

248th Avenue Viewpoints Voting Process

Frequently Asked Questions

August 2022

Where along 248th Avenue might walls be installed?

Please see the map on the 248th Avenue improvement project webpage for exact locations (naperville.il.us/projects-in-naperville/248th-avenue/).

What is a “viewpoint”?

A viewpoint is essentially your vote for or against the installation of a noise wall along your neighborhood’s frontage with 248th Avenue.

Why is the City having these viewpoints meetings?

In accordance with federal regulations and state policies, viewpoints are required to be solicited from all property owners who would be benefited by the noise wall directly adjacent to their neighborhood. A noise wall needs to be desired by those whom it would benefit before it can be recommended for construction. At the viewpoint meetings on Sept. 8, homeowners/residents whose properties qualify for a noise wall under federal and state standards will vote on whether or not they are in favor of constructing a wall.

What constitutes a benefited residence and how can I tell if my home is one?

A benefited residence is one that would receive a noise reduction of 5 decibels or greater if a noise wall were installed. In order to experience a benefit, a residence needs to be relatively close to the noise barrier. Residences that are located too far away will not experience a 5 decibel noise reduction and thus will not benefit from the barrier. There are 75 homes predicted to be benefited by a noise wall. There are seven potential noise walls and each one benefits between six and 13 residents. A certified letter will be sent to all *benefited* residences with details about the viewpoint meetings and how to cast viewpoints. The list of benefited residences can also be found on the 248th Avenue improvement project webpage (naperville.il.us/projects-in-naperville/248th-avenue/).

If my property is considered benefited, how do I know which meeting to attend?

In order to minimize crowding in the meeting space, we ask that benefited residents attend the following time slots: **5 p.m. for those who live south of the Tall Grass Greenway Trail and 7 p.m. for those who live north of the Tall Grass Greenway Trail.**

If I can’t make it to the viewpoint meeting time assigned to my property location, can I attend the other meeting and cast my viewpoint?

Yes, benefited residents who are unable to attend their scheduled meeting time may attend the other time slot.

How does the viewpoints voting process work?

Benefited residences will submit their completed viewpoint form during the Sept. 8 meeting or during the two-week comment period after the meeting. Viewpoints must be obtained from at least one-third of the residents benefited for each wall, individually. If a one-third response is not obtained, a second attempt will be made via mail. If a one-third response is still not received, a determination is made from

the viewpoints received. A wall will be recommended for installation if greater than 50% of the viewpoints received are in favor of the noise wall. A wall will not be recommended for installation if no votes are received.

If my property is considered benefited by a noise wall, am I required to attend the viewpoint meeting or can I email/mail my viewpoint? When is my vote due?

You are highly encouraged to attend, as your opinion, along with others benefited by a potential noise wall, will determine whether or not a noise wall is recommended for installation adjacent to your home as part of the 248th Avenue improvement. Votes can be mailed or emailed, but information that will help residents make an informed decision, including information about the specific wall being evaluated adjacent to your property, will be presented at the viewpoint meeting. If you are unable to attend or do not wish to submit your viewpoint at the meeting, you will be asked to submit the completed viewpoint form to the City no later than 5 p.m. on Sept. 23.

Do my spouse and I each get a vote?

Only one official viewpoint form per benefited residence will be counted during the voting process, unless the property is occupied by a renter.

What if I am a renter or I am an owner who rents my house?

Viewpoints are taken from both the property owner (taxpayer) and the current renter. An owner-occupied residence vote counts as 2 votes. In the case of renter-occupied houses, the renter gets one vote and the owner/taxpayer gets one vote. The viewpoint ballot will ask if you are the owner/taxpayer or a renter.

Are each of the seven noise barriers evaluated independently?

The votes/viewpoints at each of the seven potential noise walls are evaluated independently.

If a noise wall is not considered warranted for the frontage along my property, will one be installed?

Noise walls that are not found to be warranted through the standard federal-aid noise analysis procedure are not eligible for federal funding. The City would be responsible for all costs for the design and construction of a non-warranted noise wall, along with any other costs incurred by its construction (tree removal, utility relocation, etc.). The City will evaluate the need and desire for the construction of non-warranted noise walls within the 248th Avenue corridor.

What are the next steps after voting has concluded at the viewpoint meetings?

Following the viewpoints meetings, the noise report will be finalized to recommend that noise walls be constructed at the locations where 50% or more of the viewpoints were in favor of the walls. The City will also evaluate whether to install noise walls at the locations along the roadway where noise walls were not warranted by the noise analysis.

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