



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

August 9, 2021

Mr. Chad Edwards  
Regional Mobility and Innovation Center  
Transportation and Public Works Department  
City of Fort Worth  
200 Texas Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

**Re: THR-000001740001 (U.S. DOT National Highway-Rail Crossing Inventory  
Number: 795350M)**

Dear Mr. Edwards:

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) reviewed the public authority application that you submitted on behalf of the City of Fort Worth, Texas (City) under Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 222.39(b).

The City is seeking FRA's approval of the suggested effectiveness rate for the proposed alternative safety measure (ASM) at the Timberland Boulevard crossing.

- The City asserts that the proposed ASM at the Timberland Boulevard crossing will consist of a 50-foot non-traversable median on the east side of the crossing, due to an intersection; and, a 200-foot non-traversable median on the west side of the crossing. The City suggested an effectiveness rate of 0.73. FRA finds this effectiveness rate consistent with the information provided.

FRA approves the City's application. FRA has determined that implementation of the proposed ASM, as described in the City's application, will result in a Quiet Zone Risk Index of 7,693. This index is below the Risk Index with Horns (the risk that would be present if the horns were still sounding) of 17,082.

The City may submit its Notice of Quiet Zone Establishment consistent with 49 CFR § 222.43, *What notices and other information are required to create or continue a quiet zone?* after implementation of the proposed ASM, as described in the application, and compliance with all applicable quiet zone requirements in 49 CFR §§ 222.25, *How does this rule affect private highway-rail grade crossings?*; 222.27, *How does this rule affect pedestrian grade crossings?*; and 222.35, *What are the minimum requirements for quiet zones?* In addition, 49 CFR § 222.39(b)(1)(vi) requires the City to provide a commitment to implement the safety improvements it proposed in the quiet zone application. Thus, FRA's approval is conditioned upon implementation of the safety improvements described in the public authority application.

Please note, it is the responsibility of the public authority to maintain the entire quiet zone in conformance with the terms of the quiet zone approval as well as all applicable regulatory requirements in 49 CFR Part 222. In addition, the public authority is periodically required to affirm in writing that all ASMs implemented within the quiet zone continue to conform to these requirements. These written affirmations must be submitted to the FRA Associate Administrator for Safety every 2½ to 3 years, as required by 49 CFR § 222.47(b).

Also note, FRA regulations allow railroads, regardless of the status of a quiet zone, to instruct their engineers to sound the train horn to warn trespassers or motor vehicles illegally on the railroad right-of-way. Public authorities can reduce locomotive horn sounding by enforcing State and local traffic laws at grade crossings, as well as State and local laws and ordinances that prohibit trespassing along the railroad right-of-way.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. James Payne, Staff Director, Highway-Rail Crossing and Trespasser Programs Division, at 202-493-6005 or james.payne@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Karl Alexy', written in a cursive style.

Karl Alexy,  
Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety  
Chief Safety Officer

cc: Mr. Paul Cristina, BNSF Railway  
Ms. Melinda DuBay, Union Pacific Railroad  
Mr. Brad Fortune, City of Keller  
Mr. Tai Nguyen, City of Fort Worth  
Mr. Neil Noakes, Fort Worth Police Department  
Mr. Robert Travis, Texas Department of Transportation