



WSDOT Noise Variance SR 520  
Project #3030792

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February 13, 2018

To Whom It May Concern at the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections:

On behalf of the more than 1,200 households in our neighborhood, The Montlake Community Club asks you to reject WSDOT's request for a noise variance in its current form (#3030792). We are asking SDCI to grant a noise variance for no more than 6 months at a time, and no more than 12 hours a day with no night time work. This includes no heavy equipment use at night and no trucks hauling material to and from construction sites at night.

Please keep in mind that once WSDOT issues the design/build RFP, the public will not have any reasonable means to affect the construction processes. The noise variance is the only way to control at this stage what noise mitigation will be required of the contractor, yet it does not require use of modern techniques to mitigate noise.

We also ask the following:

- Delay the public hearing this Thursday and change it to a time and venue that is convenient for people affected.
- Change the process so that the noise monitor oversight group is not paid by WSDOT and has the authority not only to stop the work but make changes. A representative of the group must be at the area of construction, on-site at all times.
- A minimum response time must be established for the work to be stopped and for changes made.

- Make any variance subject to public oversight before the permit is renewed.
- Sound Mitigation Standards established by Sound Transit must be met. An example is the Bellevue Tunnel at 112th Ave NE and Main St.
- Require WSDOT to hire an independent demolition expert before it issues an RFP, with the public part of the selection process.
- Sound Mitigation Shrouds, similar to what is proposed in Vancouver, BC, should be used during all pile driving and demolition activities.
- The best available sound mitigation strategies must be used.
- Ensure that WSDOT meets all medical standards established by the World Health Organization.

In simple terms, the variance will have a devastating effect on the various residential neighborhoods in and around SR 520. The proposed variance to go to 80 decibels, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, is a danger to public health. We do not believe it is morally justifiable to harm people's health in order to advance a project more quickly and cheaply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandall".

Sharsti Sandall  
President, Montlake Community Club