

GLENDALE RAILROAD SAFETY & QUIET ZONE COMMITTEE

July 25, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 8, from 6:30-8:30 pm at Town Hall.

July 25 attendance: Tom Breidenstein, Jack Buescher, Oliver Debikey, Ralph Hoop, Becky Love, Jack Murray, Dr. Allen Zobay. Councilwoman Grueninger also attended.

Next Steps:

1. Determine in detail the effect of Wayside Horns on residents close to rail crossings versus horns on trains. – Oliver Debikey
2. Investigate in detail sources of Quiet Zone funding within the Glendale community. – John Earls
3. Determine the possibility of safety upgrades (e.g., Constant Warning Time circuitry) for Glendale crossings funded from the Ohio State Crossing Upgrade Program. – Debbie Grueninger
4. Arrange for an initial link-up with the CSX Railroad at a future QZ Committee meeting. – Ralph Hoop

Glendale Solicitor Michael Honerlaw provided the QZ Committee a letter stating that under current Ohio law there would be no liability for Glendale if the Village would legislatively permit a railroad Quiet Zone.

Thus far the Glendale Railroad Safety & Quiet Zone Committee has not found examples of state or federal funding of Quiet Zones anywhere in the country except for funding provided in return for closure of existing highway rail crossings. A report prepared by transportation consultant R.L. Banks & Associates for Kingston, NY states that funding of Quiet Zone Supplementary Safety Measures “will likely be a local responsibility.”

The Glendale Railroad Safety & Quiet Zone Committee would unanimously prefer Quad Gates as the Supplementary Safety Measure for all three Glendale crossings if funding were available.

A Wayside Horn evaluation for Mundelein, IL, in 2003 found some negative impacts for residents closest to rail crossings. Overall, however, the Mundelein Wayside Horns had a significant beneficial impact on the quality-of-life in areas near the crossings. The Wayside Horns covered 85% less land area than train-mounted horns.

Details of other comments made during the July 25 meeting are shown in Revision 3 of Glendale Railroad Safety & Quiet Zone Committee Assumptions & Issues. Major sections in the document have been restructured from three to eight categories for clearer reference.

Jack Murray will not be able to participate in QZ Committee activities until late September due to upcoming surgery.

For the Committee

Ralph Hoop