

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 10/12/21

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 21-0789

LOG NAME: 20QUIET ZONE TIMBERLAND AT UPRR 795350M

SUBJECT

(CD 4) Authorize Notice of Quiet Zone Establishment for Timberland Boulevard at Union Pacific Railroad Crossing 795350M

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize notice of quiet zone establishment for Timberland Boulevard at Union Pacific Railroad crossing 795350M.

DISCUSSION:

The 2014 Bond Program included Timberland Boulevard as an arterial improvement project from Excelsior Lane to United States (U.S.) Hwy 377 to provide greater access and mobility for the community. The improvement project widened Timberland Boulevard to a four lane divided arterial with sidewalks, to include connections to both Katy Road and U.S. Hwy 377. The Timberland Boulevard connection to U.S. Hwy 377 required access crossing the existing Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Facilities. The project was delivered in three phases.

On January 30, 2018 City Council authorized Railroad At-Grade Crossing and Pipeline Agreement permits for the construction of Timberland Boulevard across the existing UPRR Facilities. These improvements allowed for the crossing to be converted to a quiet zone after completion of construction. The improvements include new railroad signals and a roadway crossing on UPRR property.

On May 7, 2020, City of Fort Worth (City) staff sent all parties: UPRR, Texas Department of Transportation Railroad Section, Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), City of Keller and City of Fort Worth Police a Notice of Intent (NOI) letter proposing creation of a quiet zone for UPRR at Timberland Boulevard, in Fort Worth, Texas. The proposed quiet zone is to restrict the routine sounding of locomotive horns 24 hours a day. This action began a 60 day comment period for the proposed quiet zone that ended on July 7, 2020. The City of Keller responded stating that the intent to establish a railroad quiet zone is fully supported. No other responses were received during the comment period.

In December 2020, Phase Three of Timberland Boulevard from Park Vista Boulevard to U.S. Hwy 377 was completed.

On February 4, 2021, the City of Fort Worth entered into an agreement with UPRR in the amount of \$15,000.00 for UPRR quiet zone services to establish a quiet zone for Timberland Boulevard at UPRR 795350M.

On March 16, 2021, City staff sent FRA the Public Authority Application proposing a quiet zone for Timberland Boulevard, in Fort Worth, Texas. FRA responded on August 9, 2021, approving the City's application for the quiet zone. The final step is for the City of Fort Worth to send a notice of quiet zone establishment for Timberland Boulevard at Union Pacific Railroad Crossing 795350M to all parties. The quiet zone can take effect no earlier than 21 days after the date on which the "Notice of Quiet Zone Establishment" is mailed.

This quiet zone is located within COUNCIL DISTRICT 4.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that approval of this recommendation will have no material effect on City funds.

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