

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING will be held on Tuesday, February 23 at 6:00 P.M. at the offices of the Eaton County Road Commission, 1112 Reynolds Road, Charlotte, MI, for the purpose of answering questions and hearing public comments on:

The proposed CLOSURE or the proposed IMPROVEMENT with signal lights, gates and audible warning devices at the existing railroad grade crossing of

SPICERVILLE HIGHWAY

at the Canadian National (CN) Railroad between White Road and Battle Creek Road in sections 5 and 8, Walton Township, Eaton County.

Further information on the proposed action is available before the scheduled meeting date at the offices of the Eaton County Road Commission, or by calling 517.543.1630 ext. 205 or ext. 207 or 877.883.2866.

Any person wishing to present comments on the proposed action is requested to be present. A person wishing to present a written statement or an exhibit to the Road Commission before or after the meeting should convey that statement or exhibit within 10 days of the Meeting.

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS

Dorothy E. Maxwell, Chairman
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General Information

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Rail conducted a Diagnostic Study Team Review (DSTR) of the traffic safety needs at the existing railroad crossing on Spicerville Highway in August of 2015. The criteria for selecting this crossing for the study was determined by the MDOT. The review and report concluded that the speed and volume of both vehicles and trains at the crossing met nationally recognized criteria for taking additional action to reduce the potential for train-vehicle crashes at the crossing. Expected increases in the number of trains per day and normal yearly increases in vehicle traffic volume will increase the risk of train/vehicle crashes in the future.

Subsequently, the MDOT issued its Order to the Eaton County Road Commission and the Canadian National Railroad to do ONE of the following:

1. Permanently close the crossing to road vehicle traffic and block all road vehicle access to the railroad tracks at that location and remove the road crossing surface,

OR

2. Install, operate and maintain signs, signal lights, warning bells, and half roadway gates on both sides of the railroad tracks on Spicerville Highway, all to be activated and operated whenever a train is in or near the crossing.

At the Spicerville Highway crossing there are currently about 55 road vehicle crossings each week day, and 27 or more trains travelling through the crossing each day.

Before making a decision on the preferred alternate, The Eaton County Road Commission would like to consider the comments, concerns, and opinions of the both the residents in the vicinity of the crossing who will be most affected by the decision, and the comments of any other individual or organization that may have an interest in the proposed action.

You can make a comment or ask questions by attending the meeting, by writing a letter to the Road Commission at 1112 Reynolds Road, Charlotte, Mi 48813, by sending an email to ecrc@eatoncountyroad.com, or by calling the Road Commission business office at 517-543-1630.