

TR-131155



Richard (Rick) W Wagner
Manager Public Projects

BNSF Railway Company
2454 Occidental Avenue South
Suite 2D
Seattle, WA 98134
Tel (206) 625-6152
Fax (206) 625-6115
Richard.Wagner@bnsf.com
Mobile (206) 604-8290

2013 AUG 13 PM 3:08

August 7, 2013

Axel Swanson
Senior Policy Analyst
Clark County Board of Commissioners
1300 Franklin Street
P.O. Box 5000
Vancouver, WA 98666-5000

RE: Clark County WA – 122nd St (092421N) NOI Letter BNSF Response

Mr. Swanson:

BNSF is in receipt of Clark County's ("County") Notice of Intent ("Notice") dated June 12, 2013 for a proposed quiet zone ("Quiet Zone") at the following crossing: USDOT #092421N, 122nd Street. At the outset of this letter, BNSF would like to be clear that we believe that if not properly accounted for with appropriate safety enhancements, the elimination of the train horn can be detrimental to safety. The train horn is intended to alert the motoring and pedestrian public of train movement. BNSF writes this comment letter based in part upon requirements set by FRA in the Train Horn Rule ("Rule") at 49 CFR 222.

The County should use the rule as a minimum guideline in its approach to creating a situation where the train horn is eliminated as a safety measure. For any quiet zone implemented on BNSF-owned track, we strongly recommend each crossing receive appropriate enhanced safety devices to accommodate for removal of the horn prior to the establishment of the quiet zone. That being said, BNSF appreciates the County's willingness to install non-traversable medians a minimum of 6-inches in height and a minimum of 100' in length in both directions from the track.

BNSF understands that this is a second Notice for this Quiet Zone. We appreciate the County taking our initial comments and concerns and upgrading the safety measure from the 3 1/2"-high traversable median to a minimum 6"-high non-traversable median at this crossing.



If BNSF can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Lyn Hartley, Public Projects Director for BNSF, 2650 Lou Menk Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76131 (Office phone 817-352-1549).

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Wagner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard Wagner
Manager Public Projects, BNSF

cc:
Kurt Laird
Amtrak Senior Safety Coordinator
1875 South Holgate St
Seattle, WA 98134

FRA
Associate Administrator
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

electronic copy:
Lyn Hartley, BNSF Railway
John Shurson, BNSF Railway
Ryan Ringleman, BNSF Railway
Nicole Hightower, BNSF Railway