



# DOUGLAS COUNTY

## Transportation & Land Services

### STATE OF WASHINGTON

July 12, 2021

**Subject: Notice of Intent to Establish a Quiet Zone**  
**Location: Douglas County, Washington Spanish Castle,  
DOT #065809D M.P 1631.11 Proposed 27/7 Quiet Zone**

Received  
Records Management  
07/20/21 08:20  
State Of WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

This letter is a Notice of Intent for the establishment of a quiet zone at the aforementioned location in accordance with the regulations set forth by the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Train Horn Rule (49 CFR Part 222).

The railway is currently active 24 hours a day and Douglas County, at the request of the an adjacent property owner, would like to eliminate the routine sounding of the locomotive horn at Spanish Castle Road, DOT #065809D M.P 1631.11. The proposed quiet zone would be in effect 24 hours per day, 7 days per week (24/7).

This is the only public highway-rail grade crossing included in this quiet zone.

The Spanish Castle Road is two lane, no outlet rural local access road serving the Grant County PUD Apricot Orchard Boat Launch and will provide access to future phases of the Spanish Castle Master Planned Resort (MPR), located on the waterside (Columbia River) of the BNSF at grade crossing. The Spanish Castle Crossing (DOT#065809D) was improved as mitigation to support the Spanish Castle Master Planned Resort Development (MPR); including up to 1,200 homes, a 100-room hotel and additional mixed use commercial and recreational development.

Current (6/28/2021) Average Daily Traffic (ADT) is 38 vehicles. Upon completion of the MPR it is expected that traffic will increase to 693 ADT. No school or city buses use this crossing.

At-grade safety improvements include:

- Mast mounted LED flashing lights, gates and bells for vehicles and pedestrians
- Active advance warning signs
- Constant warning time train detection
- Widening crossing surface to 65 feet and installation of concrete surface panels.
- Concrete roadway center medians, measuring 8.5 feet wide and six-inches high, extending 125.5 feet to the west and 111.4 feet to the east along both approaches.

With SSM installation, the Risk Index was reduced to a level below the Nationwide Significant Risk Threshold, making the crossing eligible for establishment as a Quiet Zone (24/7).

The name and title of the point of contact for Douglas County during the quiet zone development process is as follows:

Jennifer Lange, P.E  
Assistant County Engineer  
Douglas County Transportation and Land Services  
140 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
East Wenatchee, WA 98802  
(509) 884-7173  
Email: [jlange@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:jlange@co.douglas.wa.us)

**Action Required**

Please consider this notice as the beginning date of the required 60-day comment period in the Quiet Zone process. The 60-day comment period for this Quiet Zone will end on September 12, 2021, or when a written comment or a “no comment” statement is received from each recipient of this notice. The following is a list of names and addresses of each party receiving this notification:

1. Railroads operating over grade crossing

Stephen Semenick  
Manager Public Projects for WA, ID & BC  
BNSF Railway  
2454 Occidental Avenue S Suite 2D  
Seattle, WA 98134

Aaron Thompson  
Central Reporting Group  
National Railroad Passenger Corporation – Amtrak  
40 Massachusetts Avenue NE  
Washington, DC 20002

2. State agency responsible for highway and road safety, and State agency responsibility for grade crossing safety:

Kathy Hunter  
Director, Transportation Safety  
Washington Operation Lifesaver State Coordinator  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW  
PO Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Katie Hancock  
State Inventory Contact  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW  
PO Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Please feel free to reach out with any questions regarding this topic.

Respectfully,



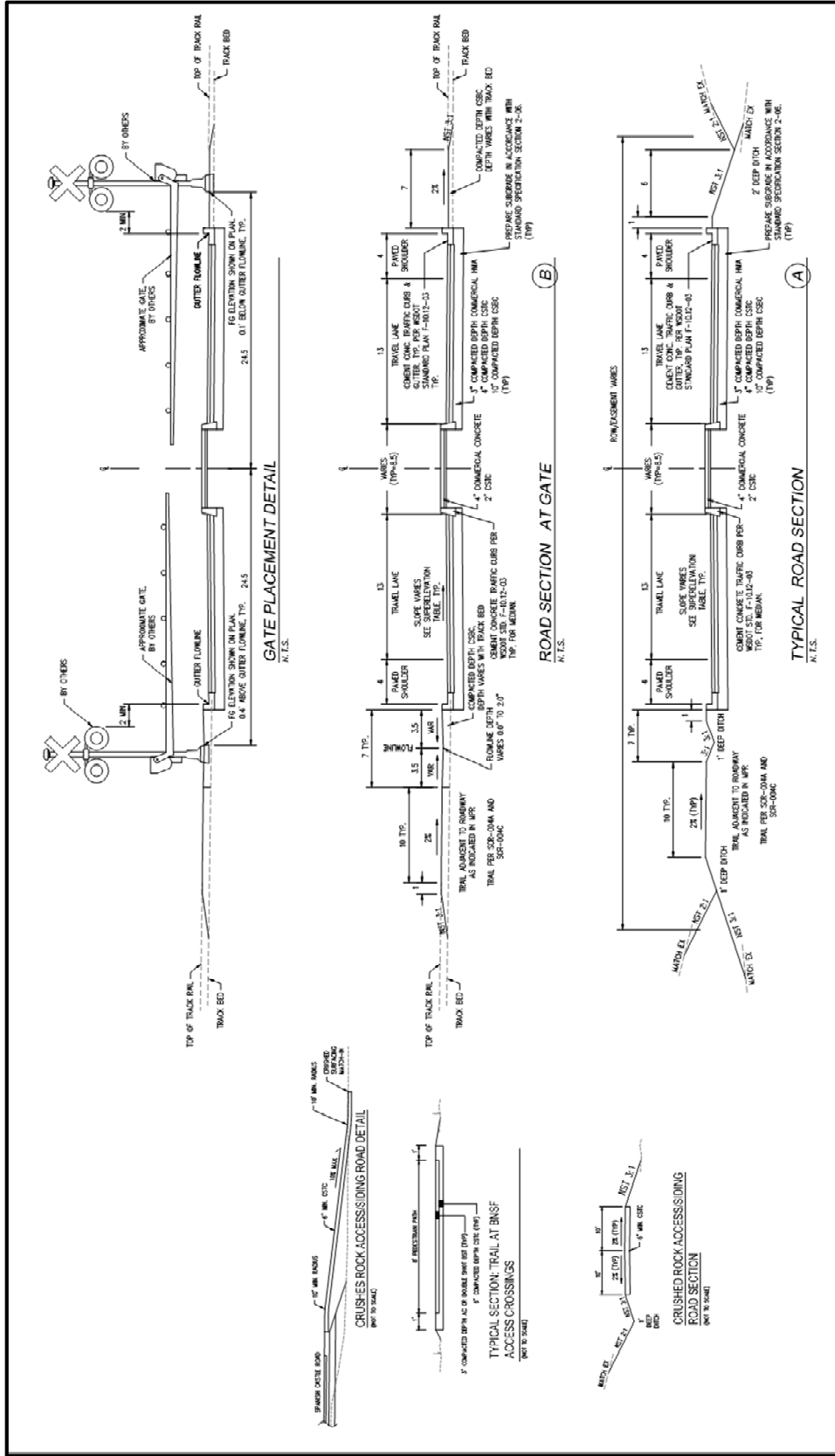
Jennifer Lange, P.E  
Assistant County Engineer

Attachments:

- Spanish Castle Road Railroad Grade Crossing Improvements exhibits
- Photographs of installed SSMs

CC via email: Jeffery P. Stewart  
Grade Crossing Inspector  
U.S Department of Transportation  
Federal Railroad Administration  
500 Broadway, Suite 240  
Vancouver, WA 98660



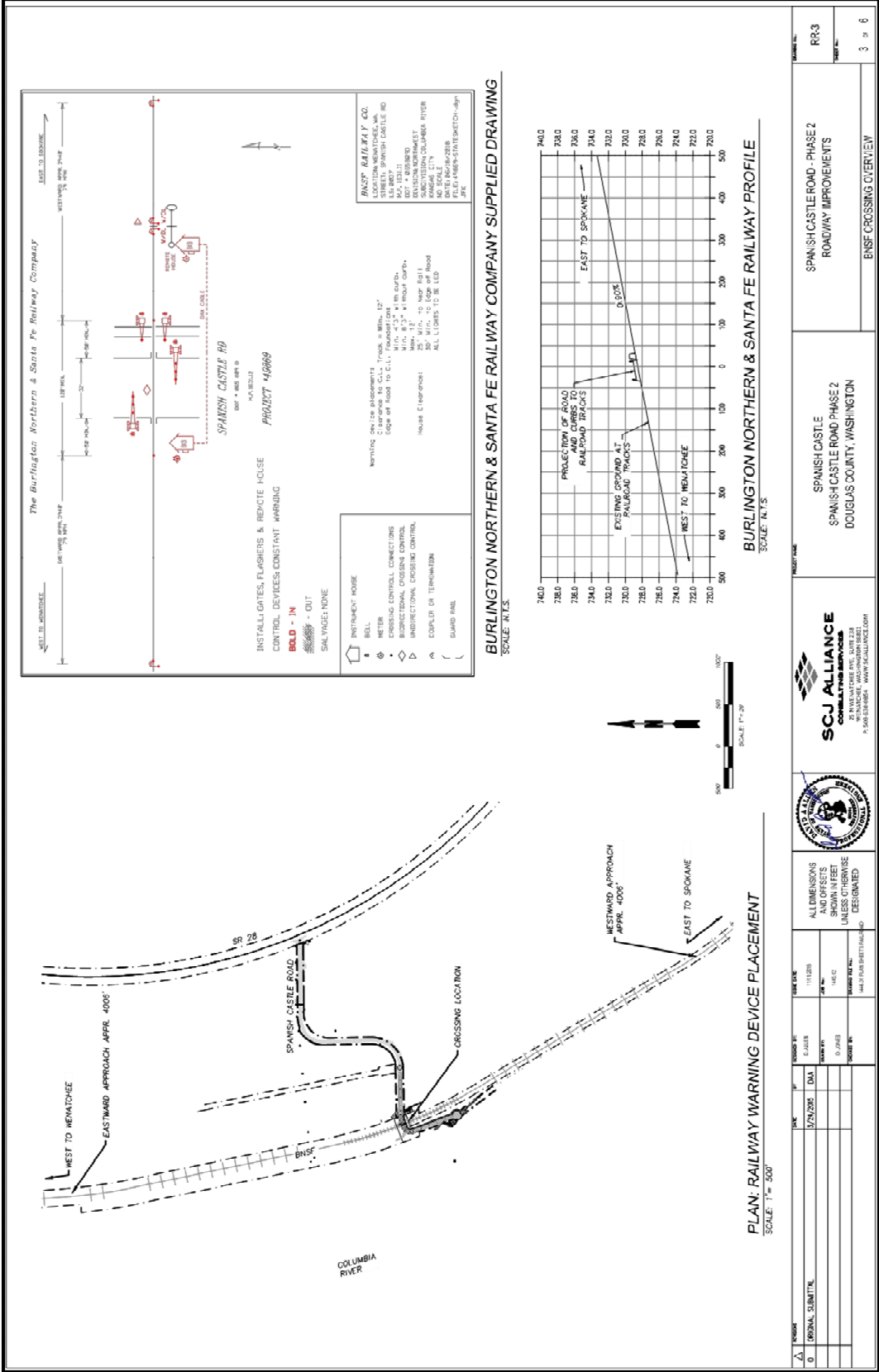


PROJECT NO.	RR-2
DATE	5/7/2015
BY	DAK
CHECKED BY	DAK
DESIGNED BY	DAK
DRAWN BY	DAK
SCALE	AS SHOWN
PROJECT NAME	SPANISH CASTLE ROAD PHASE 2 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS
LOCATION	SPANISH CASTLE ROAD PHASE 2 DOUGLAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
CONTRACT NO.	BNSF CROSSING - ROAD SECTIONS
SHEET NO.	2 OF 6

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**

