

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: November 15, 2018

Item Number: **038**

Transportation

Authorize negotiation and execution of Public Highway At-Grade Crossing Agreements with the Union Pacific Railroad to establish the Pressler/Paul Street Railroad Quiet Zone Project in an amount not to exceed \$2,087,555. Related to Item 37.

District(s) Affected: District 9

Lead Department	Austin Transportation Department
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$1,611,379 is available from Pressler RRI, LP, and funding in the amount of \$476,176 is available from City of Austin Pressler Street 2012 Prop 12 Bond funds.
For More Information	Robert Spillar, 512-974-2488; Annick Beaudet, 512-974-7959; Paul Terranova, 512-974-7163; Gilda Powers, 512-974-7092

Additional Backup Information:

With approval of this action, the City and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) will enter into Public Highway At-Grade Crossing Agreements in a total amount not to exceed \$2,087,555. Subject to Council authorization, the City and Pressler RRI, LP, Inc. will enter into advanced funding agreements whereby Pressler RRI, LP will provide the City with funding of the estimated cost of \$1,289,103 plus 25% contingency of \$322,276 for a total of \$1,611,379 in advance of the work to be performed and invoiced to the City by UPRR. The City will appropriate the remaining 25% contingency in the amount of \$322,276 plus Railroad Grants Right fixed fees of \$153,900 for a total of \$476,176 from Pressler Street 2012 Prop 12 Bond funds.

The Developer, Pressler RRI, LP is building a mixed-use development (site plan SP-2016-0413C) in the area adjacent to and surrounding the intersections of Pressler and Paul Streets and 5th Street. The Developer has therefore approached the City and requested that the City, at Developer's cost, assist Developer in its effort to establish a Quiet Zone at the Union Pacific Railroad's at-grade crossings of Pressler and Paul Streets in order to restrict the use of train horns for 24 hours per day, seven days per week. The Quiet Zone will be implemented by installing certain railroad control devices and roadway improvements to minimize the risk of vehicular traffic crossing in front of a moving train. These measures will also reduce the Quiet Zone Risk Index to a level equal to or less than the Risk Index with horns.

The railroad improvements include upgrading the existing train detection system and the grade crossing protection equipment, will be designed and constructed by UPRR, and will be coordinated with the proposed Seaholm District Railroad Pedestrian and Bicycle Crossing project across the UPRR tracks at 3rd Street on the west side of Lamar Blvd.

UPRR has estimated the variable costs to be \$1,289,103 plus Railroad Grants Right fixed fees of \$153,900. Due to the likelihood of field change orders and the complexity of work in the railroad right-of-way, the City has added a 50% contingency for a total cost of the railroad improvements in the amount not to exceed \$2,087,555.

The Notice of Intent (NOI) for the establishment of the Quiet Zone will be submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration by the City.