CITY OF SEGUIN OCTOBER 15, 2024 HUBER ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENT DICUSSION

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SEGUIN

It's real.

History & Background

• 09/2022 – Railroad Quiet Zone feasibility analyzed (Staff Level)

 02/2024 – Railroad Quiet Zone Professional Services Contract awarded

 08/2024 – Diagnostic Review Team Meeting

- 10/2022 Development TIA
 - Signal required at Hwy 78 & Huber with first phase
- TxDOT Signal Warrant Study
 - Signal improvements warranted but not yet funded
- TxDOT Rail Division and UPRR recommendations for safety improvements
 - Vertical grade challenged crossing



Concerns at Huber Road

- Signals within close proximity to a railroad crossing
 - Backing of traffic on tracks leads to train-vehicle collision risk.
- Off-Set Intersection Huber & Fleming
 - Adds to visibility issue
 - Adds to dual conflict points
- Humped Crossing Grade issue
 - Risk for vehicles to become stuck on tracks due to rate of change in the roadway grade
 - Adds to visibility issue





Traffic Signal Concerns

• Traffic Signal Proximity to Crossing

• Adds significant risk of train collision

- Vehicles likely to stop on tracks
 - Humped crossings increase this risk due to lack of visibility



Intersection Horizontal Geometry Concerns

Off-Set Intersection

- Adds to visibility issue
- Adds additional conflict points
- More complicated signal design



Vertical Grade Concerns

- Grade issue Humped Crossing
 - Risks of high-centering
 - Sight distance and visibility challenges
 - The maximum approach grade should not exceed 3 inches of the rail elevation at a point 30 feet away from the center of the nearest rail on both sides of the crossing.
 - Huber height difference equates to over 10" across 30'





Traffic Volume



Huber Road Railroad Crossing at New Braunfels Street

Northbound and Southbound



Traffic Incident Data



Incident Attributors







Quiet Zone Improvement Risk Reductions



Safety Measure	Estimated Risk (FRA)	Percent Change
Existing Condition (with Horns)	65,329.13	0%
Existing Condition (without Horns)	108,968.99	66.39% (increase)
QZ – Mountable Medians with Channelization Devices	27,242.25	-58.30% (decrease)
QZ – Non-traversable Curb Medians with or without Channelization Devices	21,793.80	-66.64% (decrease)
Closure	0	-100% (decrease)

• Approx. 4,330' difference in length (0.8 miles)

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- Less than 2 minutes drive time
- Less stop conditions
- Closures will be periodic over the course of construction for IH-10







- Approx. 9,435' difference in length (1.8 miles)
 - Less than 4 minutes drive time
 - Closures will be periodic over the course of construction for IH-10





Temporary Continuous Closure of Huber Road Underpass





Financial Incentives

• FRA

• Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration

- TxDOT Section 130 Closure Program
 - Match railroad contribution up to \$100k to be used for roadway, safety, and operational improvements.
 - Railway-Highway Crossings Program



- Union Pacific Railroad Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
 - Incentive Payments







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Final Thoughts

- Quiet Zone is not dependent on Closure
- Safety concern is primary
- Direction for design option would aid in discussions as Quiet Zone Project progresses.

Questions?



