

West Loop Quiet Zone



Presented by
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National Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety & Training
Conference
November 6, 2007



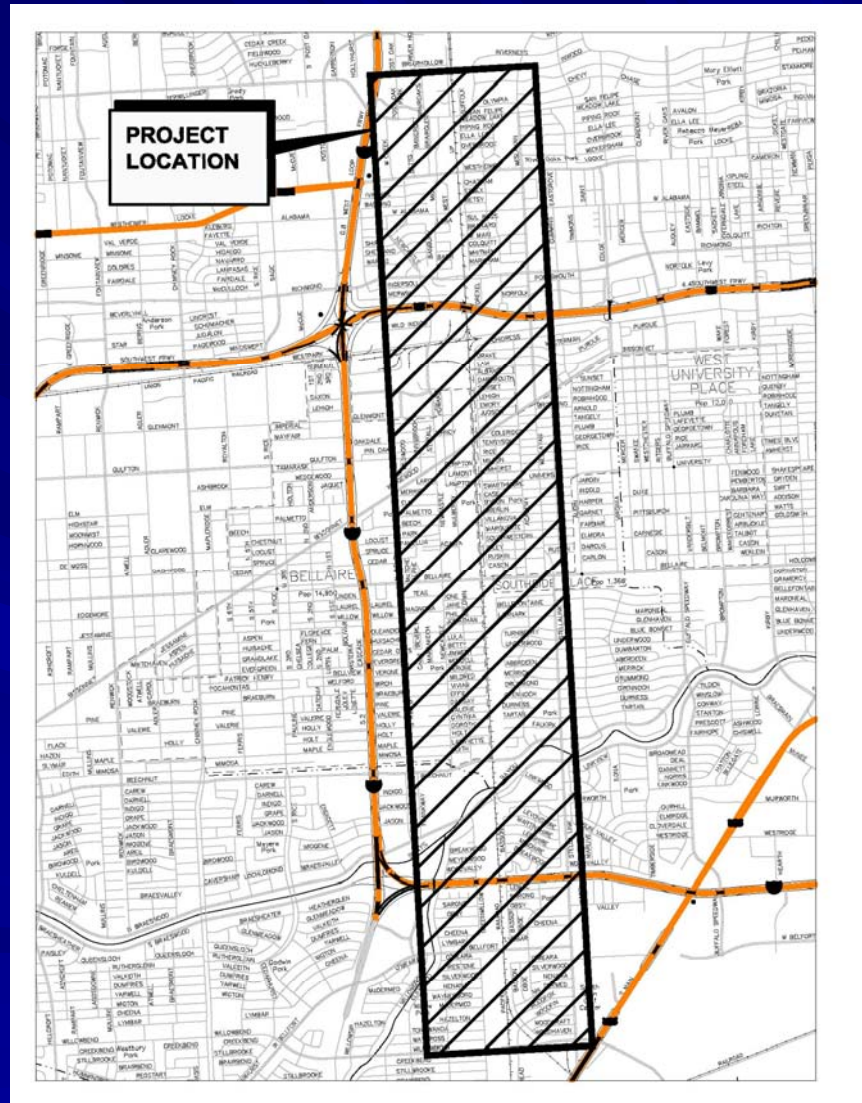
Existing Conditions

 The West Loop Quiet Zone is a 6.4 mile corridor just east of and generally parallel to IH 610 West Loop and South Post Oak Road in Houston, Texas.

 The corridor incorporates one private at grade crossing owned by CenterPoint Energy and 13 public at grade crossings operated by Union Pacific Railroad Company.

 Two of the crossings are within the cities of Bellaire and West University Place. These cities shared in the initial cost of the project.

 Mixed land use of residential, and commercial along the corridor.



History

- April 2003-At the request of community representatives a meeting was called to discuss possibility of creating a quiet zone along corridor.
- May 2004-tour of the area with concerned citizens, UPRR and COH.
- June 04 to November 05 a series of meetings were held to determine cost of improvements and agreements with cities of West University Place and Bellaire and CenterPoint Energy. Devices were installed.
- April 22, 2005 FRA issued Final Rule for quiet zones
- May 2005-the Notice of Intent was sent out. Comment period.
- July 27, 2005- Application for Quiet Zone was sent out. Comment period few adjustments to application and modification to devices.
- July 11, 2006-Notice of Establishment sent out.
- August 3, 2006-West Loop Quiet Zone Established.



Crossing Treatment by location

■ Gates with channelization devices:

- San Felipe
- Westheimer
- Bissonnet



Eastbound-San Felipe



Westbound-San Felipe

Crossing Treatment by location



CenterPoint
Energy Private
Driveway



Crossing Treatment by location cont.

■ Gates with Medians and channelization devices:

- Richmond
- Bellaire
- Beechnut
- South Braeswood
- West Bellfort
- Willowbend



Eastbound West Bellfort



Westbound West Bellfort

Crossing Treatment by location cont.

Eastbound-
Richmond



Westbound-
Richmond



Eastbound-
Bellaire



Westbound-
Bellaire



Crossing Treatment location cont.

■ One way street with gates :

➤ US 59 North service road

➤ US 59 South service road

➤ IH 610 North service road

➤ IH 610 South service road



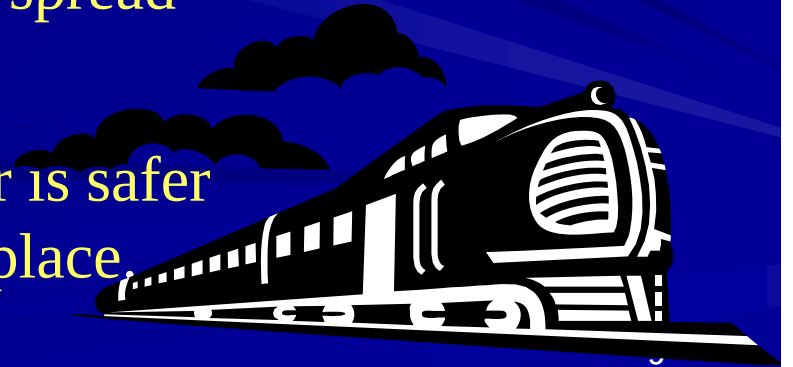
Eastbound-IH 610 N. service road



Westbound-IH 610 S. service road

Additional info:

- Material costs for the improvements was \$303,000. This amount does not include consultant work or staff time.
- We monitored the West Loop Quiet zone for a year to track any issues or maintenance concerns. The panels have been replaced on two occasions.
- The City of Houston currently has 12 additional potential quiet zone requests spread throughout the City.
- Union Pacific reports that the corridor is safer now with the current improvements in place.



Questions?????

