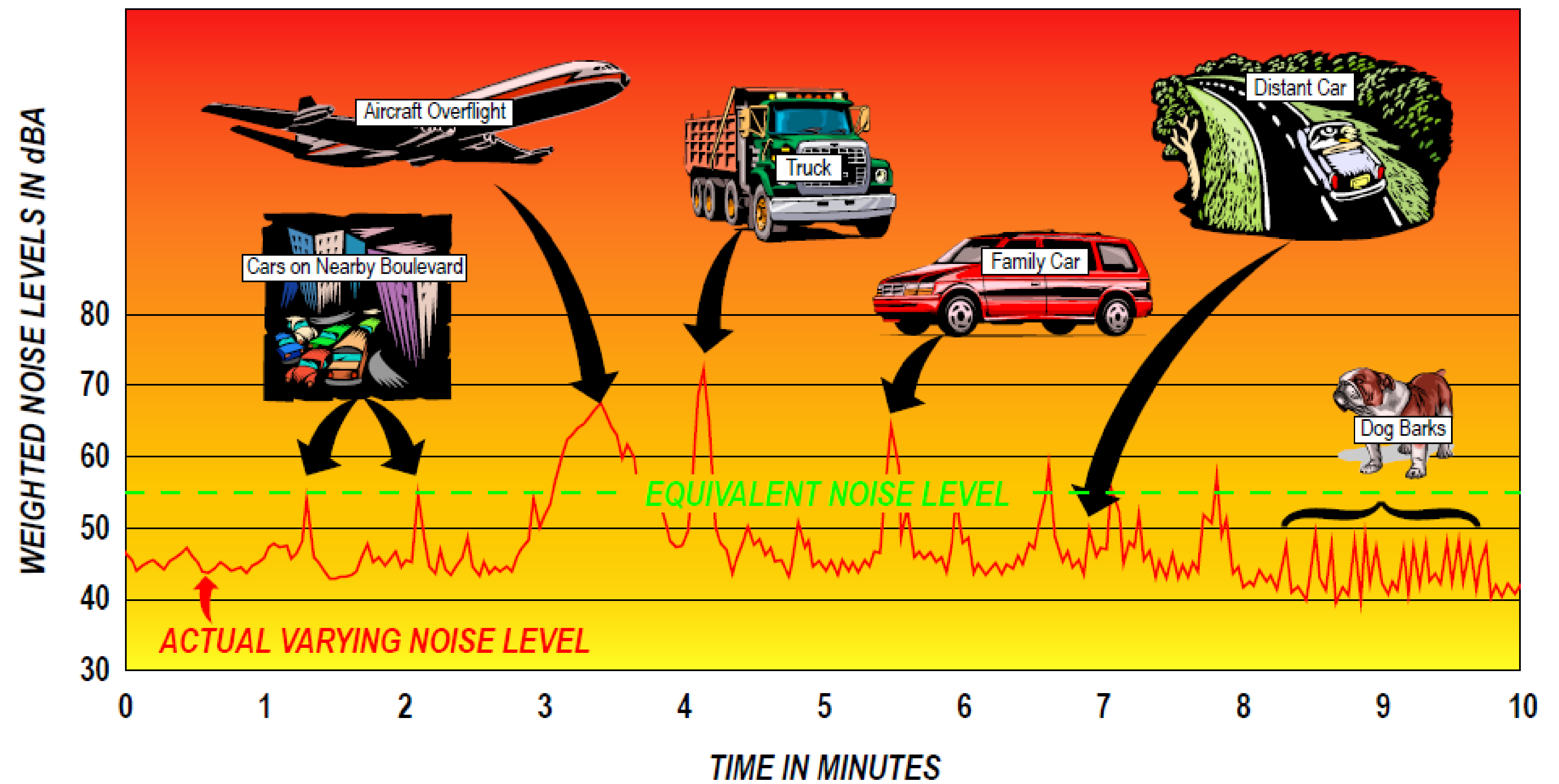




NOISE CHARACTERISTICS

Equivalent Noise Level: the equivalent steady-state sound level, which in a stated period of time, contains the same acoustic energy as the time-varying sound level during the same time period. Equivalent noise levels are used in highway noise studies because the Federal Highway Administration's Noise Abatement Criteria are given in equivalent noise levels.



For most land uses in the project corridor, the applicable Noise Abatement Criterion is 67 decibels (dBA, $L_{eq(h)}$).

When noise levels approach or exceed the Noise Abatement Criterion, the Federal Highway Administration's regulations require that noise abatement be considered.

COMMON NOISE LEVELS

