Eliminating the Noise from Train Horns Every 17 Minutes Through Neighborhoods and Downtown

PROJECT VISION
About every 17 minutes, a Norfolk-Southern train sounds a continuous horn as it passes eight at-grade railroad crossings through Delphi’s historic downtown and otherwise quiet neighborhoods. This noise is not just an interruption at any hour, but it is significantly deteriorating quality of life for residents and downtown businesses. Even more, when the Delphi Opera House opens, the train horns will be an impediment to audience enjoyment.

This project will address this issue by implementing a “quiet zone” through Delphi. To create this quiet zone, seven of the railroad crossings will be improved and one (or more) closed to create safe crossings that do not require the trains to sound their horns. Improvements will vary at each crossing, but will center around the provision of cantilever arms that fully obstruct the crossing (disallowing vehicles to drive around arms that are down). Additionally, pavement will be channelized and advance warning signs installed in accordance with standard practice for quiet zones.

PROJECT READINESS
A preliminary evaluation of a quiet zone has been completed by HWC Engineering. After Stellar award and the completion of procurement, the City will engage Norfolk-Southern in a preliminary engineering agreement to plan for the crossings.

PROJECT BUDGET
$1.9 million

PROJECT SCHEDULE
2012: Complete procurement and grant application
2013: Coordination and design
2014: Coordination and design
2015: Construction

PROPOSED CROSSING TREATMENTS:
Seven crossings will be improved and one closed

**EXISTING CONDITION**

**PROPOSED QUIET ZONE:**
With this improvement, trains will no longer need to sound horns continuously through Delphi