



April 26, 2021

The Honorable Ed Perlmutter  
12600 West Colfax Avenue, Suite B-400  
Lakewood, CO 80215

Dear Congressman Perlmutter,

The residents of the City of Commerce City fully support the Wayside Horn Community Project Funding request. This project will provide much needed upgrades to the rail crossings that will make these crossings safer for motorists and significantly reduce the noise for nearby residents, increasing their quality of life. The Local Transportation Priorities program through the Department of Transportation is designed to improve surface transportation in high-need areas, especially projects to create safer rail-highway crossings. This project meets these criteria, and will positively affect the lives of a number of Commerce City residents; therefore, I am pleased to submit this letter of support on behalf of the residents of Commerce City.

The Union Pacific Railroad running through Commerce City is a significant economic artery for the region. It is also a constant disruption for those residents who live near it. This project will increase safety at the at-grade rail crossings by upgrading to Constant Warning Time and will reduce noise impacts by installing wayside horn systems at at-grade railroad crossings. Other supplementary safety measures (gated medians, 4-Quadrant gate systems, etc.) are not possible at this location due to their added expense and impact to neighboring property owners. Residents have their nights and days disrupted by train horns at each crossing. The installation of wayside horns at these crossings will be a vital first step in a project to create a much larger quiet zone through the core city, eventually substantially reducing train noise for all residents near the railways.

Commerce City is one of the fastest growing cities in Colorado. This continued growth will generate a correlating increase in rail traffic in the area. The issues that plague residents today will only be exacerbated in the future. Taking action now to establish a quiet zone through more of the core city will go a long way to removing a significant disruption from our residents' lives. Our project will make these crossings safer and enhance the quality of life in our community, fulfilling the mission of the Department of Transportation "To ensure America has the safest, most efficient and modern transportation system in the world, which boosts our economic productivity and global competitiveness and enhances the quality of life in communities both rural and urban."

Our wayside horn project is the right project for Community Project Funding. It will provide desperately needed upgrades that will enhance community safety and well-being and advance the Department of Transportation's mission. We look forward to cooperating more with your office on this and future projects to build a "Quality Community for a Lifetime."

Sincerely,

Nicole Frank  
Mayor Pro Tem  
City of Commerce City