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## City Council Regular Meeting

**DEPARTMENT:** Public Works & Engineering  
**FROM:** Errick Thompson, P.E., CFM®, Director  
**MEETING:** February 20, 2024

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**SUBJECT:**

Receive a report, hold a discussion and provide staff feedback regarding the Wayside Horn project planned for the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) crossing of CR 714. (*Staff Presenter: Errick Thompson, Director of Public Works & Engineering*)

**SUMMARY:**

Spring 2016, the City incorporated the Railroad Quiet Zones - Old Town project into the 2016-2020 CIP program. This project would establish Quiet Zones to obtain relief from the routine sounding of train horns by meeting specific requirements at each crossing. Initially the project was set up for the four UPRR (Union Pacific Railroad) crossings in Old Town: Commerce, Renfro, Ellison, and Eldred.

The UPRR/CR 714 crossing was added to the design contract in 2016 as one of five quiet zones to be implemented in/around Old Town. In 2018, the total construction estimate for the City's work as well as UPRR estimates at the CR 714 crossing totaled an estimate of \$700,000 (\$900k today with inflation), exceeding the available budget. The remaining four locations (Commerce, Renfro, Ellison, and Eldred) continued through with UPRR agreements and the construction bidding process, with construction completing in the winter of 2020.

The installation of wayside horns was recommended as an alternative method to eliminate train horns. Wayside horns are directional speakers that focus a simulated train horn sound directly down adjacent streets and take the place of train-mounted horns that typically are sounded for up to a half mile from a rail crossing.

The design is complete and has been reviewed by UPRR. UPRR has determined that modifications to their crossing infrastructure will be required at an estimated cost of \$345,881. The City of Burleson will be responsible for this cost.

The below table combines all estimated construction costs to complete the Wayside Horn at CR 714.

| <b><u>Project Component</u></b>  | <b><u>Component Estimate</u></b> |
|--|----------------------------------|
| UPRR Estimated Construction Cost   | \$345,881                        |
| City's Construction Contract (roadway & wayside horn)                                    | \$112,470                        |
| Construction Contingency (10%)   | \$45,835                         |
| Testing, railroad required insurance, railroad flaggers, construction project management | \$45,835                         |
| <b>Total Construction Estimate</b>   | <b>\$550,021</b>                 |

Existing funding within the project is \$334,713 of previously issued street bonds. In order to complete the project an additional \$215,308 is needed.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):**

09/17/2021- Council received a report, held a discussion, and gave direction regarding a Wayside Horn on County Road 714. (item 9.A)

03/18/2019- Council approved a bid award and a construction contract for the Old Town Quiet Zones Project (4 locations) with The Fain Group, Inc., in the amount of \$424,219. (item 5.C)

02/04/2019- City Council approved an agreement with UPRR for Public AT-Grade Crossings for Old Town Quiet Zones (four) with a total cost of \$541,893 and ongoing annual maintenance costs of \$22,460. (item 4.A)

05/16/2016- City Council approved a Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance and Engineering Services Contract for the design and permitting of UPRR Quiet Zones at five (5) Locations with TranSystems Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$254,000. (item 4.A)

**REFERENCE:**

CSO #1007-03-2019 – Bid Award and Construction Contract for Old Town Quiet Zones (four locations) - The Fain Group, Inc.

CSO #984-02-2019 – Agreement with UPRR for Public AT-Grade Crossings for Old Town Quiet Zones (four locations)

CSO #430-05-2016 – Engineering Services Contract- TranSystems

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

TBD

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