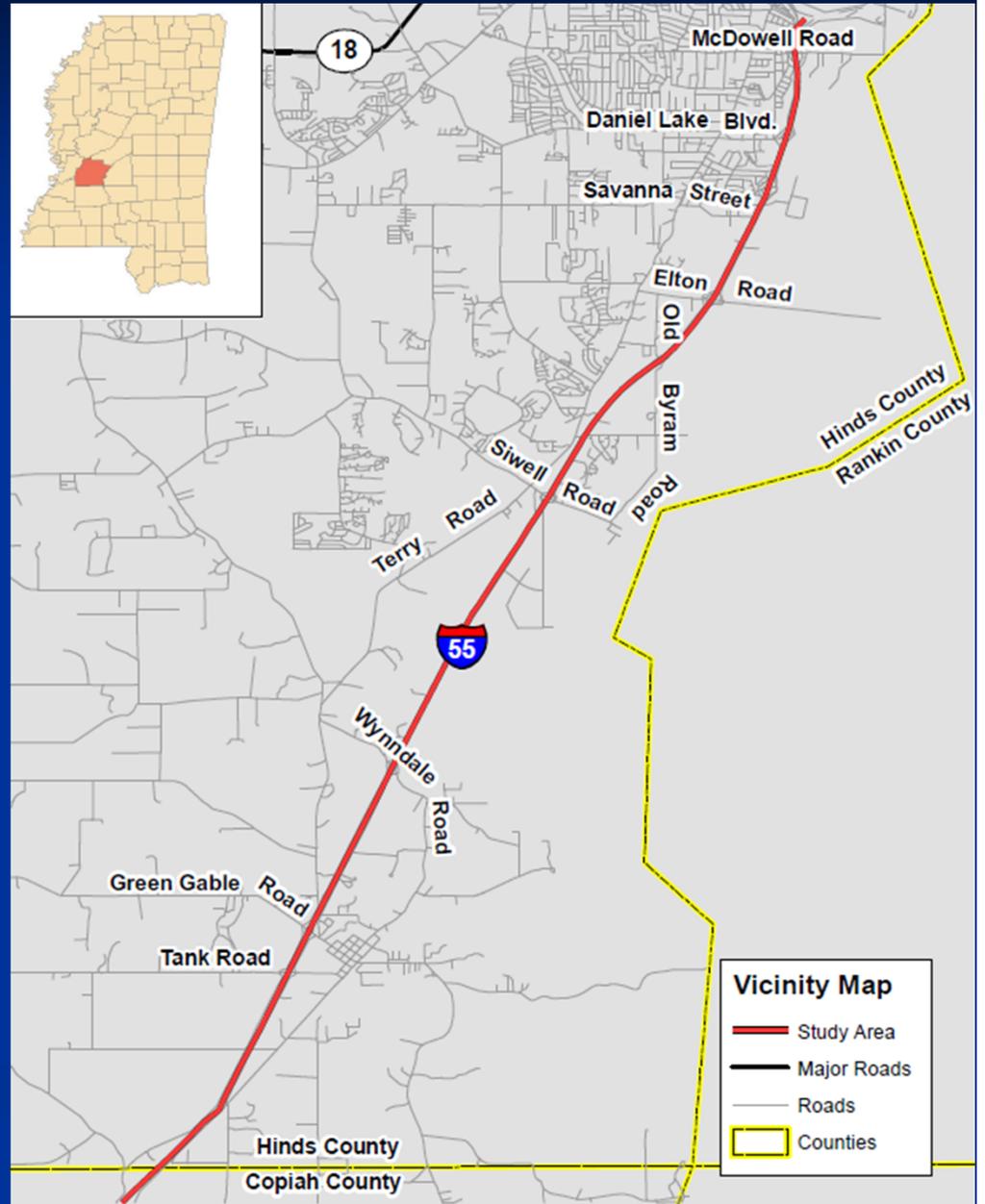


# Meeting Overview

- Project Purpose & Need
- Traffic Noise Study
- Noise Wall Locations
- Sample Noise Wall Textures
- Questions & Comments

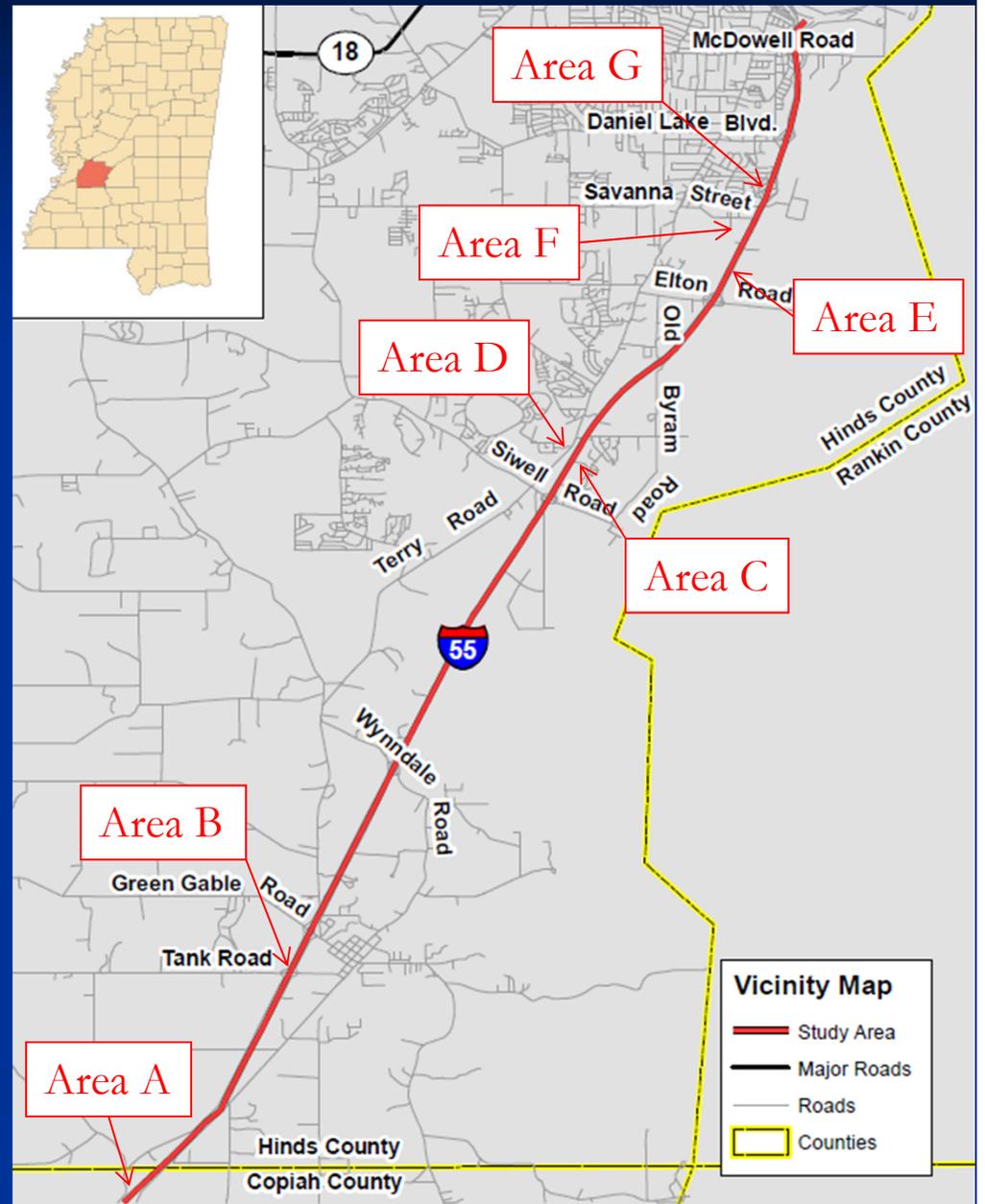
# Project Purpose & Need

- 17.1 miles of I-55 from the Copiah County Line to McDowell Road in Jackson is deteriorating and in need of repair.
- The 6.6-mile section between South Siwell Road in Byram and McDowell Road in Jackson becomes congested and is in need of an improvement.
- MDOT proposes to replace pavement and widen I-55 to increase the capacity within the existing rights-of-way.



# Traffic Noise Study

- An environmental study for the project considered the project's effect on noise levels at properties near I-55.
- MDOT considered options to reduce the noise levels at impacted properties where possible.
- Noise walls were studied in 7 areas. Of these, 3 noise walls (Areas E, F, G) are feasible according to MDOT's Highway Traffic Noise Policy.



# Traffic Noise Study

## Noise Impact Criteria

According to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and MDOT, traffic noise impacts occur when predicted noise levels:

- approach or exceed the Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC) or
- substantially exceed the existing noise levels (by 15 or more decibels).

Activity Category	Hourly Sound Level in Decibels (dBA)	Activity Description of Typical Land Uses in the Project Area
B	67 - Exterior 52 - Interior	Residential
C	67 - Exterior	Active sport areas, cemeteries, medical facilities, parks, places of worship, playgrounds, institutional structures, schools
D	52 - Interior	medical facilities, places of worship, institutional structures, schools
E	72 - Exterior	Hotels, motels, offices, restaurants/bars, and other developed lands, properties or activities

# Traffic Noise Study

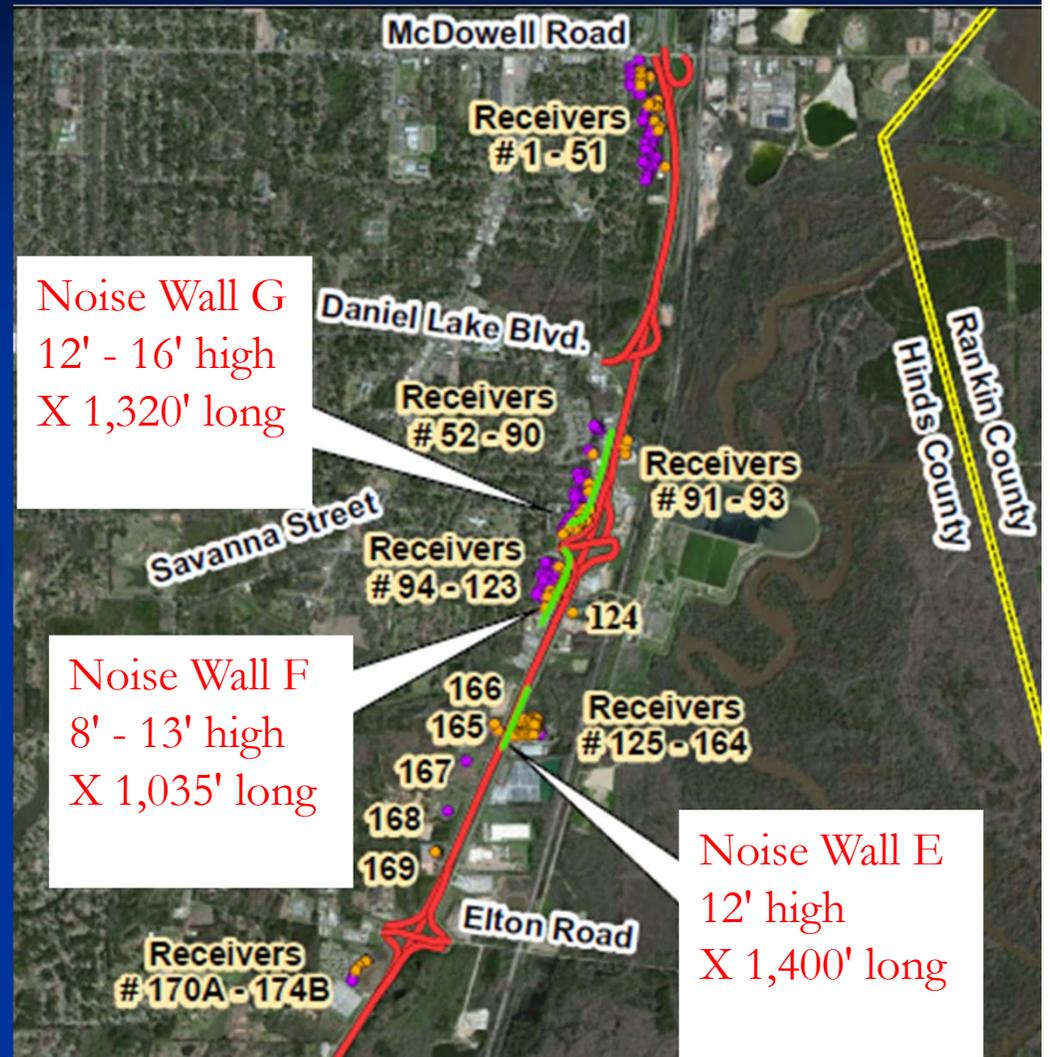
- FHWA and MDOT require that feasible and reasonable measures be considered to reduce or eliminate noise impacts.
- Examples include traffic management, changes in road alignments, acquiring property for buffer zones, insulating and/or installing air conditioning in buildings, and constructing noise barriers.
- A noise barrier is feasible if it provides a noise reduction of at least 5 dBA for at least one impacted receiver.
- A noise barrier is evaluated for its reasonableness based on:
  - a majority of benefitted residents and property owners want a noise barrier
  - the cost does not exceed \$30,000 per benefitted receiver
  - it reduces the noise level by at least 7 dBA at ten percent or more of the benefitted receivers
  - the impacted receivers must have been constructed or had building permits issued before the date of public knowledge.

# Traffic Noise Study

- Noise barrier reasonableness also gives more consideration for:
  - impacted receivers that predated initial highway construction
  - impacted receivers with larger increases over existing noise levels
  - areas where larger changes in noise levels are expected to occur if the project is constructed
  - benefitted receivers with future build noise levels at or above the Noise Abatement Criteria.

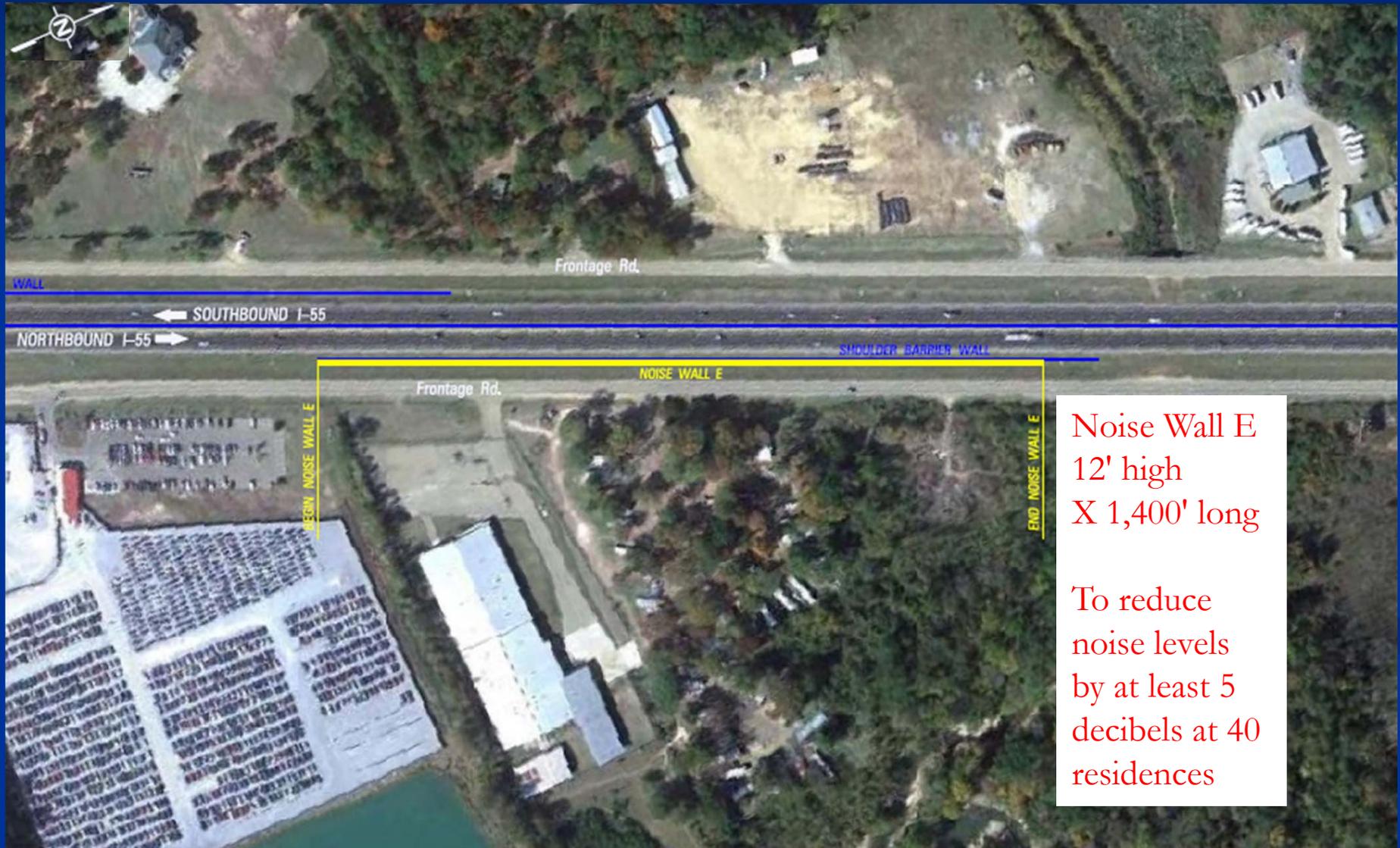
# Noise Wall Locations

- Noise Wall E – East side of I-55, south of Savanna Street near Pine Ridge Park
- Noise Wall F - West side of the southbound on-ramp from Savanna Street near Oneida Avenue
- Noise Wall G - West side of the southbound off-ramp for Savanna Street near Timber Ridge



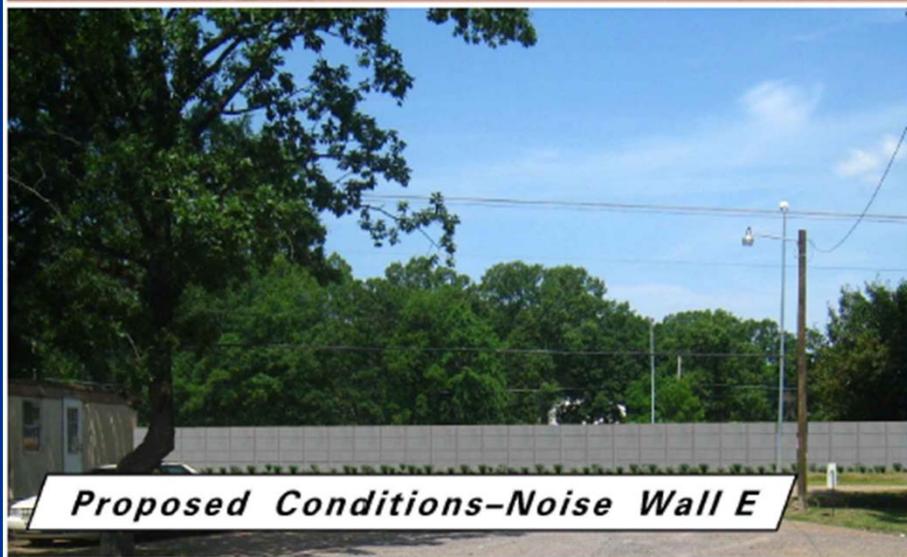
# Noise Wall Locations

- Noise Wall E – East side of I-55, south of Savanna Street near Pine Ridge Park



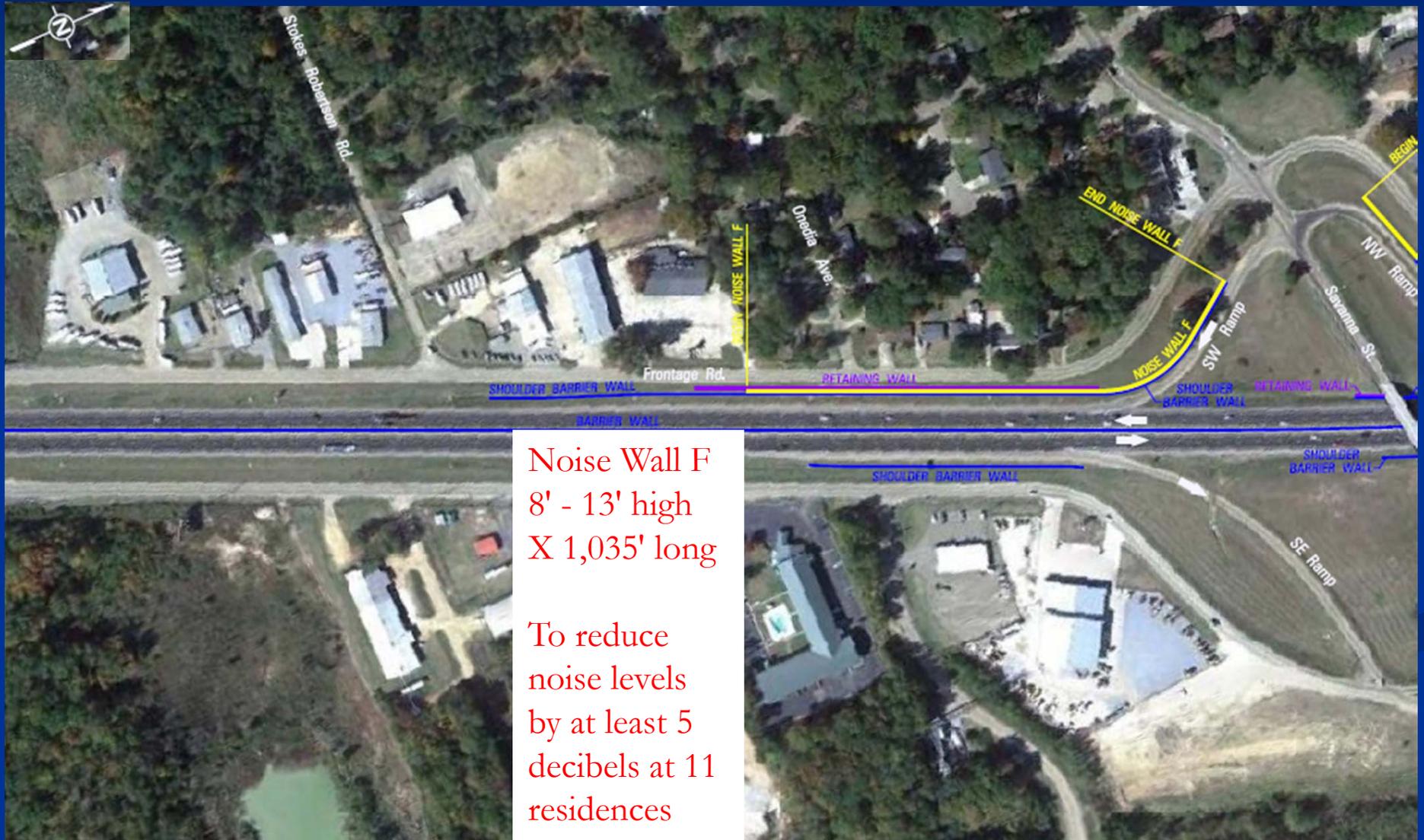
# Noise Wall Locations

- Noise Wall E – East side of I-55, south of Savanna Street near Pine Ridge Park



# Noise Wall Locations

- Noise Wall F - West side of the southbound on-ramp from Savanna Street near Oneida Avenue



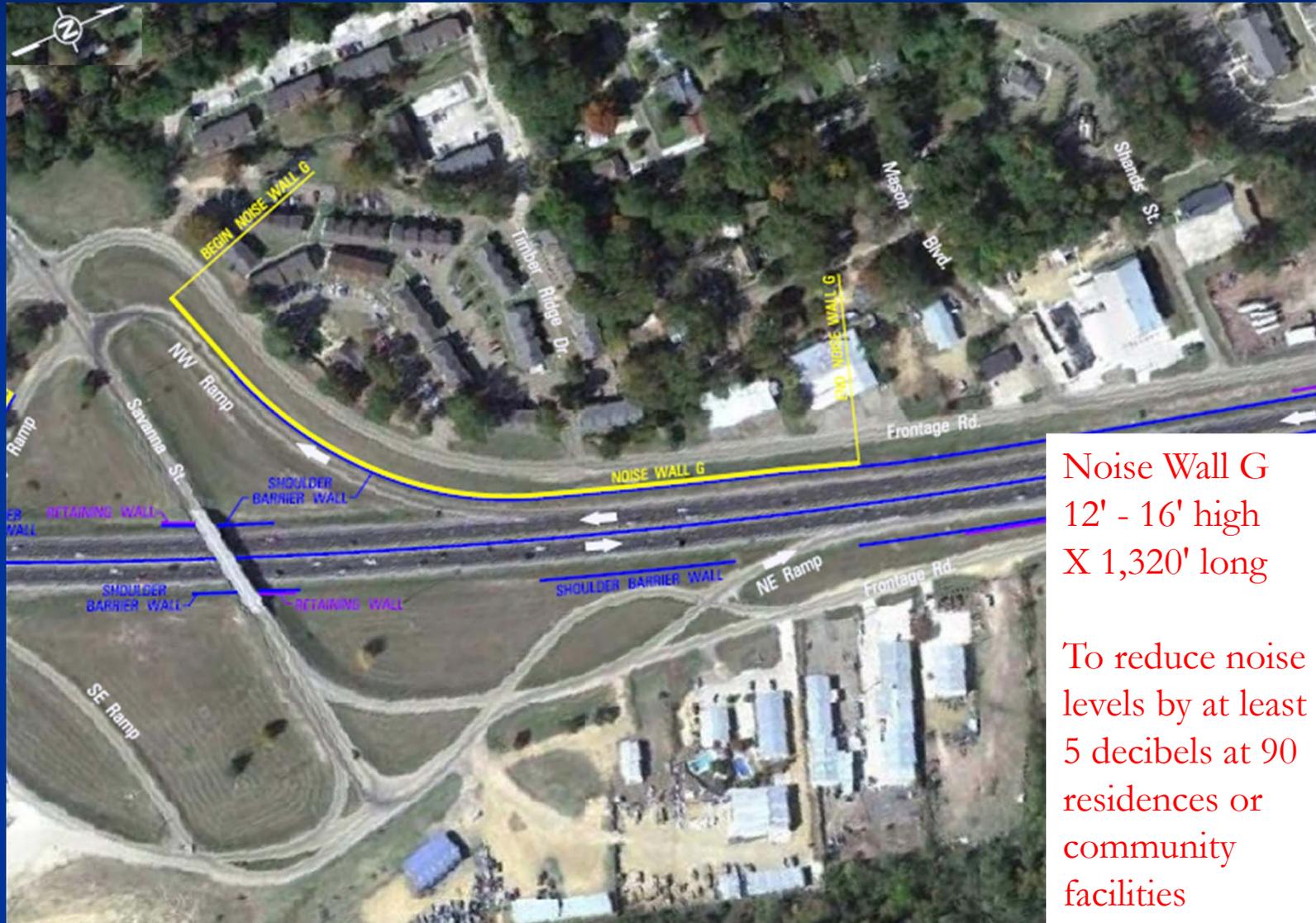
# Noise Wall Locations

- Noise Wall F - West side of the southbound on-ramp from Savanna Street near Oneida Avenue



# Noise Wall Locations

- Noise Wall G - West side of the southbound off-ramp for Savanna Street near Timber Ridge



Noise Wall G  
12' - 16' high  
X 1,320' long

To reduce noise levels by at least 5 decibels at 90 residences or community facilities

# Noise Wall Locations

- Noise Wall G - West side of the southbound off-ramp for Savanna Street near Timber Ridge



# Noise Wall Locations

- Noise Wall G - West side of the southbound off-ramp for Savanna Street near Timber Ridge



# Sample Noise Wall Textures



# Sample Noise Wall Textures



# Questions and Comments

- Please let us know if you have questions
- We want to know your opinions and/or concerns on feasible noise walls with this project
- Complete a Comment Sheet and leave it with us tonight or send it to:

MDOT Environmental Division

P.O. Box 1850, Jackson, Mississippi 39215

Email - [environmentalcomments@mdot.state.ms.us](mailto:environmentalcomments@mdot.state.ms.us)