

FILE

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Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio

PUCO

Memo

To: Docketing Division

From: George Martin, Grade Crossing Planner, Rail Division

Re: In the matter of the authorization of the Chicago, Ft. Wayne & Eastern Railway to install an active grade crossing warning device in Allen County

Date: November 2, 2010

The Ohio Rail Development Commission (ORDC) has secured funding for the installation of flashing lights and roadway gates at N. Cool Rd/TR 209, Bath Township, near Lafayette, Allen County, DOT# 532698C, by the Chicago, Ft. Wayne & Eastern Railway (CFE). The crossing was surveyed on September 13, 2010, and was determined to warrant an upgrade to flashing lights and roadway gates.

This project is actual cost and will be federally funded.

Staff requests an Entry with plans and estimates to be submitted to the Commission and ORDC within 90 days and completion within one year. Upon approval of the plans and estimates by ORDC construction may commence. A suggested case coding and heading would be:

PUCO Case No. 10-2472-RR-FED In the matter of the authorization of the Chicago, Ft. Wayne & Eastern Railway to install an active grade crossing warning device in Allen County

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Technician _____ Date Processed _____

C: Legal Department

Please serve the following parties of record

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Technician JZ Date Processed 11-2-2010

Ms Susan Kirkland

Ohio Rail Development Commission

1980 West Broad St

Columbus, Oh 43223

Mr David Murphy

Chicago, Ft. Wayne & Eastern Railway

3010 E Pontiac St

Ft Wayne, In 46803

Bath Township Trustees

2880 Ada Rd

Lima, Oh 45801

OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

TO: George Martin, Planner, Railroad Division, PUCO
FROM: Susan Kirkland, Supervisor, Rail-Highway Safety Section
BY: Tod Darfus, Project Manager
SUBJECT: Grade Crossing Warning Projects
DATE: October 28, 2010

You may authorize the CFW&E Railroad to proceed with the non-field work for this project. This construction authorization is made with the stipulation and understanding that any field work needs prior approval before work begins. This authorization is made with the stipulation and understanding that an approved estimate may contain entries for items or activities that may be cited and found to be ineligible for federal participation during the project audit. The construction portion and preliminary engineering will be financed with federal funds.

Please initiate a one (1) year order with the plan and estimate due in ninety (90) days for the following.

Allen County - Cool Road/TR-209 - CFW&E AAR No. 532 698 C

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

TD:td

c: File



Diagnostic Review Team Survey

Date: 9-13-2010

Location Data

Street or Road Name: N Cool Rd.		
Route/Road Number (i.e. Twp., Co., SR or US) TR 204 (include SLM if State or US route)		AAR-DOT No.: 532698C
County: Allen	Township: Bath	City: (In or Near) La Fayette
Railroad Name: Chicago Ft Wayne & Eastern	Railroad Division: Midwest Region	Branch/Line Name: N/A
Nearest RR Timetable Station: La Fayette	RR Milepost: 254.66	

On-Site Review Team

(Include: Name - Organization - Phone Number)

- Matthew Malich - ORDC - 614-387-5162
- Don Clark RailAmerica ROSG 859-391-5530
- Donna Wilkins BATF TWP
- Bill Dwyer " "
- Nathan Vance PUCO
- Tod Dapkus ORDC 614-374-9298
- Brady Peter CFE/RA 513-218-9058
-
-

Existing Traffic Control Devices

Type of Warning Devices	Installed?		Quantity/Comments
Advance Warning Signs	☒ Yes	☐ No	
'Stop' Signs	☐ Yes	☒ No	
'Stop Ahead' Signs	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Pavement Markings	☒ Yes	☐ No	Stop lines & RR Xing Symbols
Crossbucks	☒ Yes	☐ No	2
Number of Tracks Signs	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Inventory Tags	☐ Yes	☒ No	No AAR Tag
Interconnected Highway Traffic Signal	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Mast-Mounted Flashing Lights	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Cantilever Flashing Lights	☐ Yes	☒ No	Number: Length:
Side Lights	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Automatic Gates	☐ Yes	☒ No	Number: Length:
Bells	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Sidewalk Gate Arms	☐ Yes	☒ No	
'No Turn' Signs	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Illumination	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Is crossing flagged by train crew?	☐ Yes	☒ No	
Other	☐ Yes	☐ No	

Survey Data: Obtain crash reports, if possible, prior to review.

	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Number & dates of crashes in previous 5 years	1 → 7-25-07	
Hazard Ranking	153	Date Run: 8-23-10

Railroad Data

Railroad Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Total trains per day	4	4
< 1 per day		
Day thru trains	2	2
Night thru trains	0	2
Daytime switching movements	2	0
Nighttime switching movements	0	0
Total number of tracks		1
Number of main tracks		1
Number of other tracks		0
Maximum train speed	40	40
Typical train speed		40
Amtrak		

If non-gated crossing, is clearing sight distance adequate in all quadrants? (See Table 1) ☒ Yes ☐ No

If multiple tracks, can two trains occupy crossing at the same time? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Can one train block the motorists' view of another train at crossing? ☐ Yes (Explain below) ☐ No

Are there other track(s) crossing this same roadway within 100 ft of this crossing? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, Crossing DOT #(if different) _____

If yes, distance _____ (take measurement between track centerlines at closest point along roadway)

Roadway Data

Local Highway Authority: Bath Twp

Roadway Characteristics	Initial Information (from database)	Revised
Average daily traffic	368	379 7/20/10
Highway paved	☒ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
Roadway Surface: ☒ Blacktop ☐ Gravel ☐ Concrete ☐ Other _____		
Roadway width: 18 ft.		
Number of highway lanes	2	
Urban or Rural	Rural	
Vehicle Speed: 55 MPH		
School Bus Operation: ☐ No ☒ Yes 4x a day Amount Bus only		
Hazardous Materials Trucks: ☐ No ☒ Yes 3 Amount		
Shoulders: ☒ No ☐ Yes		
Is the shoulder surfaced? ☒ No ☐ Yes		
Is there existing guardrail along roadway in crossing vicinity? ☒ No ☐ Yes		
Is stopping site distance adequate? (See Table 2) ☒ Yes ☐ No If no, deficient approach(es) _____		
Quadrant _____ Curb and Gutter: ☐ Functional (Curb height = 4" or more) ☐ Non-functional (Curb height = Less than 4") ☒ None	Quadrant _____ Curb and Gutter: ☐ Functional (Curb height = 4" or more) ☐ Non-functional (Curb height = Less than 4") ☒ None	

Pedestrians: ☒ No ☐ Yes

Is sidewalk present? ☒ No ☐ Yes

Is there a nearby intersection that could cause queuing over the crossing? ☒ No ☐ Yes

If yes,
Distance _____

Is this intersection signalized? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Are the signals currently interconnected with the existing crossing warning devices? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Is it the consensus of the Diagnostic Review Team that this is a potential closure project? ☒ No ☐ Yes

Explain reasons:

Type of Development

- ☒ Open Space ☐ Institutional
☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial
☐ Residential

Location of nearby schools:

Bath school, 7 mi away, NW from crossing

Utility Information

Is commercial power available? ☐ No ☒ Yes At crossing

Utility Provider (Company Name) AEP

Phone Number _____

Nearest Available Power Source At crossing

What other utilities are present? None

Is there potential utility conflict(s) ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown

Diagnostic Team Recommendations

	Quadrants Needed
☒ Install/upgrade active devices	
☐ Automatic Flashing Lights (AFLS)	
☐ AFLS / Cants	
☒ AFLS / Gates	Set back 10 ft from edge of road
☐ AFLS / Gates / Cants	
☐ Upgrade circuitry	
☐ Sidelights	
☐ Guardrail Needed	
☐ Install/Replace curb	
☐ Other (define)	

Comments:

check overhead electric wire for height clearance
 try to remove tree on North side of track
 NW and SE Quad → Additional Brush removal

☐ Install/upgrade traffic signal preemption

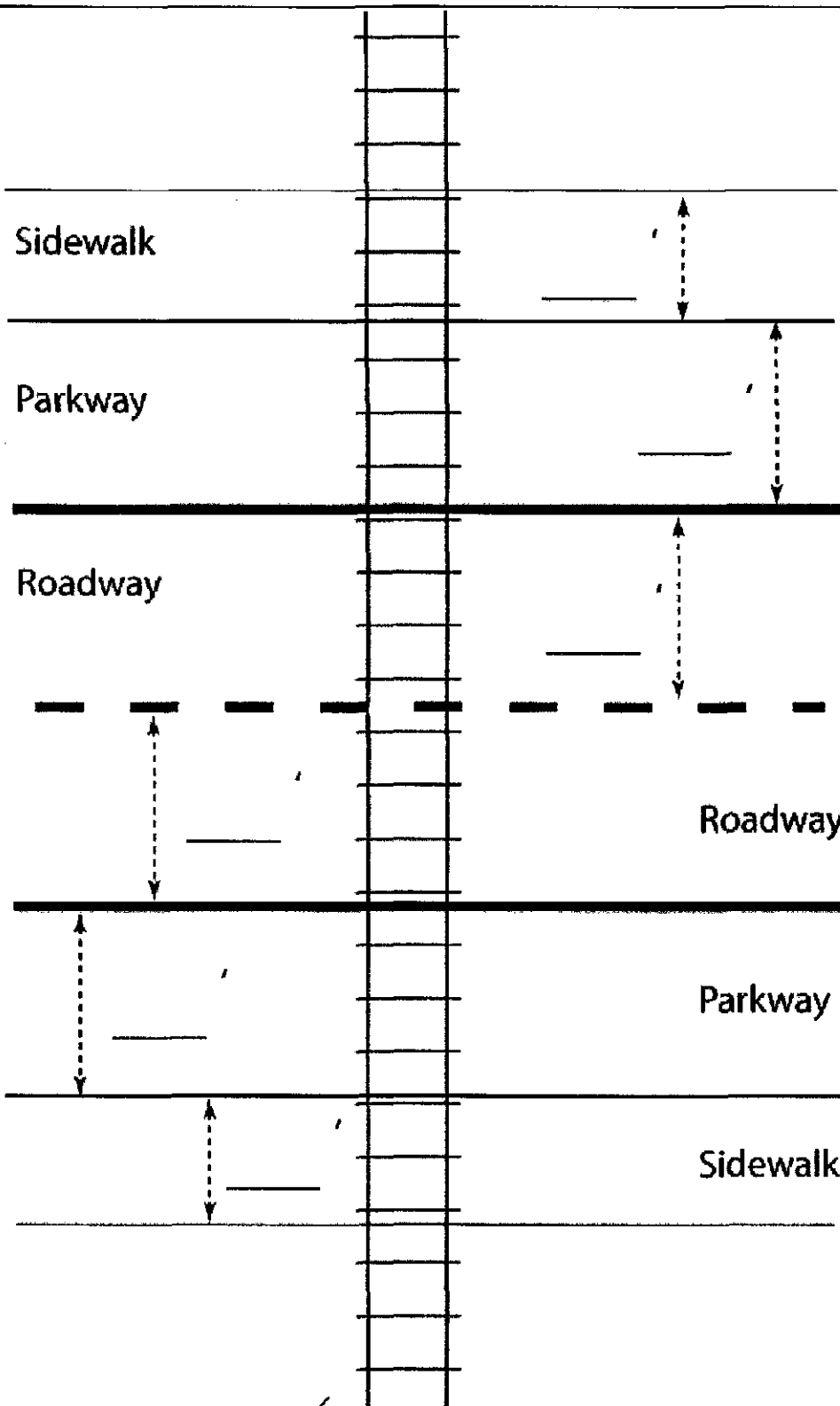
☐ No improvements needed

☒ Other (define)

Illumination (Tab)

Field Dimensions

set back 10 ft from edge of road - Tab
 get rid of tree
 NW and SE Quad → Additional Brush removal



Crossing Angle ☐ 0-29° ☐ 30-59° ☒ 60-90° Measured in _____ Quadrant?

Measurements by: MM

Field Sketch

Crossing Angle ☐ 0-29° ☐ 30-59° ☐ 60-90° Measured in _____ Quadrant?

Sketch by: _____

TABLE 1

Clearing Sight Distances

Maximum Authorized Train Speed	Distance (dT) Along Railroad from Crossing (ft)
1 - 10	240
15	360
20	480
25	600
30	720
35	840
40	960
45	1080
50	1200
55	1320
60	1440
65	1560
70	1680
75	1800
80	1920
85	2040
90	2160

Source: R-H Grade Crossing Handbook Table 36 (pp. 132-133)

Notes:

All calculated distances are rounded up to the next higher 5-foot increment.

Distances indicated are for 65-ft double bottom semi-tractor trailers and level single track 90 degree crossings; and may need to be adjusted for multiple tracks, skewed crossings or approaches on grades.

Clearing Sight Distance is to be measured in each vehicle travel direction at non-gated crossings as viewed from a point 25 feet from centerline of nearest track in the center of whichever travel lane is nearest the direction along track being measured.

Table 2

Stopping Sight Distances

Highway Vehicle Speed	Distance (dH) Along Roadway from Crossing (ft)
0	n/a
5	50
10	70
15	105
20	135
25	180
30	225
35	280
40	340
45	410
50	490
55	570
60	660
65	760
70	865

Source: R-H Grade Crossing Handbook Table 36 (pp. 132-133)

Notes:

All calculated distances are rounded up to the next higher 5-foot increment.

Distances indicated are for 65-ft double bottom semi-tractor trailers on dry level pavements.

Stopping Sight Distance is to be measured on each roadway approach to crossing from stop bar.

This Rail line sits in a swail. Sight distance is not good for Vehicle on Train

bing 40.7537881 -83.9941200

Google Earth

United States Ohio Allen



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