



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: John Ristow

**SUBJECT: FUNDING AGREEMENTS WITH
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD**

DATE: August 16, 2021

Approved

Date

8/19/21

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 3

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute the Funding Agreements between the City of San José and the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) for surface crossing improvements across the rail tracks at certain locations along the Warm Springs Subdivision. The estimated cost to the City is approximately \$410,504 with all work expected to be completed by the end of 2021.

OUTCOME

The recommendation facilitates the upgrade of asphalt track surfaces to concrete panels at Warm Springs railroad crossings at Jackson St, North 7th St, and North 10th St. These improvements will provide a safer facility for roadway users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists, when crossing the tracks.

BACKGROUND

The City is partnering with UPRR on a 50/50 percent cost sharing agreement that would upgrade asphalt track surfaces to concrete panels at three railroad crossings in poor condition. The upgraded track surfaces will enhance safety for all users, especially bicyclists and pedestrians who may trip over warped asphalt near the tracks. These improvements support the City's goals of enhancing safety and encouraging mode shift to non-motorized uses. These improvement areas are located within the existing Citywide bikeway network that connects important local destinations such as Downtown San Jose, San Jose State University, Japantown, churches, neighborhood parks and community center. These improvements also reduce vehicular emissions caused by rolling friction, thus supporting the City's goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Finally, these improvements will support the City's goal to

establish a quiet zone on the Warm Springs corridor by enhancing visibility of the railroad corridor across roadways where routine train horn sounding will be eliminated during quiet zone hours.

ANALYSIS

UPRR will improve the existing, at-grade surface crossing area at three at-grade crossings on the Warm Springs rail corridor. The improvements include removal of the existing track surface, installation of new concrete surface panels and ballast, and pavement conform. UPRR does not allow other agencies to perform the improvements as they have the expertise and resources to perform the work in a cost effective and timely manner.

The Funding Agreements outline the 50/50 percent cost sharing between UPRR and the City for the work. The estimated total cost for construction is \$821,007, with the costs for each crossing shown below:

- Jackson St, south of 7th St grade crossing cost: \$168,365
- North 7th St, east of Jackson St grade crossing cost: \$275,337
- North 10th grade crossing cost: \$377,305

CONCLUSION

The Funding Agreements with UPRR will improve the track crossing surfaces across the roadways.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

If Council approves the proposed actions, staff will proceed with executing the funding agreements between the City of San José and the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR).

The Railroad work is expected to be completed by the end of 2021. No additional follow up action with the City Council is expected for this project. Staff anticipates bringing forward a separate City Council item relative to establishment of a Warm Springs Quiet Zone during Fall 2021.

CLIMATE SMART SAN JOSE

The recommendation in this memo aligns with one or more Climate Smart San José energy, water, or mobility goals. Specifically, the recommendation and associated projects improve these train crossings for people walking and bicycling.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

This memorandum will be posted on the City’s Council Agenda for the August 31, 2021, Council Meeting.

COORDINATION

This memorandum and agreement have been coordinated with the Planning Department, City Attorney’s Office and the City Manager’s Budget Office.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION/INPUT

This item does not have any input from any board or commission.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

UPRR provided the cost estimates for the Railroad work and will invoice the City based on the actual costs. The City commits to appropriate sufficient funds to complete the construction of the Railroad work. The City and UPRR will share the costs on a 50/50 percent basis with each being responsible for a cost of approximately \$410,504.

BUDGET REFERENCE

The table below identified the fund and appropriations to fund the Funding Agreement.

Fund #	Appn. #	Appn. Name	Total Appn.	Rec. Budget Action	2022-2026 Proposed Capital Budget Page*	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No.)
429	4313	Railroad Grade Crossings	\$150,000	N/A	V-616	06/22/2021 Ord No. 30621
465	418C	Protected Intersection Improvements	\$1,105,000	N/A	V-568	06/22/2021 Ord No. 30621

*The 2022-2026 Proposed Capital Budget was adopted by the City Council on June 22, 2021.

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CEQA

Categorically Exempt, File No. PP19-036, CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(c), Existing Facilities.

/s/

JOHN RISTOW

Director of Transportation

For questions, please contact Jessica Zenk, Deputy Director, (408) 535-3543.