

Admin Report - Rail Whistle Cessation at Marquis Drive Crossing.docx

ISSUE

Train whistling at the Marquis Drive at-grade CN rail crossing disrupts the quality of life for area residents. The Administration and Canadian National Railway (CN) have been working through the requirements in order to achieve whistle cessation. A final step is the municipality passing a resolution agreeing train whistling should not be used at the crossing.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation recommend to City Council:

1. That the City of Saskatoon is in agreement with train whistling not being used at the Marquis Drive crossing, known as CN Warman Subdivision, Mile 8.50; and
2. That the Administration provide the City Council resolution to Canadian National Railway and Transport Canada's Rail Safety Directorate headquarters.

BACKGROUND

The City of Saskatoon recently installed concrete barriers around the gates and warning flashers at the Marquis Drive crossing, known as CN Warman Subdivision, Mile 8.50, to address the final safety concern raised by CN during their evaluation of the crossing for safety and whistle cessation. This completes the required upgrades and the Administration and CN agree that Transport Canada's provisions for whistle cessation are now satisfied.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

A formal resolution from the municipality agreeing that train whistling should not be used at the crossing is the final requirement by the City in the whistle cessation process.

IMPLICATIONS

The whistle cessation will improve the quality of life for area residents. Providing CN and Transport Canada with a resolution from City Council agreeing that train whistling should not be used is required for CN and Transport Canada to issue a whistle cessation order.

There are no legal, financial, or environmental implications identified.

NEXT STEPS

If approved, a copy of the City Council resolution will be sent to CN and Transport Canada's Rail Safety Directorate headquarters.

CN will notify Transport Canada and inform the municipality within 30 days that it has arranged to have the train whistle ceased at the crossing.

Report Approval

Written by: Goran Lazic, Senior Transportation Engineer
Reviewed by: David LeBoutillier, Engineering Manager, Transportation
Jay Magus, Director of Transportation
Approved by: Terry Schmidt, General Manager, Transportation & Construction
Department

Admin Report - Admin Report - Rail Whistle Cessation at Marquis Drive Crossing.docx.docx