



# CITY OF SACRAMENTO

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TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIVISION  
1023 J STREET — SUITE 202 SACRAMENTO, CALIF. 95814

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
**RECEIVED**  
DEC 20 1983

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December 19, 1983 **APPROVED**  
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

**DEC 27 1983**

OFFICE OF THE  
CITY CLERK

City Council  
Sacramento, CA

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Maintenance and Repair of Subdivision Walls along Arterial Streets

### SUMMARY

On December 14, 1983, the Planning and Community Development Committee approved a staff recommendation that the maintenance and repair of sound walls adjacent to City streets is the responsibility of the abutting property owners and that the removal of offensive graffiti is a City responsibility.

### BACKGROUND

The background on this issue is contained in the attached report dated November 17, 1983, to the Planning and Community Development Committee.

### FINANCIAL

Removal of five to ten applications of graffiti per year will cost the City between \$500 and \$3,000 per year.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council establish a policy that:

1. The abutting property owners are responsible for maintenance and repair of sound walls adjacent to City streets; and
2. For the sake of community appearance, the City will remove offensive graffiti on the street side of walls in residential areas. The work will be done periodically by contract with priority given to the

City Council  
December 19, 1983  
Page 2

most obnoxious applications. The Council will be advised of the cost each year.

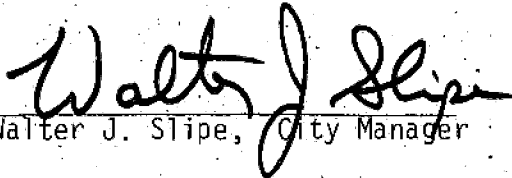
Respectfully submitted,



L. M. Frink,  
Deputy Director of Public Works  
(Transportation/Engineering)

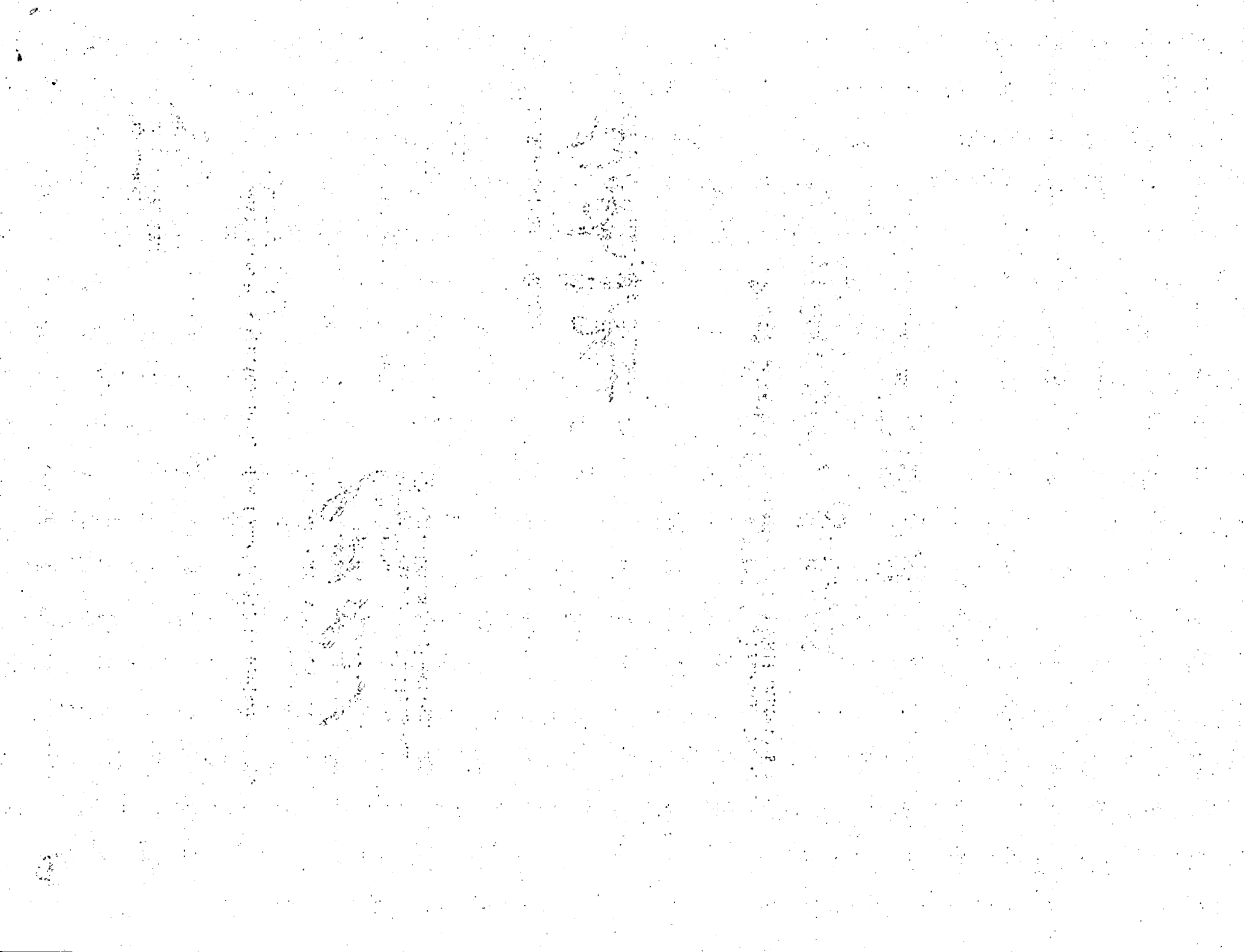
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RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:



Walter J. Slipe, City Manager

December 27, 1983  
All Districts



November 17, 1983

Planning and Community  
Development Committee  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Maintenance and Repair of Subdivision Walls Along Arterial Streets

SUMMARY:

This report recommends the City reaffirm that the maintenance and repair of sound walls adjacent to City streets is the responsibility of the abutting property owners and that the removal of offensive graffiti is a City responsible.

BACKGROUND:

Based on a Department of Community Services study, about 12 miles of sound walls have been constructed along major streets during the past several years. At the time these walls were constructed, it was the intention of the City that they be maintained by the abutting property owners. Therefore, no funds have been included in any departmental budgets for maintenance of these walls.

Periodically vehicle accidents occur along major streets where one of the vehicles hits and damages the sound wall. This damage can range from a small hole up to a significant section of wall being destroyed. There is no way to judge the future frequency of these occurrences but several have been reported in the past few years. It is estimated that the cost to repair this type of damage ranges from \$500 to \$2,000 for each occurrence. A contractor has quoted a price of \$1,300 to repair an existing hole in a wall on Meadowview Road. It is staff's position that this type of damage should be repaired by the adjacent property owner. Homeowner insurance should cover the cost and the homeowner's insurance company may in turn collect from the motorist's insurance company.

In addition to accidental damage, soundwalls on major streets are sometimes the targets of vandalism in the form of graffiti. There is also no money budgeted to take care of this problem. On two occasions Facility Maintenance has been called upon to remove graffiti from sound walls in the south area. Based on the actual cost for labor and materials to do this work, it can be estimated that it will cost between \$100 and \$300 every time graffiti has to be removed from a sound wall. While these amounts for individual occurrences do not seem high, the total annual cost to the City for this new service could be significant.

FINANCIAL:

Based on the number of existing walls, it can be assumed there will be three to five cases of wall damage and five to ten applications of graffiti per year. If the City were to assume responsibility for all maintenance, repair and cleaning of walls, the current cost would be between \$3,000 and \$10,000 per year. This will increase if additional walls are placed in new subdivisions.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Council establish a policy that:

1. The abutting property owners are responsible for maintenance and repair of sound walls adjacent to City streets; and
2. For the sake of community appearance, the City will remove offensive graffiti on the street side of walls in residential areas. The work will be done periodically by contract with priority given to the most obnoxious applications. The Council will be advised of the cost each year.

Respectfully submitted,

L. M. FRINK  
Deputy Director of  
Transportation/Engineering