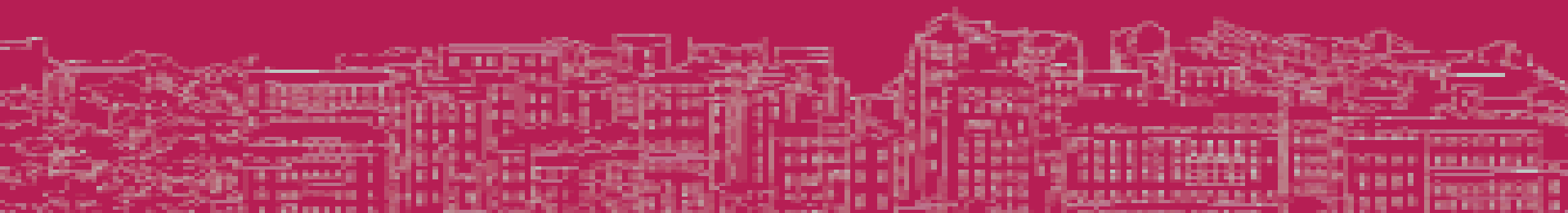


[www.smile-europe.org](http://www.smile-europe.org)

## **Guidelines for noise abatement planning principles for road traffic at local authority level**



# Town Planning I

Town planning has to take noise into account noise at every step of the preparation of projects. Town planning has to preserve quiet spaces and should contribute to reduce noise impact in noise polluted areas.

The old method (Charta of Athens, 1933) consisted in separating different urban functions (e.g. housing areas and commercial areas).

On the long run, this has not been efficient, because

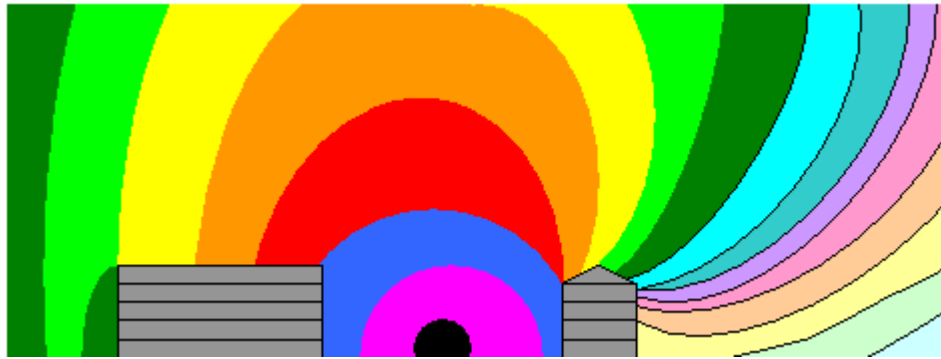
- the separation of urban functions often results in a reduced quality of life; long distances between the sites for housing, working, education and shopping increase the need for traffic.
- in many cases, in urban areas, there is not enough space to achieve an effective separation of functions.

# Town Planning II

Modern town planning tries to achieve lively town structures, allowing good access to all facilities of every day life and in the same time reducing the need for traffic.

As for noise protection, much attention has to be paid to the way how buildings are positioned and constructed in an noise polluted environment and how recreation areas might be shielded from noise impact.

Reduction  
of Noise  
Impact



**Decrease in  
Noise Level**

0,0 – 2,5

2,5 – 5,0

5,0 – 7,5

7,5 – 10,0

10,0 – 12,5

12,5 – 15,0

15,0 – 17,5

17,5 – 20,0

20,0 – 22,5

22,5 – 25,0

25,0 – 27,5

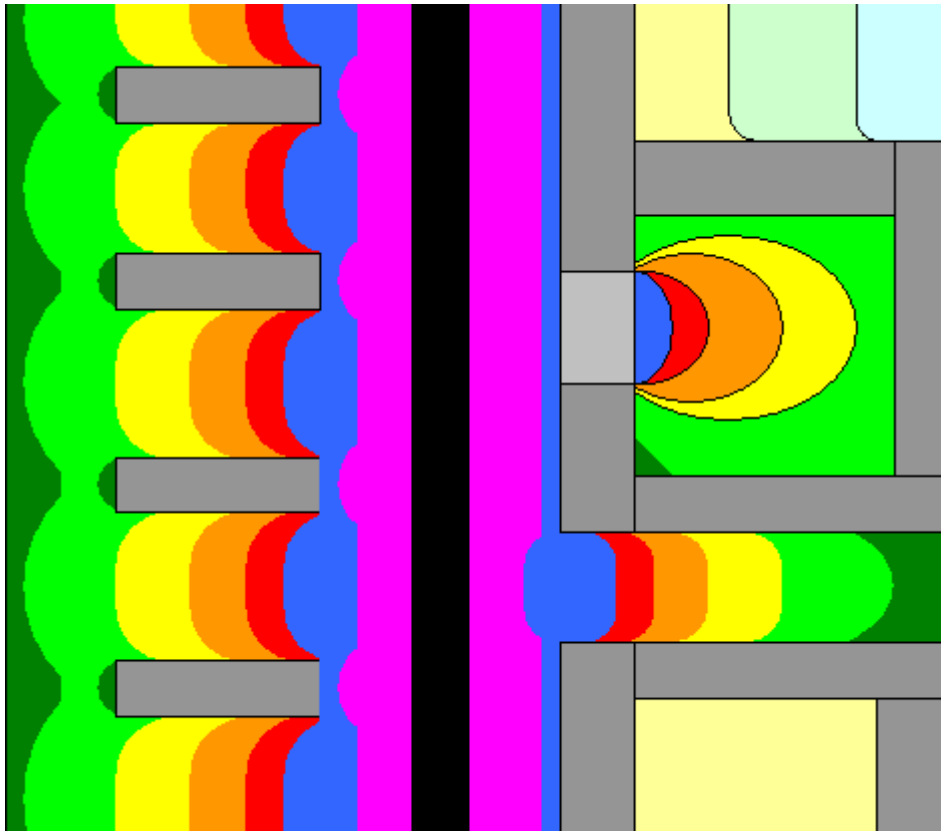
27,5 – 30,0

30,0 – 32,5

32,5 – 35,0

35,0 and more

by the  
Position  
and the  
Arrangement  
of  
Buildings



# Abatement of Road Traffic Noise II

## Actions

## Efficiency

- shift from private car to public transport depending on technical standard and occupancy of the vehicles +6...-9 dB(A)
- redistribution of road space, e.g. bus lanes -1 ...-2 dB(A)
- sound barriers (walls, dams, mounds) +3...-15 dB(A)
- shielding of sound at the backside of buildings (4 storeys) up to 30 dB(A)

# Recommendations

In housing areas, each building should provide at least one quiet backside, where people can enjoy their balconies and sleep undisturbed, windows open.

In public areas dedicated to the presence of humans, there should exist quiet places (e.g. pocket parks, quiet side streets, small pedestrian spaces, playgrounds) for recreation outside of buildings.