

From the Desk of Daniel L. Bolz

Onward and Upward...

27 April 2023

To: Mayor Olsen and City Council

Topic: Freeway Noise

My wife Ingrid and I moved to Santaquin three years ago from Payson where we lived for thirty years raising our four daughters there. Ingrid is a recently retired Nebo School District teacher and I am a semi-retired businessman and writer. We love living in Santaquin.

The I-15 freeway runs directly through our community, creating an annoying noise distraction to our otherwise quiet community. This situation has been brought to the forefront with the new housing developments at both the south and north freeway access points. I offer the following remedies to minimize this noise, all of which will need to be handled by UDOT...

1. Construction of Noise Barrier Walls on both sides of the freeway from our south exit through ½ mile past our north exit.
2. 'No Engine Brakes' signs for traffic coming from Nephi heading north. These warning signs should be posted prior to our south exit with several in between both exits.
3. 'Reduce Speed' signs. Speed signs should be posted in both directions between both our north and south exits and prior to each exit...

Similar Noise Barrier Walls have been constructed in Payson and Spanish Fork. Ours should be the tallest height available. Noise barrier walls = less noise.

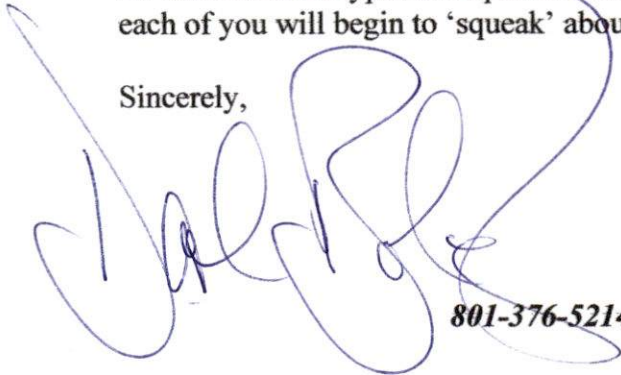
The 'No Engine Brakes' signs for semi's traveling north and down the big hill are necessary to notify truck drivers they are approaching a community. These signs are used in many similar locations in the state. No semi engine braking = less noise.

The 'Reduce Speed' signs should reduce speed to 65 or 70. Traffic heading north and coming from Nephi is traveling at the posted limit of 80, which means they are *actually* going 85 mph. Traffic from the north heading south has a 75-mph posted limit. Slower traffic = less noise.

We live in the east bench area of Santaquin, just two blocks from Mayor Olsen. Even from our location, we often hear loud freeway noise. Those residents who live closer to the freeway are impacted by this never-ending noise to a much greater degree.

As with all these types of requests from UDOT, the 'squeaky wheel' gets the grease... I hope each of you will begin to 'squeak' about fixing this freeway noise issue...

Sincerely,



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