



CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP CITY OF BAY CITY

Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 4:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 1901 5th Street

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor: Robert K. Nelson

Mayor Pro Tem: Becca Sitz

Council Members: Benjamin Flores, Jim Folse, Bradley Westmoreland, Blayne Finlay

Vision Statement

We envision Bay City as a thriving, family-centered community where our citizens can live, work, worship, and play, while welcoming visitors to experience our beautiful environment and diverse culture.

AGENDA

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WILL BE ADDRESSED AT THIS OR ANY OTHER MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL UPON THE REQUEST OF THE MAYOR, ANY MEMBER(S) OF COUNCIL AND/OR THE CITY ATTORNEY:

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE MAYOR THAT COUNCIL WILL RETIRE INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR CONSULTATION WITH CITY ATTORNEY ON MATTERS IN WHICH THE DUTY OF THE ATTORNEY TO THE CITY COUNCIL UNDER THE TEXAS DISCIPLINARY RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT OF THE STATE BAR OF TEXAS CLEARLY CONFLICTS WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (TITLE 5, CHAPTER 551, SECTION 551.071(2) OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE).

CALL TO ORDER AND CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

REGULAR ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND/OR APPROVAL

1. **Presentation ~ Receive and discuss HDR Quiet Zone Study and take any action deemed necessary.** Herb Blomquist, Public Works Director

ITEMS / COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL MEMBERS AND CITY MANAGER

ADJOURNMENT

AGENDA NOTICES:

Attendance By Other Elected or Appointed Officials: It is anticipated that members of other city board, commissions and/or committees may attend the meeting in numbers that may constitute a quorum of the other city boards, commissions and/or committees. Notice is hereby given that the meeting, to the extent required by law, is also noticed as a meeting of the other boards, commissions and/or committees of the City, whose members may be in attendance. The members of the boards, commissions and/or committees may participate in discussions on the same items listed on the agenda, which occur at the meeting, but no action will be taken by such in attendance unless such item and action is specifically provided for on an agenda for that board, commission or committee subject to the Texas Open Meetings Act.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

This is to certify that the above notice of a Regular Called Council Meeting was posted on the front window of the City Hall of the City of Bay City, Texas on **May 23, 2025 before 4:30 p.m.** Any questions concerning the above items, please contact the Mayor and City Manager's office at (979) 245-2137.

City of Bay City Quiet Zone Workshop

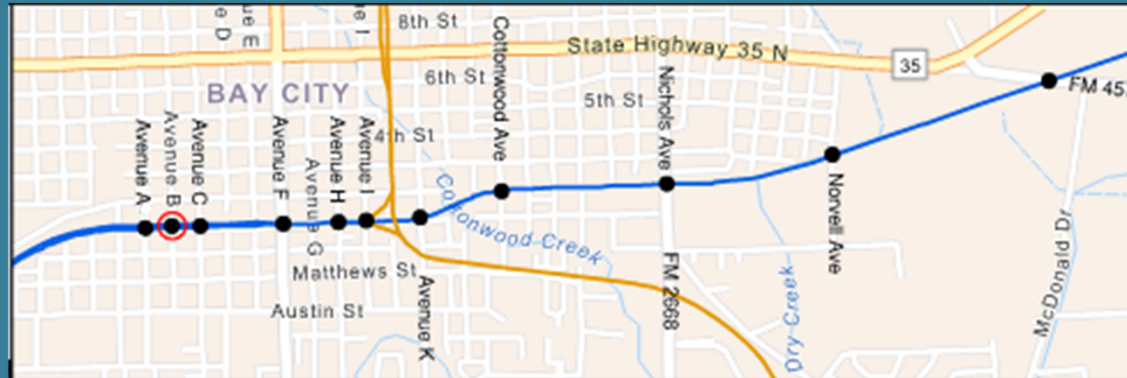


May 22, 2025

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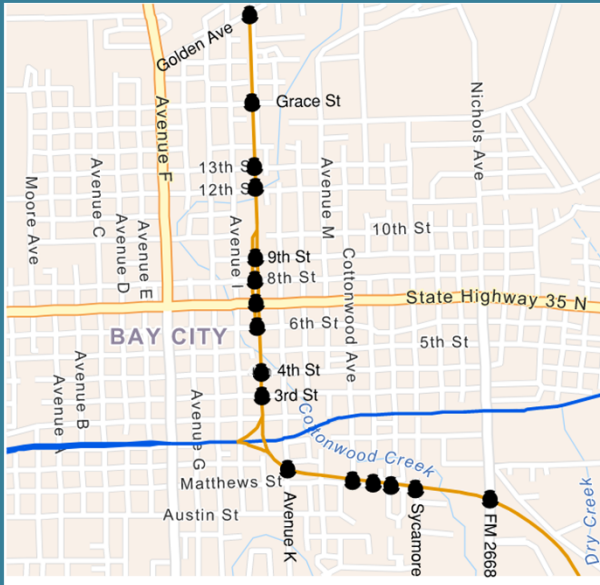
What is a Quiet Zone

- A Quiet Zone is...
 - A quiet zone is an area with reduced train horn noise. The following helpful definitions come from the Federal Railroad Administration
 - Under the Train Horn rule (49 CFR Part 222), locomotive engineers must begin to sound train horns at least 15 seconds, and no more than 20 seconds, in advance of all public grade crossings.
 - In a **Quiet Zone**, railroads have been directed to not sound their horns when approaching grade crossings. Train horns may still be used in emergency situations or to comply with other federal guidelines or railroad operating rules
- A Quiet Zone is not...
 - **Emergencies:** Locomotive engineers may still sound the horn in case of emergencies such as a vehicle, person or even an animal on the tracks or the crossing.
 - **Yard Operations:** Locomotive engineers are still required to sound the horn to signal yard operations (**This is not an issue within Bay City**)



UPRR Angleton Subdivision

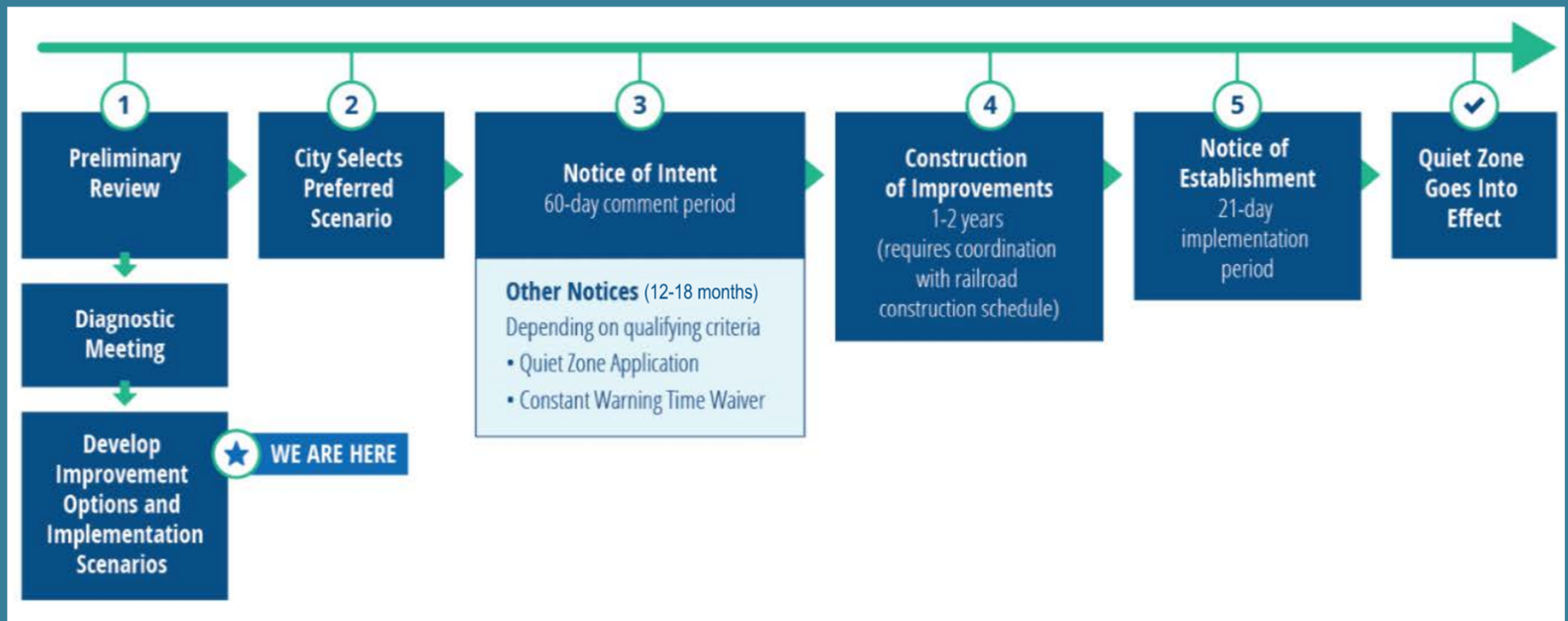
- 10 – 20 Trains per day
- No Private Crossings
- All Crossings Currently Meet Min Requirements



BNSF Bay City Subdivision

- 2 – 4 Trains per day
- 3 Private Crossings
- Not all Crossings Have Minimum Requirements

Quiet Zone Implementation Process



Minimum Requirements

UPRR Angleton Sub

Street	Crossing Type	Gates	Lights	CWT
Avenue A	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
Avenue B	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
Avenue C	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
Avenue F/SH 60	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
Avenue H	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
Avenue I	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
Avenue K	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cottonwood Ave	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
FM 2668/Nicholas	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
Norvell Ave	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
FM 457	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes

Minimum Requirements

BNSF Bay City Sub

Street	Crossing Type	Gates	Lights	CWT
Golden Avenue	Public	Yes	Yes	No
Grace Street	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
13 th Street	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
12 th Street	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
9 th Street	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
8 th Street	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
7 th / SH 35	Public	No	Yes	Yes
6 th Street	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
4 th Street	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
3 rd Street	Public	Yes	Yes	Yes
Private Xings	Private	No	Yes	Yes
Sycamore Ave	Private	No	Yes	Yes
FM 2668/Nichols	Public	No	Yes	Yes

Risk Analysis

- Once each crossing in the study corridor meets the minimum warning requirements. **The Next Step** is to determine what safety improvements are needed for each crossing to qualify as a quiet zone. The **FRA** determines this qualification based on a **Standardized Risk Analysis Formula**.
 - The FRA allows quiet zone qualification by meeting one of the two risk thresholds.
 - **Risk Index with Horns (RIWH)** – this risk level is equivalent to the existing risk levels with horns sounding and no additional improvements
 - **Nationwide Significant Risk Threshold (NSRT)** - This risk level is the national average of all non-quiet zone public grade crossings equipped with gates and lights
- Importantly...
 - The FRA **DOES NOT** require additional safety improvements at every crossing. The risk is measured using a corridor-wide average of the risk at all crossings included in the proposed quiet zone.

Safety Improvement Options

- FRA Pre Approved Improvement Options
 - Category 1 – **Supplemental Safety Measures** (SSMs)
 - Medians
 - Channelization
 - Closure
 - One Way Street
 - Category 2 – **Alternative Safety Measures** (ASMs)
 - Reduced Length Medians/Channelization
 - Three Quadrant Gates
 - Category 3 – **Other**
 - Wayside Horn

Category 1 – Four Quadrant Gates



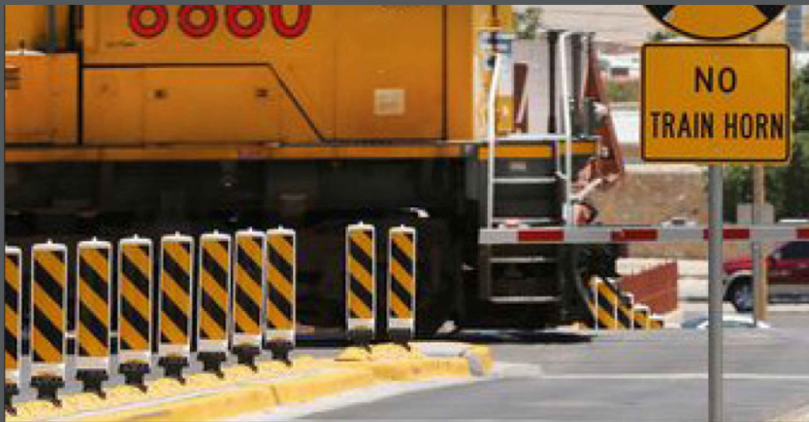
- This improvement adds a second set of gates to completely block the crossing.
 - Risk Reduction 77-82%
 - Cost \$600K – \$900K
 - Annual Maintenance Cost \$5,000-\$10,000

Category 1 – Medians



- This improvement adds a raised median on the roadway approaches to the crossing.
 - Risk Reduction 80%
 - Cost \$30K – \$100K

Category 1 – Channelization



- This improvement functions similarly to median improvements but can be used in locations where roadway width is a concern.
 - Risk Reduction 75%
 - Cost \$10K – \$30K
 - Annual Maintenance \$1K-5K

Category 1 – Closure



- This improvement functions similarly to median improvements but can be used in locations where roadway width is a concern.
 - Risk Reduction 100%
 - Cost \$0K – \$20K
 - Cost Incentives from Railroad/TxDOT

Category 1 – One Way Street



- One-way street configurations allow the crossing to be fully blocked by two gates on one side.
 - Risk Reduction 82%
 - Cost Variable

Category 2 – Reduced Length Medians/Channelization



- Identical to the median improvements but include medians less than 60' or where a roadway intersection or commercial access is located within 60' of the crossing gate.
 - Risk Reduction 82%
 - Cost \$20K-\$100K

Category 2 – Three Quadrant Gates



- A hybrid combination of the four-quadrant gate and median options, this option includes two gates on one side of the crossing and a median at the other.
 - Risk Reduction 40-80%
 - Cost \$400K-\$800K

Category 3 – Wayside Horns



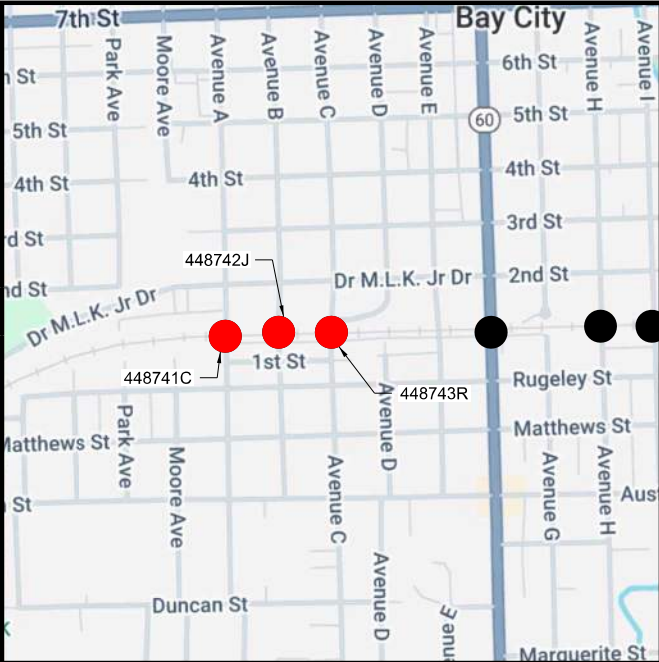
- This improvement emits a train horn sound at the crossing in place of the train horn.
 - Risk Reduction 40-80%
 - Cost \$100K

UPRR Angleton Sub Improvements



May 22, 2025

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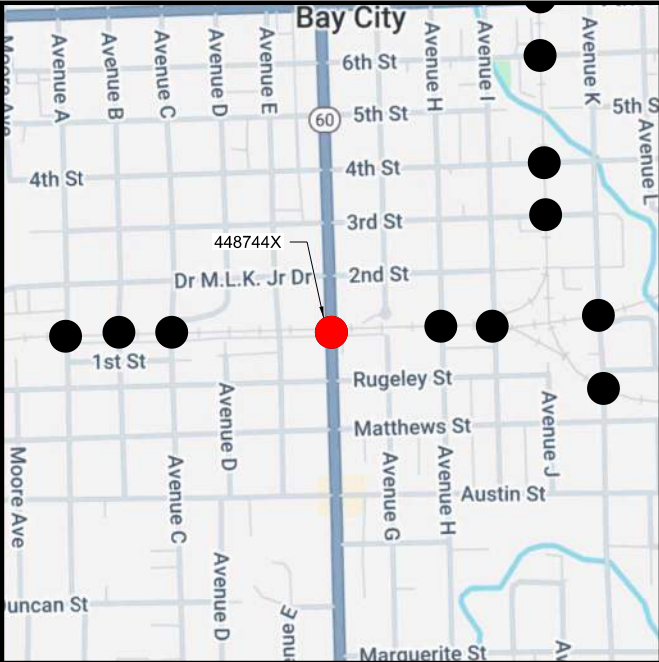
Suggested Improvements:

- 100' North medians for all crossings.
- 20' South medians for all crossings.



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BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB AVENUE A - 448741C AVENUE B - 448742J AVENUE C - 448743R EXHIBIT 1		
FILENAME	1_UP_AVE A (448741C) - AVE. B (448742J) - AVE. C (448743R)	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	01 OF 22



Suggested Improvements:

- 60' North median matching existing channelization geometry.
- 20' South median.

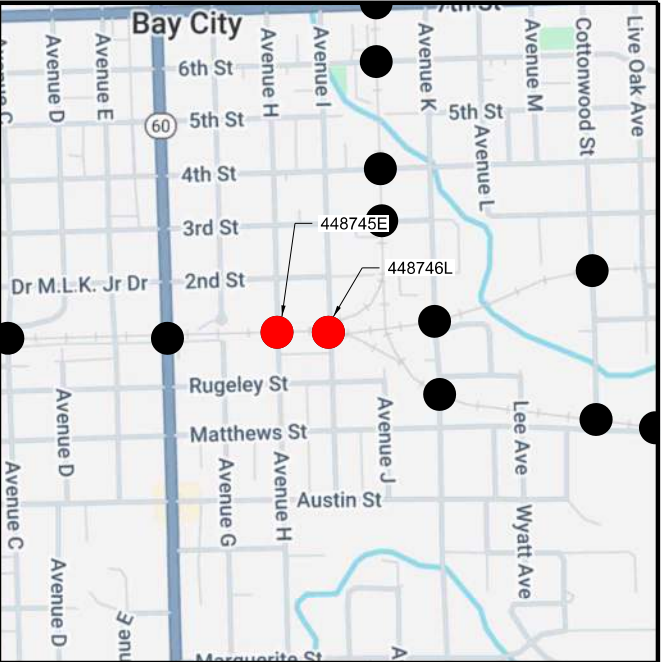


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BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB
AVENUE F/STATE HIGHWAY 60
448744X
EXHIBIT 2

FILENAME	2_UP_AVENUE F (448744X)	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	02 OF 22



Suggested Improvements:

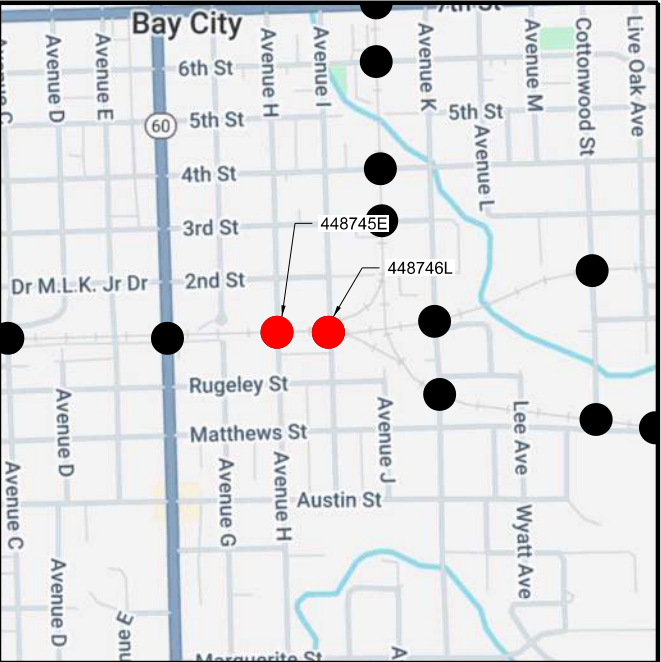
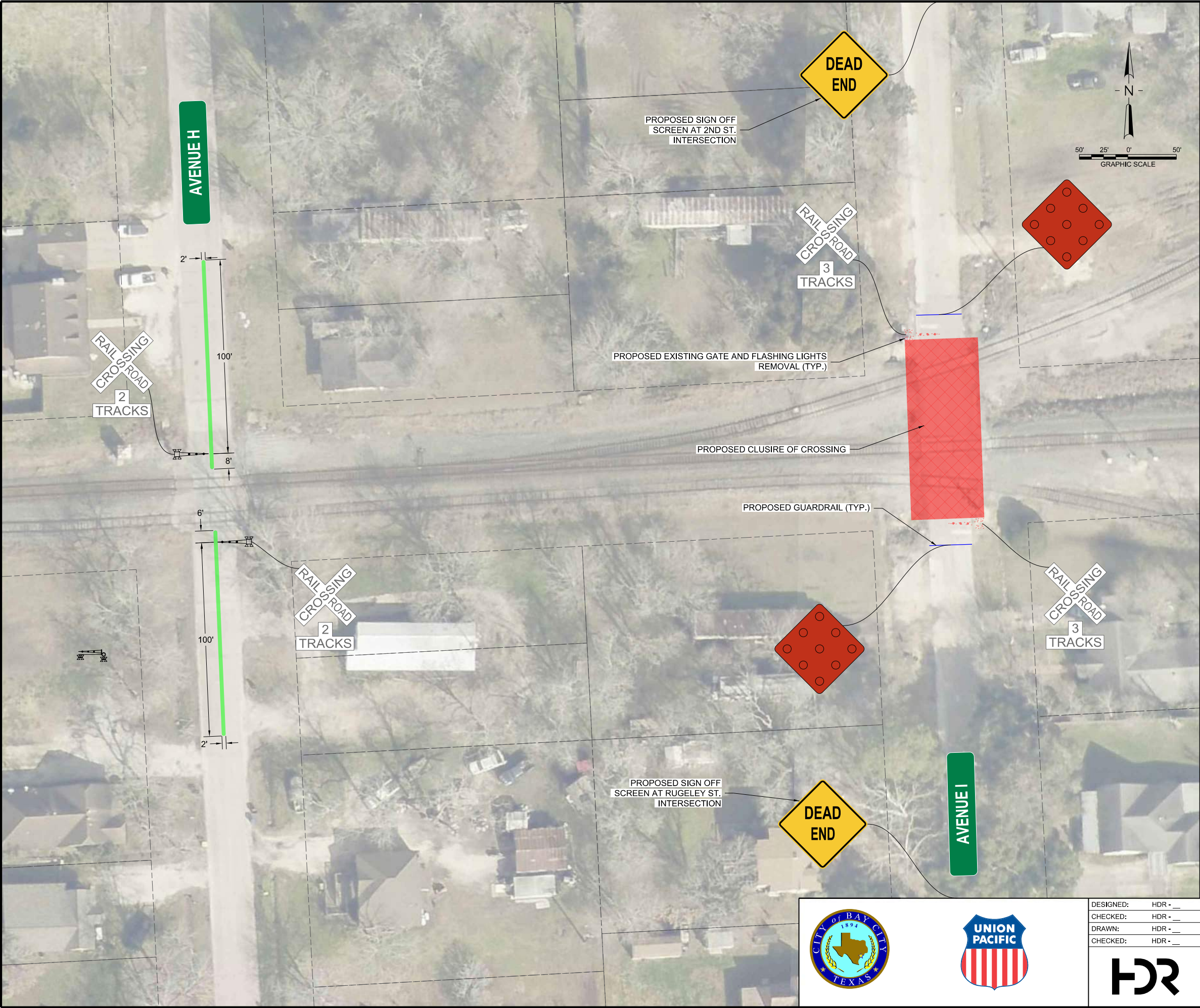
- Ave. H / 448745E:
- 100' North and south medians.
- Ave. I / 448746L:
- 100' North and south medians.



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BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB		
AVENUE H - 448745E AVENUE I - 448746L EXHIBIT 3A		
FILENAME	3A_UP_AVENUE H (448745E) - AVENUE I (448746L)	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	03 OF 22



Suggested Improvements:

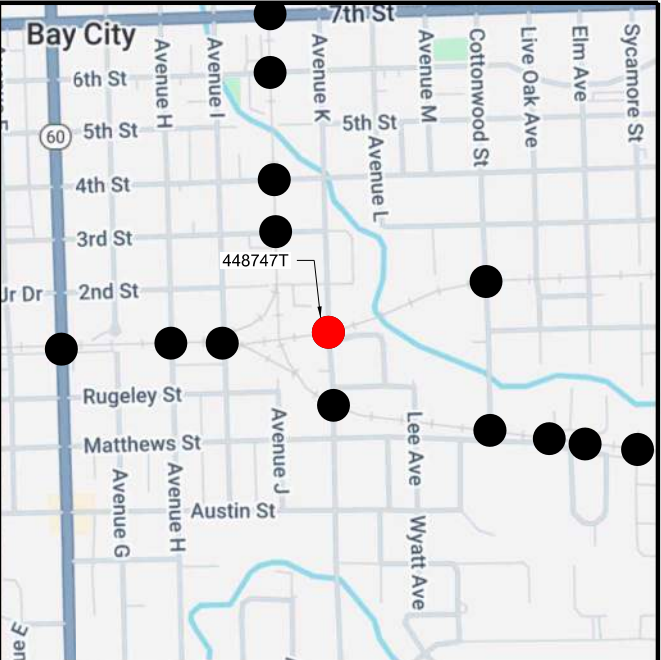
- Ave. H / 448745E:
- 100' North and south medians.
- Ave. I / 448746L:
- Closure of crossing.
 - Guard rails before crossing.
 - "Dead End" sign and "End of Road" markers.
 - Removal of existing gates and flashing lights.



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BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB		
AVENUE H - 448745E AVENUE I - 448746L EXHIBIT 3B		
FILENAME	3B_UP_AVENUE H (448745E) - AVENUE I (448746L)_B	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	04 OF 22



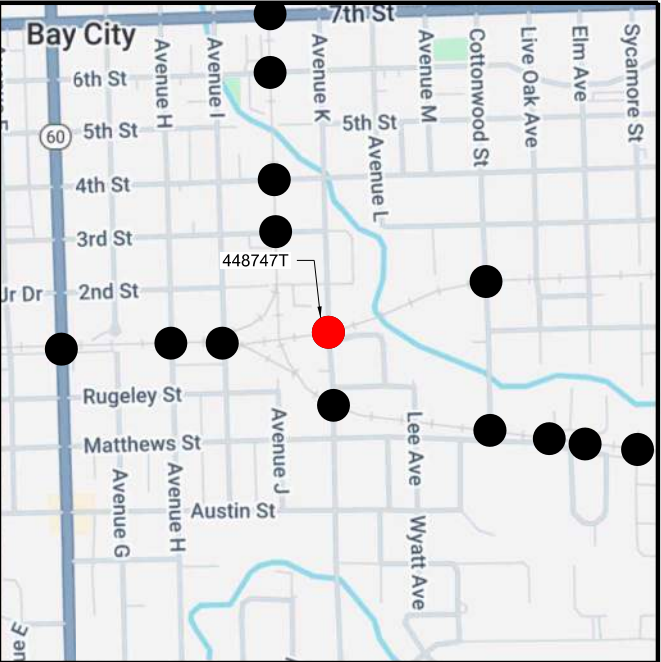
- Suggested Improvements:**
- 100' North median.
 - 36' South median.



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BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB		
AVENUE K 448747T EXHIBIT 4A		
FILENAME	4A_UP_AVENUE K (448747T)	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	05 OF 22



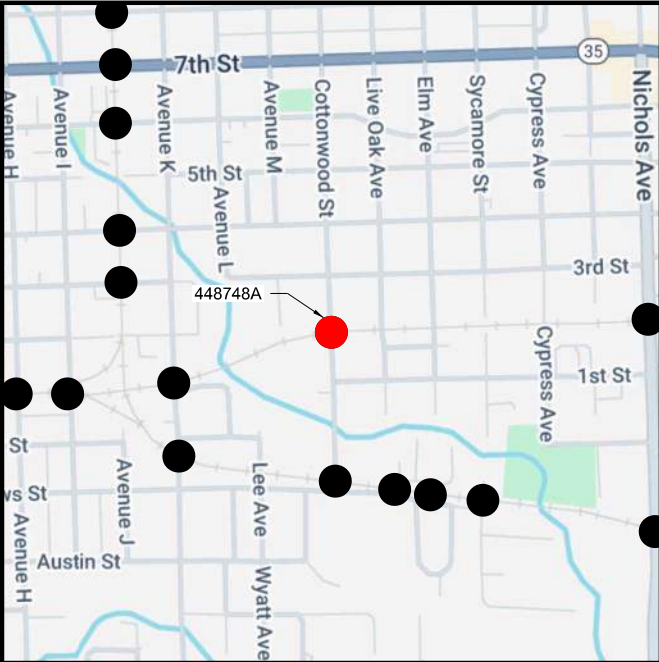
- Suggested Improvements:**
- 1st St. closure.
 - Proposed "Dead End" sign and "End of Road" marker.
 - 100' north and south medians.



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BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB		
AVENUE K 448747T EXHIBIT 4B		
FILENAME	4B_UP_AVENUE K (448747T)	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	06 OF 22



Suggested Improvements:

- 100' North and south medians.



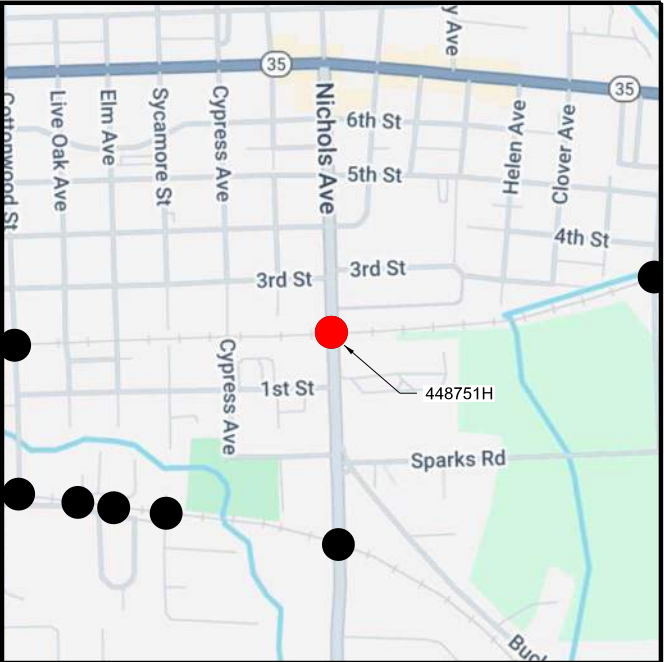
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BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB
COTTONWOOD AVENUE
448748A
EXHIBIT 5

FILENAME: 5_UP_COTTONWOOD AVENUE (448748A)
DATE: April, 2025

SHEET
07 OF 22



Suggested Improvements:

- 100' North and south medians.



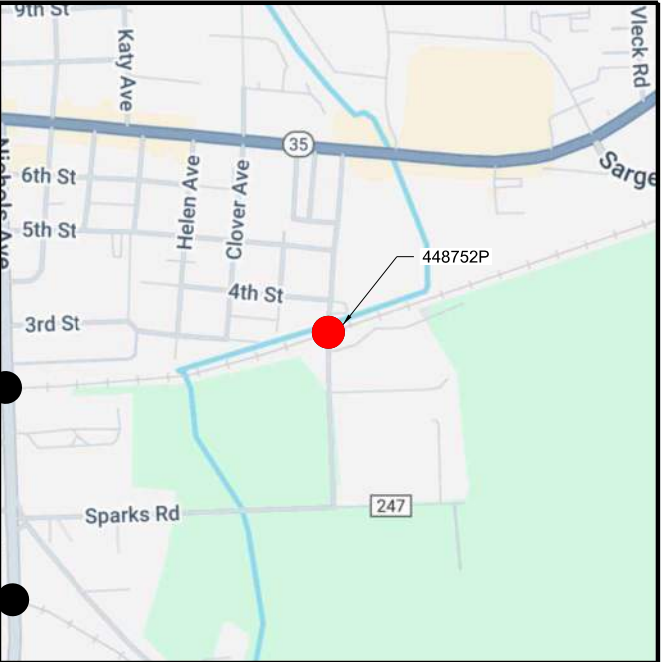
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BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB
FM 2668 NICHOLAS AVENUE
448751H
EXHIBIT 6

FILENAME: 6_UP_FM 2668 NICHOLAS AVENUE (448751H)
DATE: April, 2025

SHEET
08 OF 22



Suggested Improvements:

- 100' North and south medians.



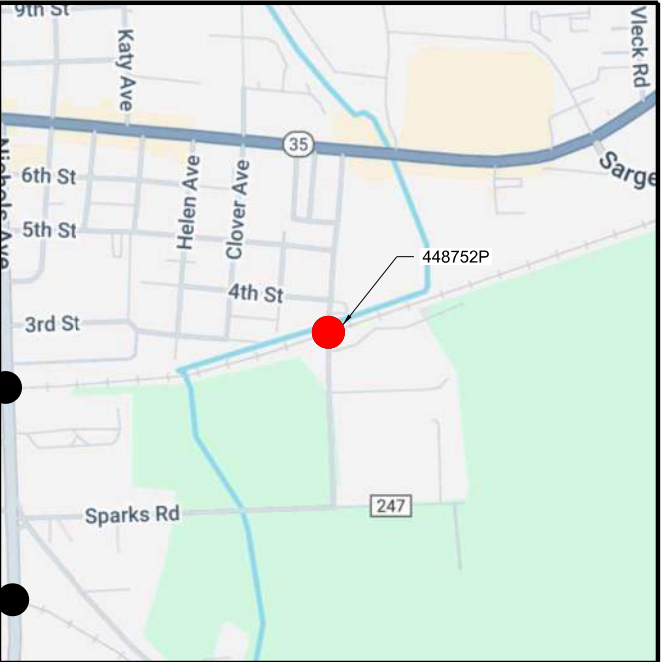
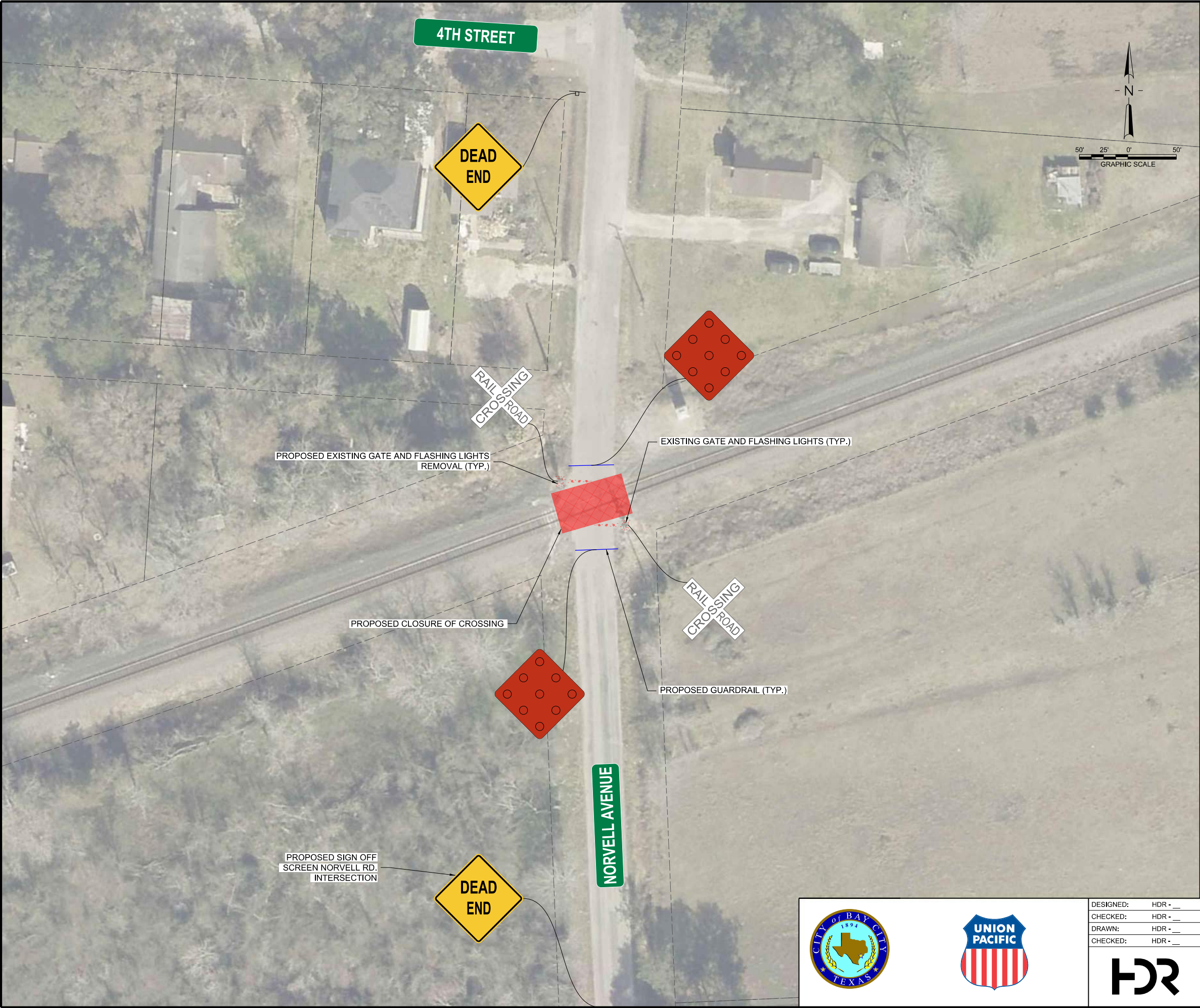
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BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB
NORVELL AVENUE
448752P
EXHIBIT 7A

FILENAME: 7A_UP_NORVELL AVENUE (448752P)
DATE: April, 2025

SHEET
09 OF 22



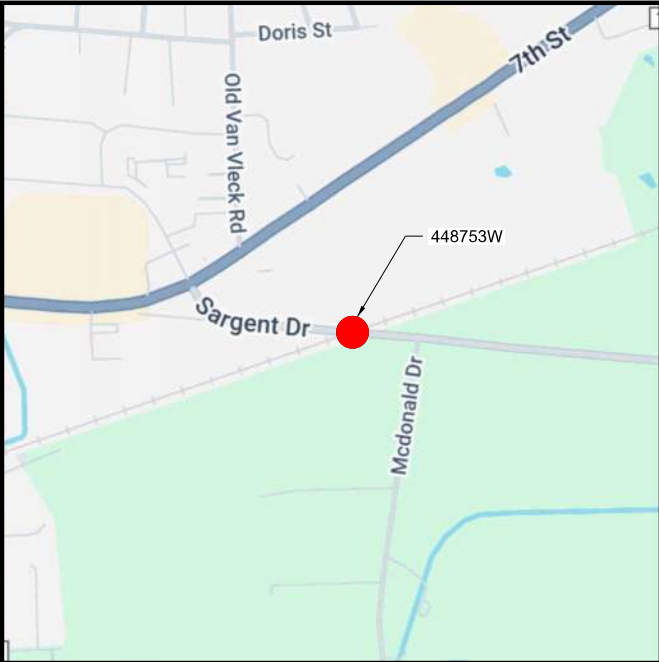
- Suggested Improvements:**
- Closure of crossing.
 - Guard rails before crossing.
 - "Dead End" sign and "End of Road" markers.
 - Removal of existing gates and flashing lights.



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BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB		
NORVELL ROAD 448752P EXHIBIT 7B		
FILENAME	7B_UP_NORVELL AVENUE (448752P)	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	10 OF 22



Suggested Improvements:

- 100' North and south medians.



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BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - UPRR ANGLETON SUB
FM 457 SARGENT DRIVE
448753W
EXHIBIT 8

FILENAME: 8_UP_FM 457 SARGENT DRIVE (448753W)
DATE: April, 2025

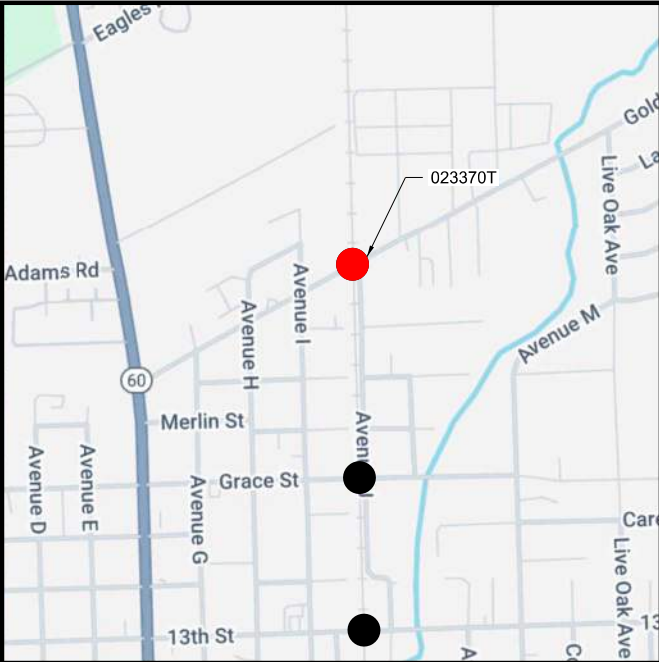
SHEET
11 OF 22

BNSF Bay City Sub Improvements



May 22, 2025

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Suggested Improvements:

- 43' West median.
- 33' East median.



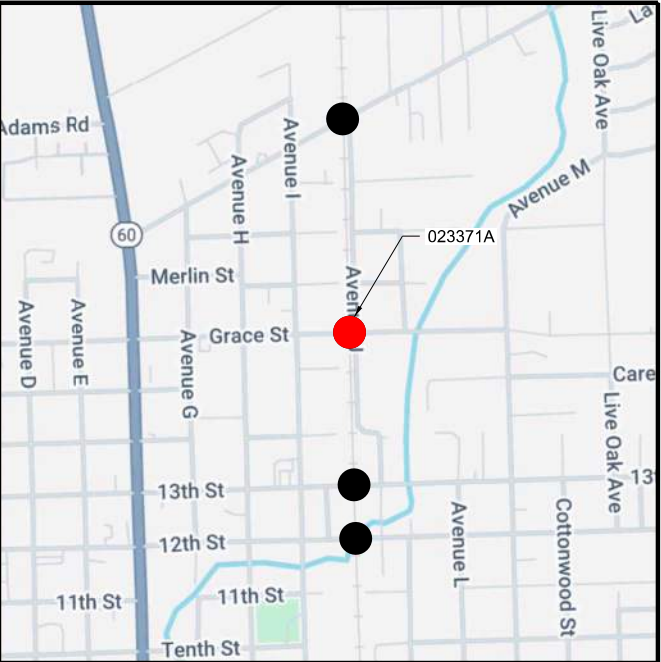
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BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB
GOLDEN AVENUE
023370T
EXHIBIT 9

FILENAME: 9_BNSF_GOLDEN AVENUE (023370T)
DATE: April, 2025

SHEET
12 OF 22



- Suggested Improvements**
- 100' West median.
 - 15' East median.

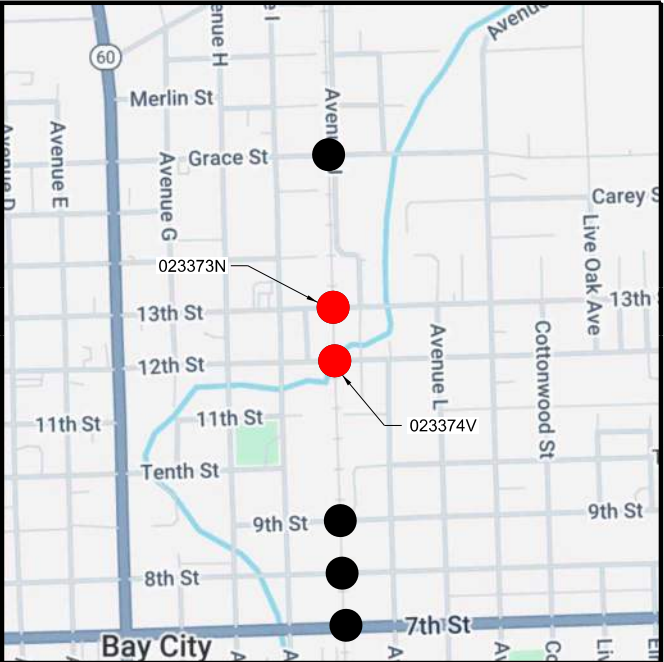


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BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB
GRACE STREET
023371A
EXHIBIT 10

FILENAME	10_BNSF_GRACE STREET (023371A)	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	13 OF 22



Suggested Improvements:

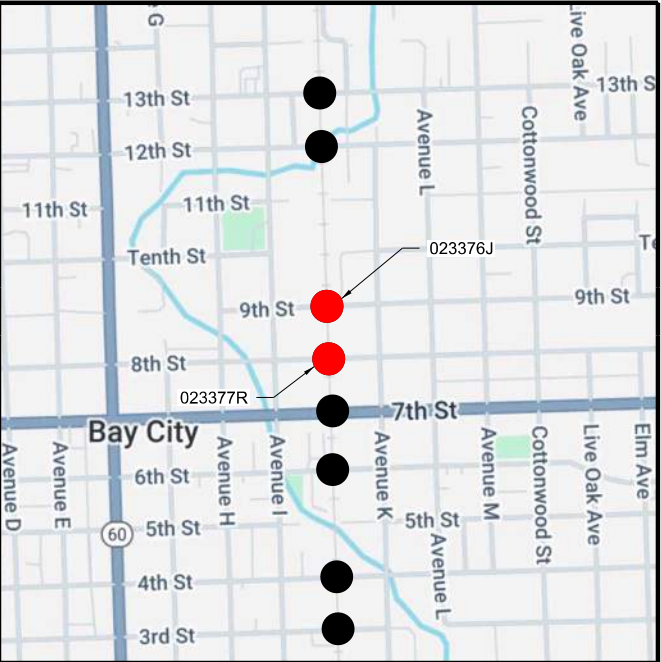
- 100' West and eastern medians.



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BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB
13TH STREET - 023373N
12TH STREET - 023374V
EXHIBIT 11



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:

- 9th St. / 023376J:
- 100' west median; match existing roadway geometry.
 - No east median.
- 8th St. / 023377R:
- 100' West median.
 - 40' East median.



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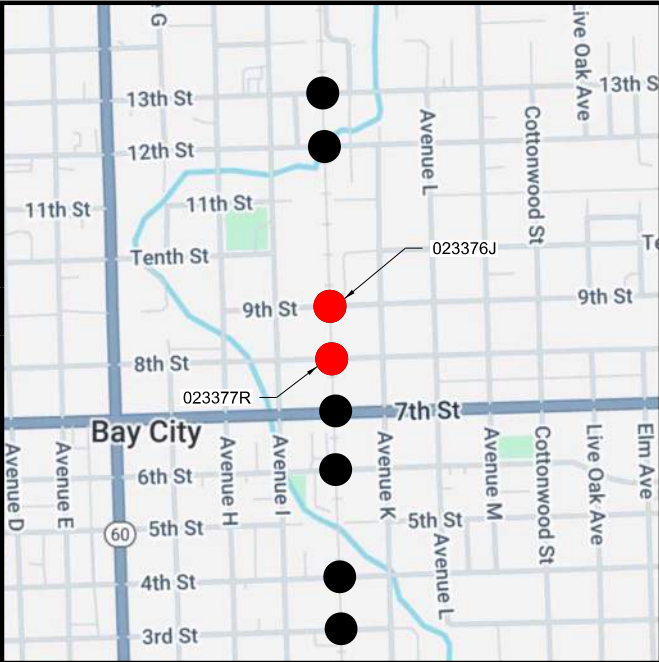
BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB

9TH STREET - 023376J
8TH STREET - 023377R
EXHIBIT 12A

FILE NAME: BNSF_9TH STREET (023376J) - 8TH STREET (023377R)

DATE: April, 2025

15 OF 22



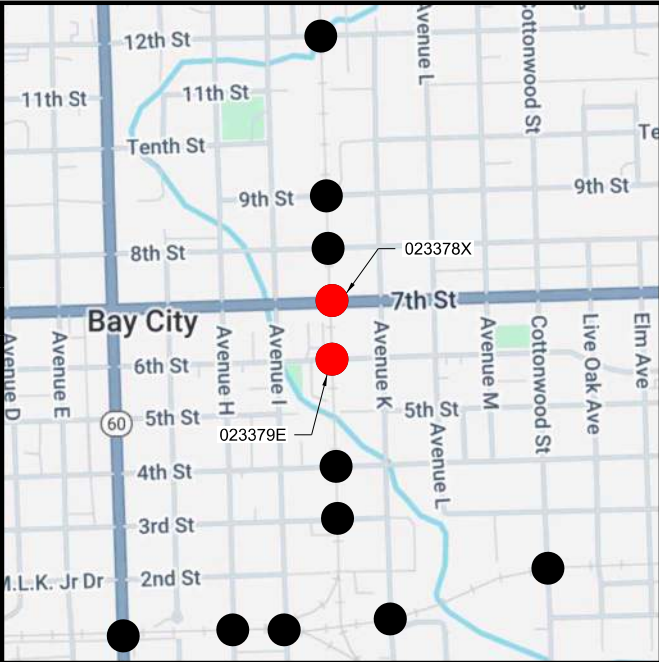
PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:

- 9th St. / 023376J:
- Closure of crossing.
 - Guard rails before crossing.
 - "Dead End" sign and "End of Road" markers.
 - Removal of existing gates and flashing lights.
- 8th St. / 023377R:
- 100' West median.
 - 60' East median.



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BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB	
9TH STREET - 023376J 8TH STREET - 023377R EXHIBIT 12B	
FILE NAME: 9TH STREET (023376J) - 8TH STREET (023377R)	16 OF 22
DATE: April, 2025	



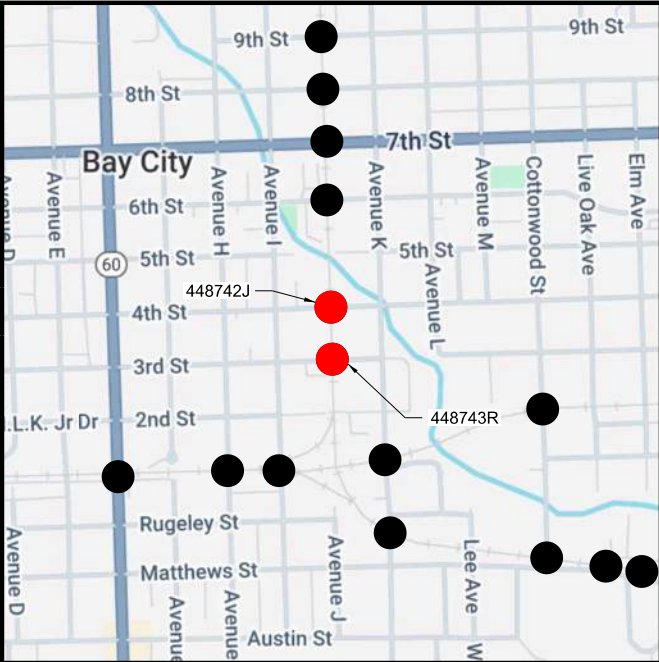
Suggested Improvements:

- 7th St. / 023378X:
- 90' West median; match existing channelization striping.
 - 42' East median; match double left turn lane's width.
 - Gates.
- 6th St. / 023379E:
- 100' West median.
 - 20' East median.



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BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB	
7TH STREET/STATE HIGHWAY 35 - 023378X 6TH STREET - 023379E EXHIBIT 13	
FILE NAME: BNSF_7TH ST HWY 35 (023378X) - 6TH ST (023379E)	SHEET
DATE: April, 2025	17 OF 22



Suggested Improvements:

- 4th St. / 448742J:
- 100' West median.
 - 60' East median.

- 3rd St. / 448743R:
- 100' West median.
 - 60' East median.



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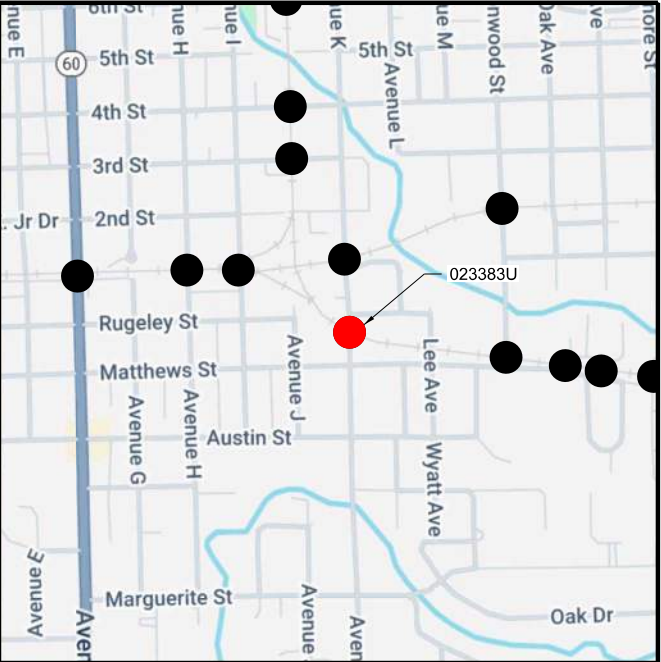
BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB

4TH STREET - 023380Y
3RD STREET - 023381F
EXHIBIT 14

FILE NAME: BNSF_4TH STREET (023380Y) - 3RD STREET (023381F)

DATE:

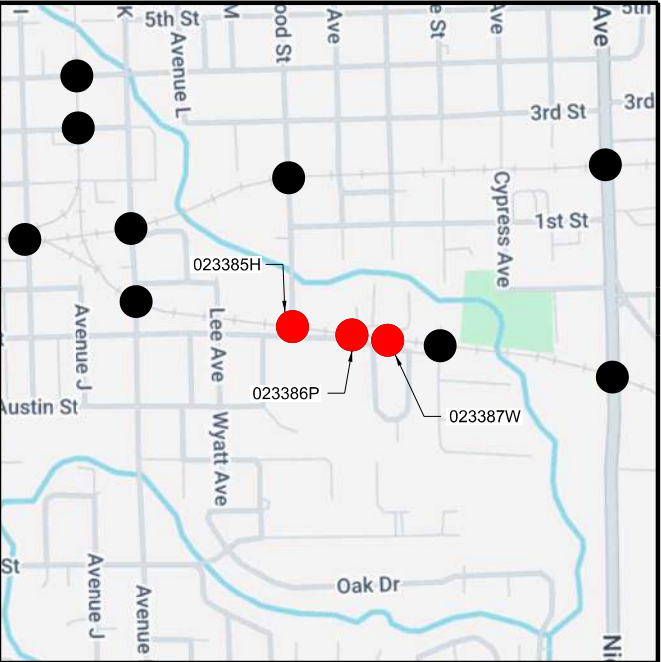
April, 2025



Suggested Improvements:

- Ave. K / 023383U:
- 60' North median.
 - 100' South median.

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		CHECKED: HDR - ____	
  		BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB AVENUE K 023383U EXHIBIT 15	
		FILENAME: 15_BNSF_AVENUE K (023383U)	SHEET: 19 OF 22
		DATE: April, 2025	



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:

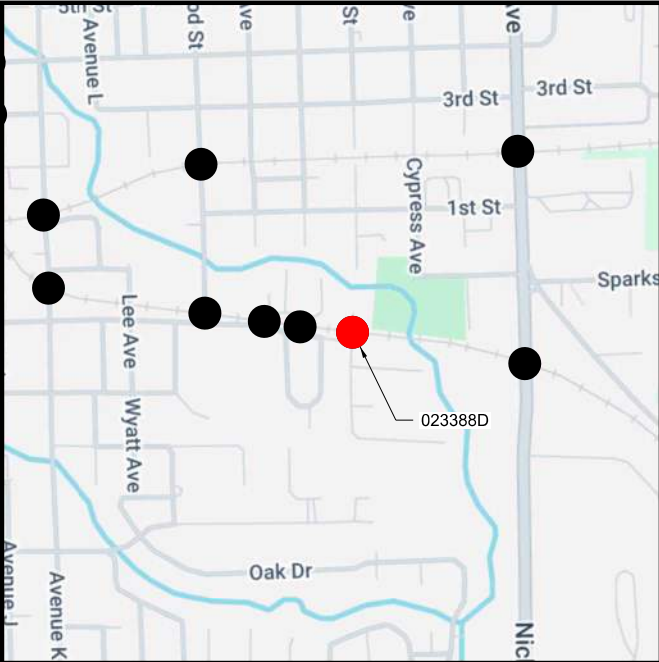
- Cottonwood Ave. / 023385H:
- 100' North median.
 - 45' Median.
- Private Rd. / 023386P:
- Closure.
- Private Rd. / 023387W:
- Closure.
- New Crossing / ID TBD:
- Roadway to connect Oak Ave. and Ave. C.
 - Crossing panels.
 - Stop Signs at crossing.



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BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB COTTONWOOD AVENUE - 023385H PRIVATE ROAD - 023386P PRIVATE ROAD - 023387W EXHIBIT 16		
16. BNSF COTTONWOOD AVE (023385H) - PVT RD (023386P) - SHED (023387W)	DATE:	April, 2025
		20 OF 22



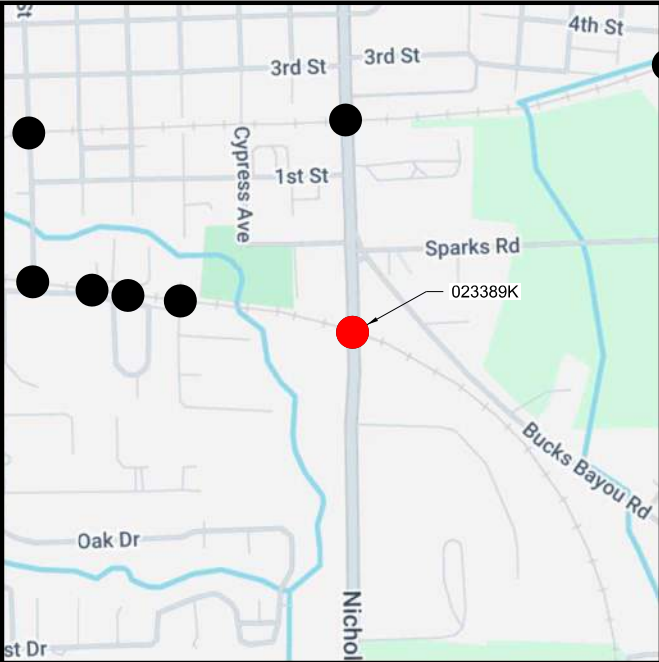
Suggested Improvement:
• TBD.



DESIGNED: HDR - ____
CHECKED: HDR - ____
DRAWN: HDR - ____
CHECKED: HDR - ____



BAY CITY, TX QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB		
SYCAMORE AVENUE 023388D EXHIBIT 17		
FILENAME	17_BNSF_SYCAMORE AVENUE (023388D)	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	21 OF 22



Suggested Improvement:

- 100' North median.
- 60' South median.
- Gates
- Southwest driveway removal.



DESIGNED:	HDR -
CHECKED:	HDR -
DRAWN:	HDR -
CHECKED:	HDR -



BAY CITY, TX
QUIET ZONE ASSESSMENT - BNSF BAY CITY SUB
FM 2668 NICHOLS AVENUE
023389K
EXHIBIT 18

FILENAME	18_BNSF_FM 2668 NICHOLS AVENUE	SHEET
DATE:	April, 2025	22 OF 22