

Hillsborough Township

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hillsborough's Railroad Quiet Zones Officially Re-Certified

Each of the four railroad crossings of the Norfolk Southern line in Hillsborough Township have been re-certified by a licensed engineer and the Federal Railroad Administration.

On April 28th and July 11th, a licensed Professional Engineer from Maser Consulting P.A. inspected each of the four highway-railroad grade crossings on the Norfolk Southern line located in Hillsborough Township. Each of the four crossings were found to be in compliance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 222, Appendix A, *Approved Supplementary Safety Measures*.

"With the railroad upgrades being re-certified, Hillsborough will continue to qualify for the Federal Railroad Administration's Quiet Zone designation along the Norfolk Southern line, which has a major positive impact on the quality of life for thousands of residents living near the line," stated Committeeman Greg Burchette, the Township Committee Liaison to Engineering.

The initial project required the construction of 4' wide, 100' long, raised islands at both approaches to the crossing and the installation of a Power-Out indicator at the Beekman Lane, Auten Road, and Roycefield Road, as well as the construction of two new gates at the Valley Road crossing. The project cost less than originally expected and benefited from a \$250,000 donation from Beazer Homes, the developer of the Pleasant View Estates.

The construction of the new safety features were completed at the Beekman Lane and Auten Road crossings in 2008, and those at the Valley Road and Roycefield Road crossings were completed in 2010. The Quiet Zones at each crossing were implemented soon after construction was completed.

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