



Wards 1, 2 & 3 – Proposed Quiet Zone Along the Union Pacific Railroad at the Palm Avenue and Brockton Avenue Rail Crossings and Update on Panorama Road and Cridge Street Quiet Zones

Public Works Department

**Transportation Committee
July 13, 2017**

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BACKGROUND

1. February 15, 2011– City Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the RCTC to reallocate cost savings from the La Sierra Avenue and Van Buren Boulevard Interchange projects to the BNSF quiet zone.
2. July 22, 2014 – City Council approved Amendment 2 to the MOU to establish final cost savings for the La Sierra Interchange and add additional quiet zone locations including Palm and Brockton Avenues to the MOU.



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PLANNING/CONCEPT DESIGN

1. Planning and conceptual design began in July 2014.
2. Installation of additional safety improvements defined as Supplemental Safety Measures (SSMs) in the FRA's Final Rule at each crossing is the preferred method to establish the quiet zone.
3. Quad gates are the proposed SSM for each crossing.



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PROJECT COORDINATION

1. November 17, 2015 – A field diagnostic team meeting with City, Union Pacific Railroad (UP) and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) staff was conducted.
2. Concept plans incorporating the diagnostic team recommendations were circulated for concurrence.
3. The UP concurred with the concept designs for both crossings.
4. The CPUC requested design changes to block left turns at the southerly DMV driveway on Brockton Avenue.



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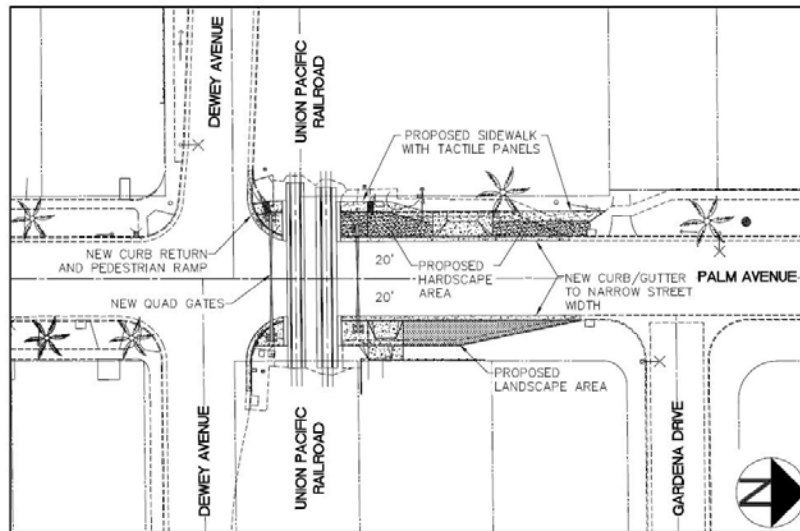
PALM AVENUE CROSSING

1. One concept design is presented. Improvements include new curb, gutter and sidewalk, tactile strips, striping, signage and additional crossing warning devices consisting of exit gates.
2. Street will be narrowed from 64 feet wide (curb to curb) to 40 feet wide to accommodate the new street improvements and exit gates.
3. Existing wayside horns will be removed.
4. Total estimated cost to implement a quiet zone at the crossing is \$745,000.



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**QUIET ZONE IMPROVEMENTS FOR
PALM AVENUE AT
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD CROSSING**

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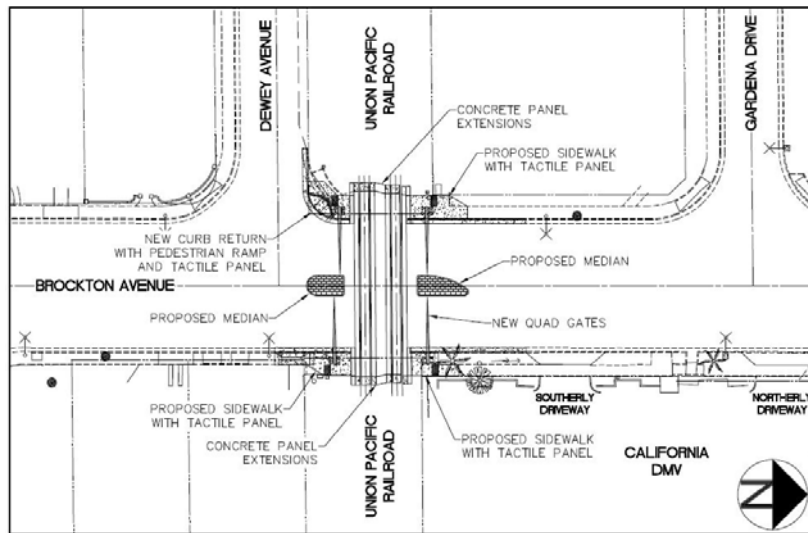
BROCKTON AVENUE CROSSING

1. Two concept design alternatives are presented. Both include new curb, gutter and sidewalk, raised center medians, tactile strips, striping, signage and additional crossing warning devices consisting of exit gates.
2. Existing wayside horns will be removed with both alternatives.
3. Alternative 1 consists of the base improvements needed to establish the quiet zone plus median revisions negotiated with UP and CPUC during an onsite meeting on April 21, 2016.

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**QUIET ZONE IMPROVEMENTS FOR
BROCKTON AVENUE AT
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD CROSSING (ALTERNATIVE 1)**

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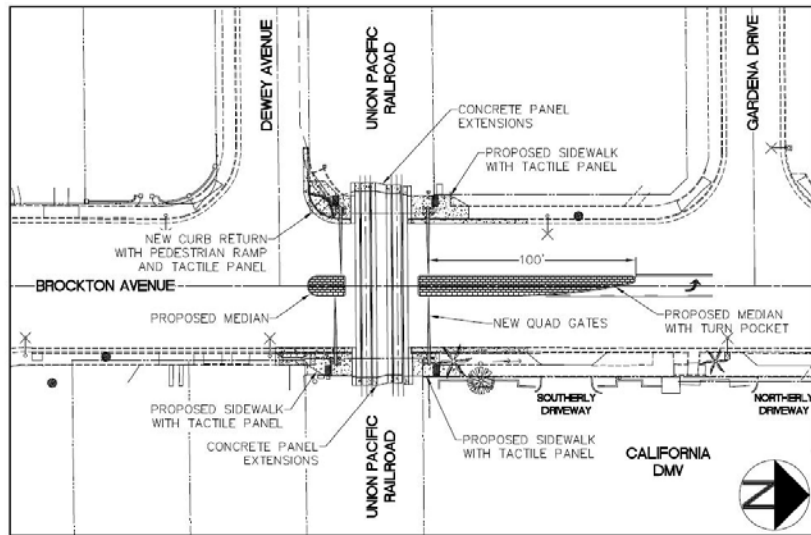
BROCKTON AVENUE CROSSING

1. Alternative 2 consists of the base improvements needed to establish the quiet zone plus the northerly median extension recommended by the CPUC to block left turns at the southerly DMV driveway.
2. Total estimated cost to implement a quiet zone at the crossing is \$880,000.

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**QUIET ZONE IMPROVEMENTS FOR
BROCKTON AVENUE AT
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD CROSSING (ALTERNATIVE 2)**

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PANORAMA QUIET ZONE UPDATE

1. Construction and Maintenance (C&M) Agreement negotiations are in progress.
2. Construction is expected to begin in early 2018 and take six months to complete.
3. Notice of New Quiet Zone Establishment (NOE) will be filed once construction is complete.
4. Project cost is estimated at \$1.03 million.
5. Maintenance costs currently estimated at \$18,530/year.

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CRIDGE STREET QUIET ZONE UPDATE

1. C&M Agreement negotiations with BNSF and UP are in progress.
2. The Notice of Intent to Create New Quiet Zone (NOI) was filed on March 28, 2017. Comment period ends on May 27, 2017.
3. Construction is expected to begin in early 2018 and take six months to complete.
4. NOE will be filed once construction is complete.



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CRIDGE STREET COSTS

1. Project cost is estimated at \$3.39 million.
2. Maintenance costs currently estimated at \$26,860/year.



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Transportation Committee:

1. Recommend the City Council approve the concept design for the Palm Avenue/UP crossing and concept design alternative I for the Brockton Avenue/UP crossing, and direct the Public Works Department to complete project design and file a Notice of Intent to Create New Quiet Zone (NOI) for the Palm Avenue and Brockton Avenue Quiet Zone; and
2. Receive and file this report providing an update on the Panorama Road/UP and Cridge Street/Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) Quiet Zone Projects.



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