



PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION

Chad Bieren, P.E.
Director
400 West Gowe Street
Kent, WA 98032
Fax: 253-856-6500

PHONE: 253-856-5500

January 28 ,2022

SUBJECT: Kent Washington Union Pacific Mainline Quiet Zone
Notice of Intent to Establish a Railroad Quiet Zone by Public Authority Application
to the Federal Railroad Administration
Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations 222.39(b)(1)

Notice is hereby provided that the City of Kent, Washington intends to apply to the Associate Administer for Railroad Safety of the Federal Railroad Administration to create a New 24-Hour Quiet Zone on the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) mainline tracks in accordance with regulatory provisions contained in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 222 and 229 Use of Locomotive Horns at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings; Final Rule pursuant to 49 CFR 222.39(b)(1).

Pursuant to 49 CFR 222.43(b)(3), a party receiving this Notice of Intent may submit information or comments about the proposed Quiet Zone to the City during the 60-day comment period following the date of this letter.

49 CFR 222.43(b)(2)(i) – AFFECTED HIGHWAY RAIL CROSSINGS

There are five (5) affected highway grade crossings within the proposed Quiet Zone covering a distance of 2.37 miles. All crossings are public. Four of the five and are under the jurisdiction of the City of Kent. The physical crossing of 396581U (Willis Street/State Route 516) is under joint jurisdiction between the City of Kent and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). WSDOT has approval authority over the roadway channelization for the crossing and jurisdiction over the westerly approach. City has jurisdiction over the easterly approach to the crossing. The Washington State Department of Transportation takes no exception to the establishment of the Mainline Quiet Zone. The City of Kent will be the lead agency for the establishment of the Quiet Zone.

Crossing Number	Railroad Milepost	USDOT Crossing ID Number	Street or Highway Name
1	0166.650	396581U	Willis Street/ State Route 516
2	0166.880	396580M	S Meeker Street
3	0166.990	396579T	S Smith Street
4	0167.250	396578L	S James Street
5	0169.020	396575R	S 212 Street

49 CFR 222.43(b)(2)(ii) – TIME RESTRICTION

The new mainline Quiet Zone is proposed to be in effect 24 hours per day, seven days per week, with the exception of emergency and other situations as described in CFR 222.23.

49 CFR 222.43(b)(2)(iii) – PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

All public highway grade crossings within the proposed Quiet Zone are equipped with active warning systems (that include flashing lights, gates, and constant warning time devices pedestrian bells) and pedestrian bells. The City is proposing to upgrade one crossing with Supplemental Safety Measures (SSMs) to comply with the requirements of Appendix A of CFR Part 222. The City is also proposing, and will be requesting approval for, Alternative Safety Measures (ASMs) in the form of modified SSMs at two additional crossings in compliance with Appendix B of CFR Part 222. Necessary advanced warning signing and pavement markings will be upgraded to comply with the current Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) at all crossings.

Three crossings within the proposed quiet zone have industrial spurs/sidings within the crossing control devices: 396581U Willis St/SR 516, 396580M Meeker St, and 396579T Smith St. The industrial spur within 396580M Meeker St has constant warning time (CWT). The industrial spurs/sidings within 396581U Willis St/SR 515 and 396579T Smith St do not have CWT. These industrial spur/siding crossings without CWT were specifically reviewed by the Diagnostic Team and the team determined that installing CWT is not reasonably practical.

Crossing Number	Railroad Milepost	USDOT Crossing ID Number	Street or Highway Name	Supplemental Safety Measures
1	0166.650	396581U	Willis Street/ State Route SR 516	On west side: install 155 feet of non-traversable curb. On east side: install 120 feet of non-traversable curb.

Crossing Number	Railroad Milepost	USDOT Crossing ID Number	Street or Highway Name	Alternative Safety Measures – Modified SSMs
4	0167.250	396578L	W James Street	On west side: install 90 feet of non-traversable curb. On east side: install 120 feet of non-traversable curb.
5	0169.02	396575R	S 212 th Street	On west side: install 90 feet of non-traversable curb. On east side: install 120 feet of non-traversable curb.

In addition to the Supplemental Safety Measures and Alternative Safety Measures proposed above, additional improvements will be made at all grade crossings.

Crossing Number	Railroad Milepost	USDOT Crossing ID Number	Street or Highway Name	Additional Crossing Modifications
1	0166.650	396581U	Willis Street/ State Route 516	Relocate the gates closer to the highway traveled way Install sidewalks and pedestrian crossing improvements on both sides of Willis St (SR 516) through the crossing. Extend railroad crossing panels for pedestrian crossings as necessary. Install detectable warning surfaces in all four quadrants.

				<p>Install "No Train Horn" signs (W10-9), "No Train Horn" plaques (W10-9P), "Do Not Stop on Tracks" signs (R-8), and "Look" signs (R15-8).</p> <p>Remove social media contact information from the supplemental "Emergency Notification" signs (I-13).</p> <p>Install dynamic envelope markings.</p> <p>Relocate pavement markings related to the crossing per the MUTCD.</p> <p>Extend the existing pedestrian fences in the southwest and southeast quadrants to the edges of shoulders.</p> <p>Work with UP to review the traffic signal preemption time and adjust if necessary.</p> <p>Work with the UTC to identify locations where Crisis hotline signs may have benefit.</p>
2	0166.880	396580M	W Meeker Street	<p>On west side: install 120 feet of non-traversable curb.</p> <p>On east side: install 30 feet of non-traversable curb.</p> <p>On east side: install 100 feet of non-traversable curb on 6th Ave S south of Meeker St.</p> <p>Construct ADA-compliant pedestrian routes behind the existing gates in the northeast and southwest quadrants.</p> <p>Move the north curb line on both sides of the crossing to create a wider pedestrian path that provides three feet of clearance to the edge of the crossing panels.</p> <p>Construct the curb ramp in the southeast quadrant outside of the dynamic envelope.</p> <p>Install detectable warning surfaces in all four quadrants.</p> <p>Install "No Train Horn" plaques (W10-9P), "Do Not Stop on Tracks" signs (R-8), and "Look" signs (R15-8).</p> <p>Install "Right Turn Only" sign (R3-5R) for commercial driveway in southwest quadrant.</p> <p>Remove social media contact information from the supplemental "Emergency Notification" signs (I-13).</p> <p>Relocate pavement markings related to the crossing per the MUTCD.</p> <p>Move eastbound 'right turn only' pavement markings to provide a minimum of 100 feet of separation from gate.</p>
3	0166.990	396579T	W Smith Street	<p>On west side: install 120 feet of non-traversable curb.</p>

				<p>On east side: install 80 feet of non-traversable curb.</p> <p>Evaluate pedestrian width through crossing to ensure 48-inch minimum width plus three feet to edge of crossing panel.</p> <p>Extend/alter crossing panels for pedestrian crossings, if necessary.</p> <p>Install detectable warning surfaces in all four quadrants.</p> <p>Install "No Train Horn" plaques (W10-9P), "Do Not Stop on Tracks" signs (R-8), and "Look" signs (R15-8).</p> <p>Install "Right Turn Only" sign (R3-5R) facing north for commercial driveway in northeast quadrant.</p> <p>Remove social media contact information from the supplemental "Emergency Notification" signs (I-13).</p> <p>Relocate pavement markings related to the crossing per the MUTCD.</p>
4	0167.250	396578L	W James Street	<p>Remove and relocate the white edge lines that define the edges of the pedestrian paths through the crossing to a location at least three feet from the edge of the crossing panels.</p> <p>Relocate the existing detectable warning surfaces in the northeast and southwest quadrants to a location outside of the gates.</p> <p>Evaluate and consider relocating the westbound signal displays closer to the crossing.</p> <p>Install "No Train Horn" plaques (W10-9P), "Do Not Stop on Tracks" signs (R-8), and "Look" signs (R15-8).</p> <p>Install "Right Turn Only" signs (R3-5R) for commercial driveways in southwest and southeast quadrant.</p> <p>Remove social media contact information from the supplemental "Emergency Notification" signs (I-13). Relocate pavement markings related to the crossing per the MUTCD.</p> <p>Install dynamic envelope markings.</p>
5	0169.02	396575R	S 212 th Street	<p>Install white edge lines that define the edges of the pedestrian paths through the crossing to a location at least three feet from the edge of the crossing panels.</p> <p>Relocate the existing detectable warning surfaces in the northeast and southwest quadrants to a location outside of the gates or 12 feet from the nearest rail.</p> <p>Work with UPRR to review the traffic signal preemption time and adjust if necessary.</p>

				<p>Evaluate and consider relocating the westbound stop line to the east side of the crossing and relocating the signal displays closer to the crossing.</p> <p>“Install No Train Horn” plaques (W10-9P), “Do Not Stop on Tracks” signs (R-8), and “Look” signs (R15-8).</p> <p>Remove social media contact information from the supplemental “Emergency Notification” signs (I-13). Relocate pavement markings related to the crossing per the MUTCD.</p> <p>Install dynamic envelope markings.</p>
--	--	--	--	---

These improvement projects will be coordinated with the Union Pacific Railroad, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), and the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) through the UTC’s Grade Crossing Modification process.

49 CFR 222.43(b)(2)(iv) – POINT OF CONTACT

Quiet Zone Name: Kent Washington Union Pacific Mainline Quiet Zone

Contact Name: Rob Brown
Title: Transportation Engineering Manager

Organization: City of Kent Public Works
Address: 400 West Gowe Street
 Kent, WA 98032

Phone: 253-856-5571
Fax: 253-856-6500
Email: RBrown@KentWA.gov

49 CFR 222.43(b)(2)(v) – DISTRIBUTION

The following parties will receive this notification in accordance with 49 CFR 222.43(a)(1) and (3):

1. Railroads operating over the highway-rail grade crossings:

Melinda DuBay
 Industry & Public Projects Manager I
 Union Pacific Railroad
 Attn: Engineering Public Projects
 Quiet Zone Establishment
 1400 Douglas Street MS910
 Omaha, NE 68179

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

Mike Turcott
Transportation Planning Specialist
Utilities and Transportation Commission
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Connie Raezer
WSDOT Railroad Liaison
Development Division
310 Maple Park Avenue SE, 2B
Mailstop 47329
Olympia, WA 98504-7329

3. Federal Railroad Administration

Karl Alexy
Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety
Federal Railroad Administration
Mail Stop 25
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Action Required:

Any party receiving this Notice of Intent may submit information or comments about the proposed Quiet Zone to the City during the 60 days following the date of this Notice. The comment period will terminate if all parties either submit comments or signed statements indicating they do not have any comments.

Attached for your convenience is a form to facilitate your response. If you have any questions, please contact me directly.

Rob Brown, P.E.
Transportation Engineering Manager

Enclosures: Notice of Intent Response Form
Union Pacific Grade Crossing Exhibits