

Staff Report

Subject: DeWitt Road Railroad crossing closure
Author: Eric Larson, Asst. County Manager
Department: Development Services
Meeting Date: April 19, 2022
Item Description: Withdraw a railroad crossing closure request at DeWitt Road.

Summary Recommendation:

The County desires to create a new railroad crossing of the Norfolk Southern railroad to promote growth in the County. NSRR typically requires the commitment of the community to close an existing crossing per requirements of the Federal Railway Administration. Working with representatives of NSRR, County staff recommended the railroad crossing at DeWitt Road for consideration for closure. On March 18, 2022, NSRR sent the County a revised agreement that does not require the closure of Dewitt Road's railroad crossing. No action is needed.

Executive Summary/Background:

- The County desired to consider closing the crossing on DeWitt Road and publicly announced on January 4th the intent to close.
- The County Board of Commissioners conducted a public comment period from January 4, 2022 to February 3, 2022. No comments were received.
- The County Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing at the February 15, 2022 regularly scheduled Commission meeting. The item was tabled for 1 month for staff to prepare a plan for needed improvements to the roads.
- The County Board of Commissioners had planned on conducting a second public hearing and considering a motion to close the crossing at the March 15, 2022 regularly scheduled Commission meeting. However, that meeting was also tabled for further negotiations with NSRR.
- On March 18, 2022, NSRR rescinded the requirement to close a 3rd railroad crossing, Dewitt Road.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider

Alternate #1 – No action needed.

Department Review: County Engineering; County Attorney

Funding Source: N/A

Attachments: None