

FEC CORRIDOR QUIET ZONES IN PALM BEACH COUNTY



HYPOLUXO TOWN COUNCIL PRESENTATION
OCTOBER 2015

TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
on behalf of the Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization

“All Aboard Florida” Proposed Service

ALL ABOARD FLORIDA

ALL ABOARD FLORIDA's roots trace back to Florida trailblazer Henry Flagler, founder of the Florida East Coast Railway and the descendant companies that have provided rail service for over a century.

- 100% PRIVATE**
This privately owned, operated and maintained passenger rail service will be running in 2014, at no risk to Florida taxpayers
- 6,000 CONSTRUCTION JOBS FOR FLORIDIANS**
An additional 1,000 jobs will be needed to operate the rail service
- 50 MILLION TRAVELERS**
The number of annual passengers who can benefit from rail service to travel between South Florida and Orlando in approximately three hours.
- \$6+ BILLION***
The amount of money traffic congestion costs Florida travelers each year due to 274 million hours in travel delays and 216 million excess gallons of fuel consumed
*2009 annual figures from Texas Transport Institute's 2010 Urban Mobility Report
- 3 MILLION CARS OFF THE ROAD**
Less highway use means taxpayer savings on reduced highway maintenance and repair

Service features include:
- Frequent, regularly scheduled round trips daily
- Gourmet meals and beverage service
- Reserved business- and coach-service seating
- Wi-Fi availability
- Access to major international airports, seaports and existing commuter rail systems like Metrorail and SunRail

What is a Quiet Zone?

- Established in accordance with the regulatory provisions contained in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 222 and 229 Use of Locomotive Horns at Highway-Rail Grade Crossings
- Defined as a segment of rail line within which is situated one or a number of consecutive at grade roadway rail crossings at which *locomotive horns are not routinely sounded.*



Train Horn Regulations (CFR)

- Sound train horns at least 15 seconds – and not more than 20 seconds, in advance of all public grade crossings.
- For trains traveling faster than 60 mph, no train horn sounded within ¼ mile of the crossing, even if the advance warning is less than 15 seconds.
- "Good faith" exceptions.
- Train horns must be sounded in a standardized pattern of 2 long, 1 short and 1 long blasts – pattern repeated or prolonged until the lead locomotive or lead cab car occupies the grade crossing.
- Maximum volume level for the train horn is 110 decibels (a new requirement). The minimum sound level remains 96 decibels.

When can there be a Quiet Zone?

- 2005 Federal Railroad administration (FRA) rule allows horns not to sound if certain safety measures are in place at crossings.
- Operator can still sound horn at their discretion if they see a dangerous situation.
- No minimum or maximum number of crossings and must be at least ½ mile long.
- Crossing must have active warning systems, and modern features like constant warning time & power-out indicators.

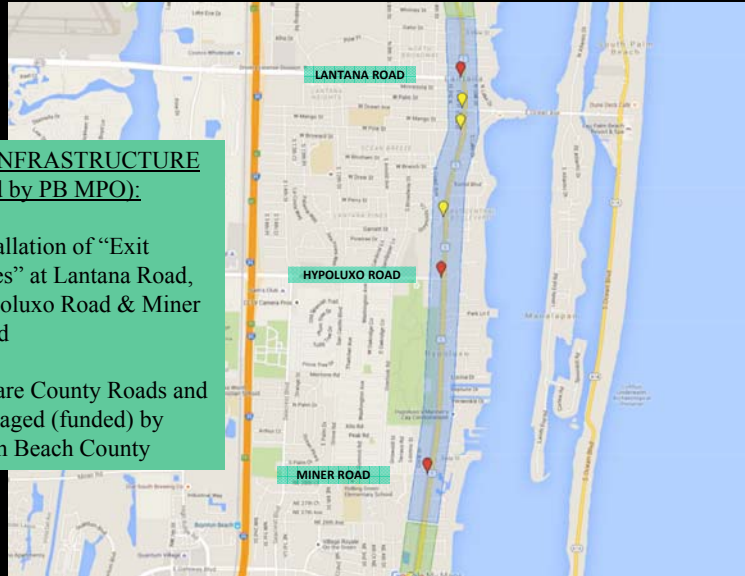
Steps To Establish a Quiet Zone

- ✓ Diagnostic Field Review
- ✓ Quiet Zone Evaluation
- Notice of Intent by Local Jurisdiction
- Installation of Improvements
- Notice of Establishment by Local Jurisdictions

Lantana/Hypoluxo Quiet Zone

NEW INFRASTRUCTURE
(funded by PB MPO):

- Installation of “Exit Gates” at Lantana Road, Hypoluxo Road & Miner Road
- All are County Roads and managed (funded) by Palm Beach County



Example of Four-Quadrant Gates



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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