



Quiet Zones Notice of Establishment

City Council Meeting
January 31, 2017

Glossary of Acronyms

CPUC – California Public Utility Commission

FRA – Federal Railroad Administration

SMART – Sonoma-Marín Rail Area Transit

NCRA – North Coast Railroad Authority

SSM – Supplemental Safety Measure

ASM – Alternative Safety Measure

Train Horn Rule

- In 2005, FRA published 49 CFR 222
 - Established nationwide rule to sound train horn at crossing, pattern, & sound level
 - Preempts state and local laws regarding horn use
 - Provides options to establish Quiet Zones

Quiet Zones

- Train horn not required to sound unless necessary to avoid incident
- Must be at least ½ mile in length and contain one or more crossings
- Two types
 - Horn restricted 10 pm to 7 am
 - Horn restricted 24 hours

Process

- Formal Diagnostic Review with CPUC, FRA and SMART – completed 8/2016
- Submit a Notice of Intent to FRA – 60 day comment period – completed 11/2016
- Formalize and construct SSMs and ASMs – completed 11/2016
- Submit Notice of Establishment with specified date to FRA starting Quiet Zone
 - Minimum 21 day waiting period

Barham Avenue – Aug 2016



Barham Avenue – Nov 2016



Barham Avenue – Nov 2016



Guerneville Road



Recommendation

- It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Council by resolution, authorize the City Manager to file a Notice of Establishment with the Federal Railroad Administration; the railroads that operate within the City of Santa Rosa; and with the State agencies responsible for highway-rail grade crossing safety establishing a 24-hour Quiet Zone through the City of Santa Rosa, from Bellevue Avenue to San Miguel Road, including all grade crossings between these limits.

Questions