Railway/Highway At-Grade Crossing Surface Management



By

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and

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Representative Governmental Agencies and Railroad Companies



The Best Crossings ----GRADE SEPARATED -- Over or Under





But Most Crossings are --AT-GRADE LEVEL CROSSINGS



NEW CONSTRUCTION or DOUBLE TRACKING









Typical Crossings can Deteriorate, thus Low Ride Quality

> **R-0-U-G-H** & L-O-W



Not as Applicable Today using Newer Technology

PERMANENT SETTLEMENT



- Impact Loadings
- Low Spot
- Impaired Drainage
- Deterioration
- Rehabilitated
 Frequently





PURPOSE OF AN AT-GRADE CROSSING

Provide a <u>SMOOTH</u> Surface for the <u>SAFE</u> & <u>UNINHIBITED</u> Passage of Rubber-Tired Highway Vehicles Across the Railroad Tracks



IDEAL OBJECTIVES Crossing Management Program

- Crossings will stay Smooth and Stable (not settle)
 For long periods of Time Long Serviceable Lives
- Minimize Costly Frequent Interruptions to Railway and Highway Traffic for Rehabilitation of Crossings
- Improve Operating Performance & Safety for the Railway and Highway Traffic



TWO TYPES OF CROSSING ROUGHNESS

Surface Roughness

Profile Roughness



Given States And Control Cont



\$100/tk-ft (Track Only) \$100/tk-ft + \$50-100/tk-ft (Standard Surface)

\$100/tk-ft + \$300-400/tk-ft (Premium Surface)

IDEAL ARRANGEMENT

- Cooperative Effort to Optimize Expertise of Local Highway Agency and Railroad Company
- Thus -- Can Reduce
 Costs, Improve Quality,
 And Minimize Traffic
 Disruptions to the
 Railroad and Highway



IDEAL OBJECTIVES

- Provide Adequate Strength and Support
- Minimize Deflections
- Reduce Permanent Deformations (Settlement)
- Waterproof Sublayers
- Provide Long-Life, Smooth Crossing
- Achieve 20-Year Design Life



IDEAL PRACTICES

- Rapidly Install/Renew (As Required)
- One Day (Railroad 4 hours/Highway 8-12 hours)
- Use Layered Support
- Properly Engineered
- Structurally Designed
- Use Premium Support Materials



DETERMINE (Optimum) REHABILITATION PROCEDURE

- Each Project is Site Specific
- Decisions are Performance Driven based on Experience and Prevailing Conditions
- Costs (Economics) are Important Vary from Site to Site
- Engineering Evaluation must be Conducted
- At-Grade Crossing Evaluation Form is Useful

HIGHWAY/RAILWAY AT-GRADE CROSSING CONDITION EVALUATION FORM

Identification & Description of Crossing

Qualitative Assessments of

- Pavement Approaches
- Crossing Surface Material
- Roughness/Rideability
- Highway Geometrics
- Drainage
- Crossing Foundation

> Overall Assessment for Rehabilitation

Only Adjustments/Improvements of the Highway Pavement Approaches

Only Renewal of the Crossing Surface

Complete Renewal of the Crossing Surface, Track Panel, and Trackbed Support



HIGHWAY/RAILWAY AT-GRADE CROSSING CONDITION EVALUATION

Agency		Date
Location of Crossing:		
DOT Number	Route Number/Street Name	
County	City (specify in or near)	
GPS: Latitude	Longitude	
Highway Classification:		
Rural Highway c	or City Street; Primary _	, Secondary, or Collector
Highway Information:		
Mile Point	_, ADT, % Trucks	s, Haul Route (y/n)
Railroad:		
Company	, Division	, Mile Post
Primary Limits, From		То

Complete Form is in References 6 and 9

PLANNING MEETING

Railroad Company and Governmental/Highway Agency Must Agree on Three Aspects for a Project:

I. <u>Select Date</u>

Railway Volume/Schedule

Highway Volume/Critical Detours







PLANNING MEETING

II. Assign Responsibilities

- I. Arrange Highway Closure and Traffic Control
- **II.** Arrange Public Announcements/Notifications
- III. Arrange Railroad Curfew
- **IV. Arrange Temporary Highway Crossing/Detour**
- V. Secure Materials, Personnel, and Equipment
- VI. Remove and Replace Track and Surface Track
- VII. Pave Highway Approaches



PLANNING MEETING

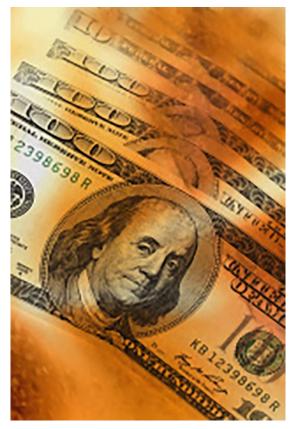
III. Share Cost

Removal and Installation of Track, Crossing, and Approaches (includes Materials, Personnel and Equipment),

Traffic Control,

Public Announcements,

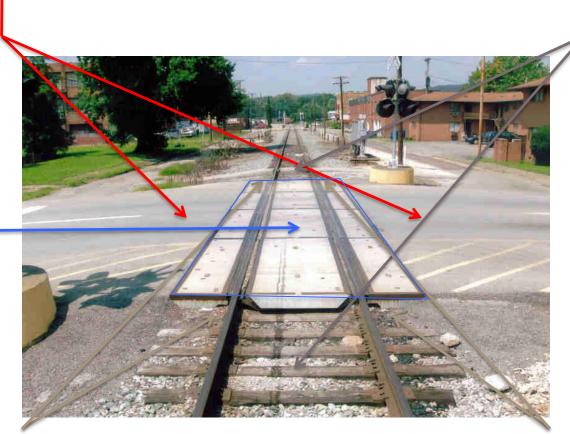
Highway Paving



FOUR PARTS OF AN AT-GRADE CROSSING

Highway Approaches

Railroad Approaches



Crossing Surface

4 Quadrants

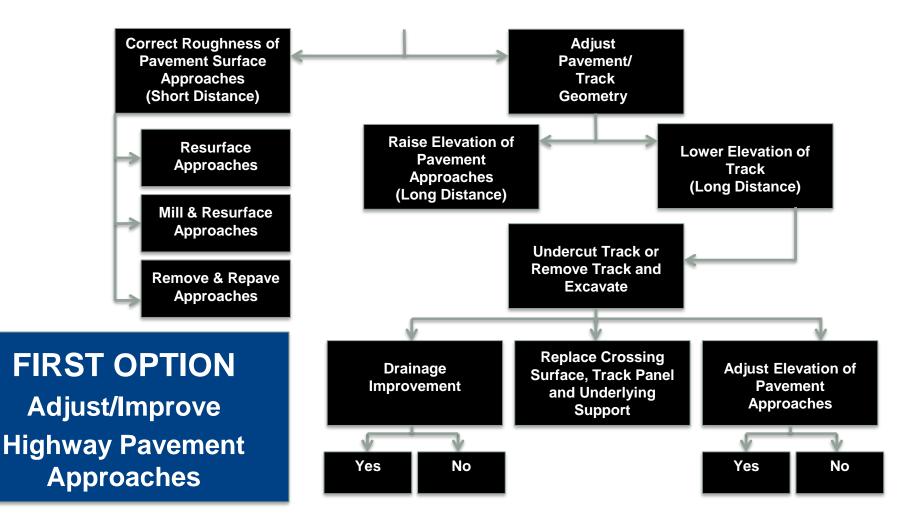
4 Quadrants

ASSESSING CROSSING REHABILITATION PROCEDURES

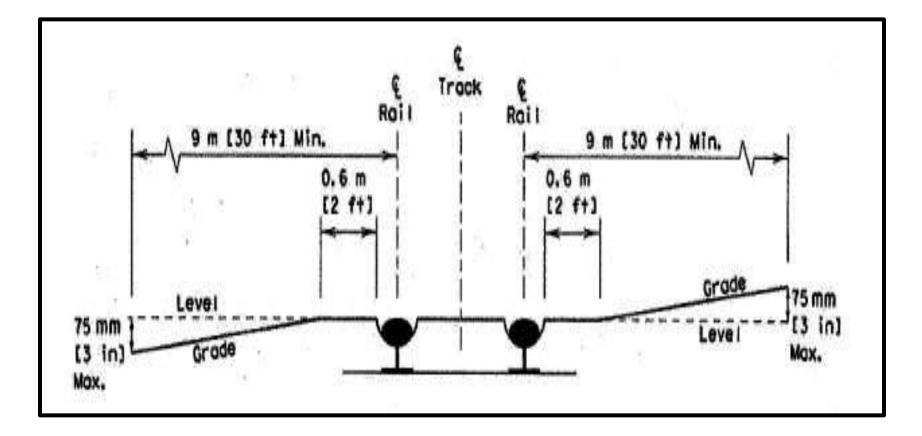
Three Categories

- Only Renew Highway Crossing Approaches
- Only Renew Crossing Surface
- Complete Renewal of Crossing Surface, Track Panel and Underlying Support

Highway Pavement Approaches Adjustments / Improvements



AASHTO RECOMMENDATIONS

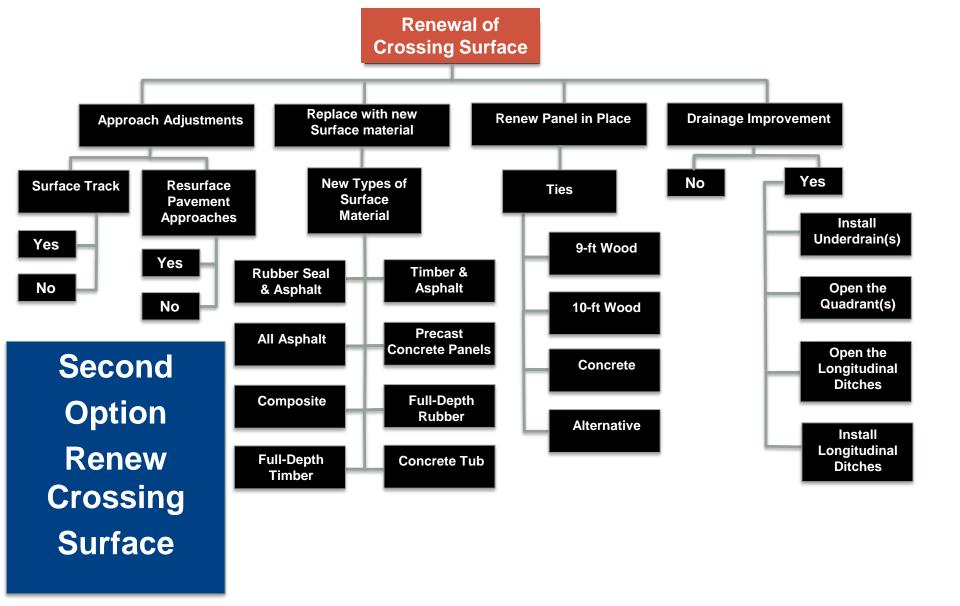


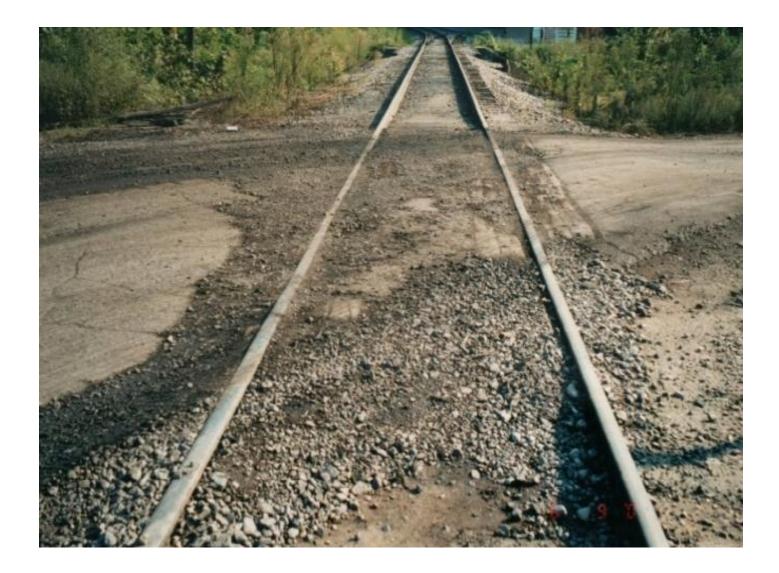
3 inches in 30 feet ~ 0.85%













SURFACE CHOICES



All-Asphalt



Rubber Seal and Asphalt



Timber and Asphalt



Concrete Panels





Full-Depth Rubber



Full-Depth Timber



Composite



Concrete Tub

SURFACE CHOICES All Asphalt



SURFACE CHOICES Rubber Seal and Asphalt



SURFACE CHOICES Timber and Asphalt



SURFACE CHOICES Concrete Panels



SURFACE CHOICES Full-Depth Rubber



SURFACE CHOICES Full-Depth Timber



SURFACE CHOICES Composite



SURFACE CHOICES Concrete Tub



General Guideline for Crossing Material Selection

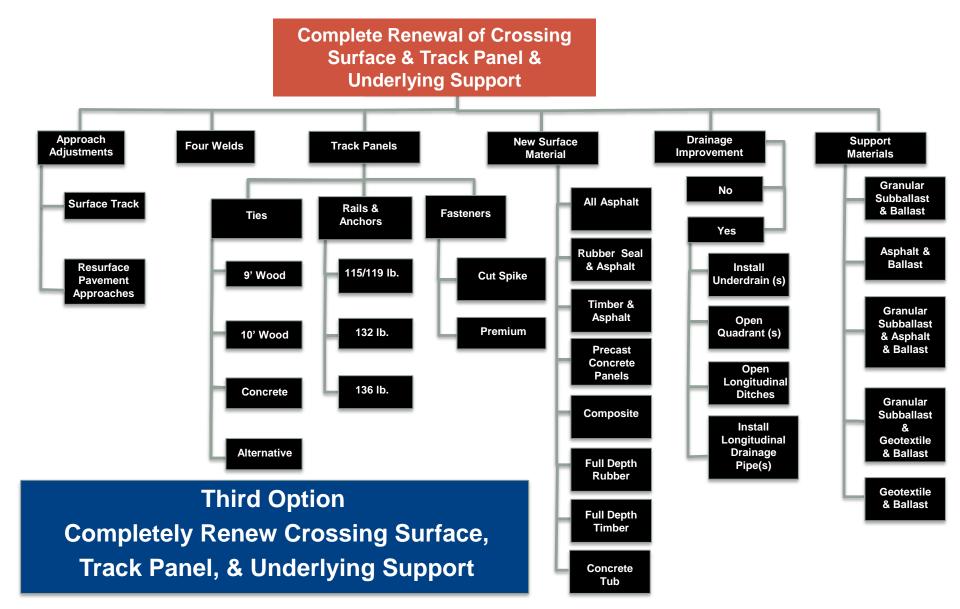
General Guideline for Crossing Material Selection

The following table provides guidance for selecting the proper crossing surface material. Recommendations are based on train tonnage, vehicular traffic, and truck traffic; these numbers are expressed in car equivalents per day. Several other factors, as discussed above, may influence the decision on the crossing surface used. In the table "standard" encompasses more economical crossing surfaces, such as rubber seal and asphalt, all-asphalt, and timber and asphalt. "Premium" includes surfaces that are more costly and require more extensive rehabilitation when they deteriorate. Premium surfaces include concrete panel, concrete tub, full-depth timber, fulldepth rubber, and composite.

RAILROAD MGT CAR EQUIVALENTS PER DAY

	0-50,000	50,000-100,000	100,000+
0-20	STANDARD	STANDARD	PREMIUM
20+	STANDARD	PREMIUM	PREMIUM

**Car Equivalents Per Day* = # of trucks x 100 per day + # of cars per day



Excavated Crossing



Pumping Crossing





Examples of Rough and Settled Crossings

Concrete Panel – Poor Condition

All Timber – Poor Condition





Timber and Asphalt – Poor Condition



All-Asphalt – Poor Condition



Rubber Seal and Asphalt – Poor Condition

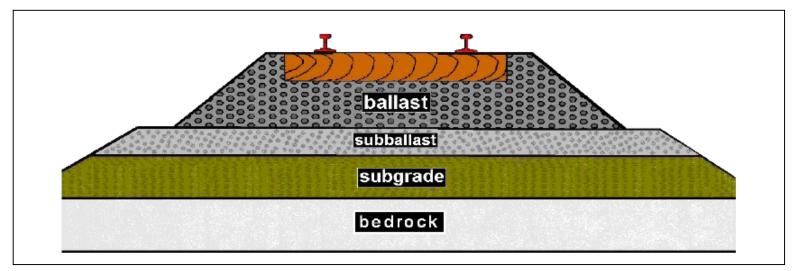
Full-Depth Rubber – Poor Condition



Primary Concern for an At-Grade Crossing is Maintaining Adequate Support so that the Trackbed and Pavement Approaches Achieve Similar Levels of Stiffness/Support



Classic All-Granular Trackbed Support

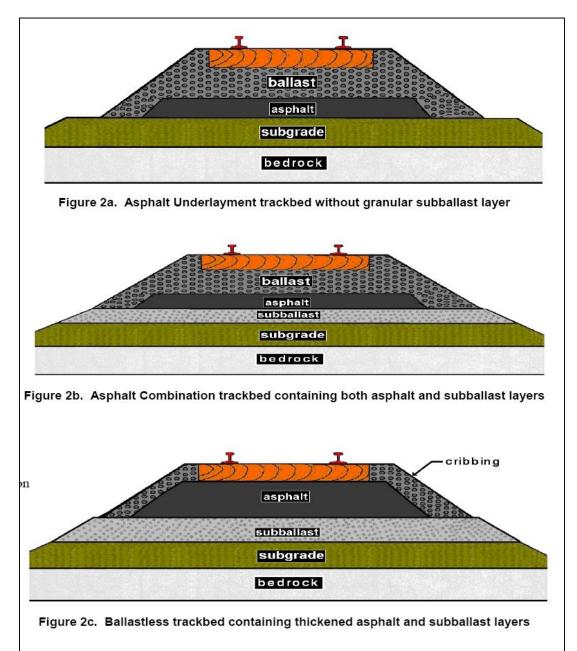


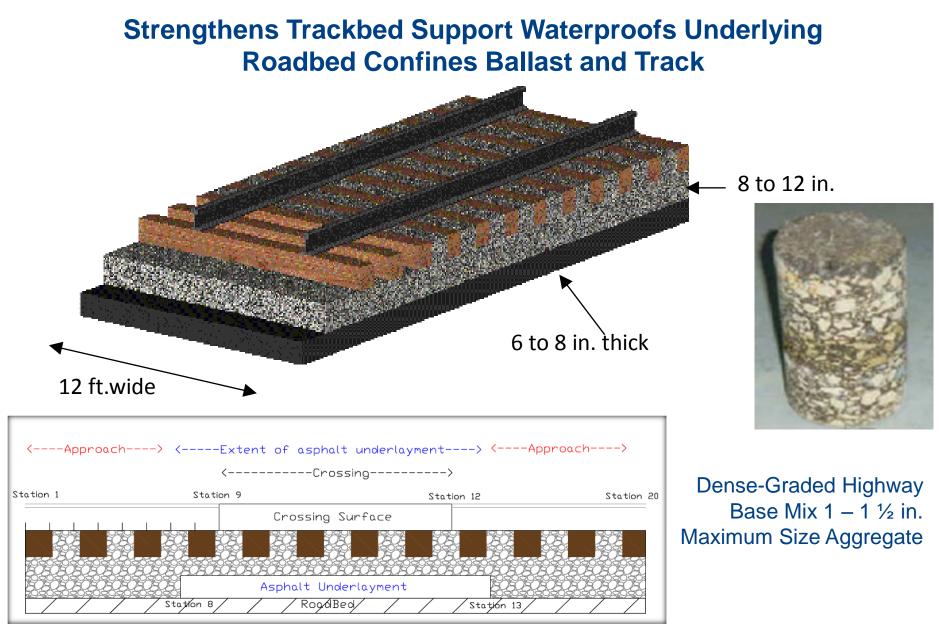
Without Separation Layer, Structural Layer, and Adequate Drainage?





Layered Trackbed Support

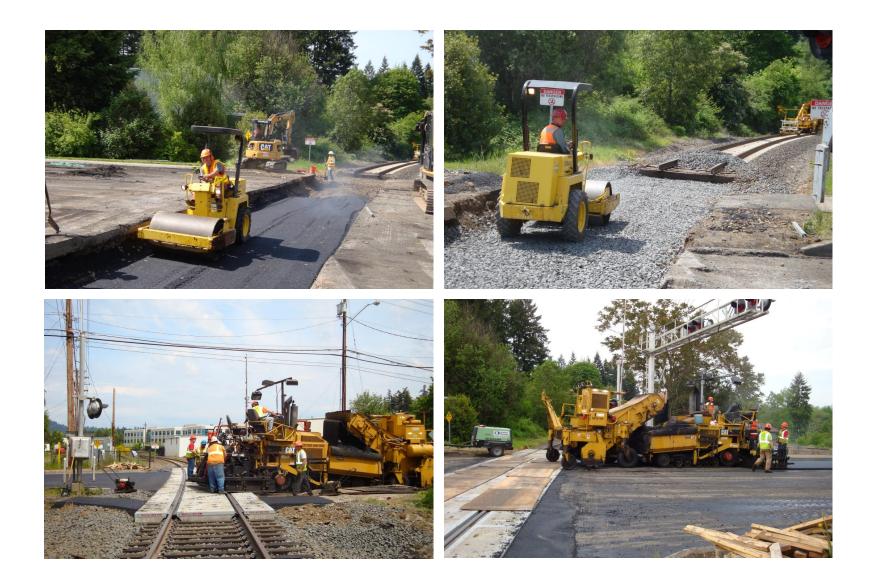




Asphalt Binder +0.5% above Optimum (optional) Low to Medium Modulus Mix, 1 - 3% Air Voids (optional)

P&W RR --- SW Durham Rd. May 15-16, 2010





P&W RR --- SW Durham Rd. April 4, 2014



KYDOT Heavily Involved





Example Asphalt Underlayment Costs and Economics (Assume Crossing will be Paneled)

Asphalt = \$80/ton delivered

~¹/₂ ton/track-foot (layer: 6 in. thick, 12 ft. wide)

\$40/track-foot X 80 ft. long = \$3,200 for Underlayment

A Typical Crossing Renewal ≈ \$10,000 to \$40,000+



Benefits of an Asphalt Supported At-Grade Crossing

- A strengthened track support layer beneath the ballast that uniformly distributes reduced pressures to the roadbed and subgrade,
- A waterproofing layer that confines the underlying roadbed; this offers consistent load-carrying capacity for track structures, even on marginal quality roadbeds,
- An impermeable layer that diverts water to side ditches and essentially eliminates roadbed or subgrade moisture fluctuations, effectively improving and maintaining underlying support,
- A consistently high level of confinement for the ballast, which enables the ballast to develop high shear strength and distribute pressures uniformly, and
- A resilient layer between the ballast and roadbed, which reduces the likelihood of subgrade pumping without substantially increasing track stiffness.



METROLINK.



West Virginia

Department of Transportation



















Illinois Department of Transportation



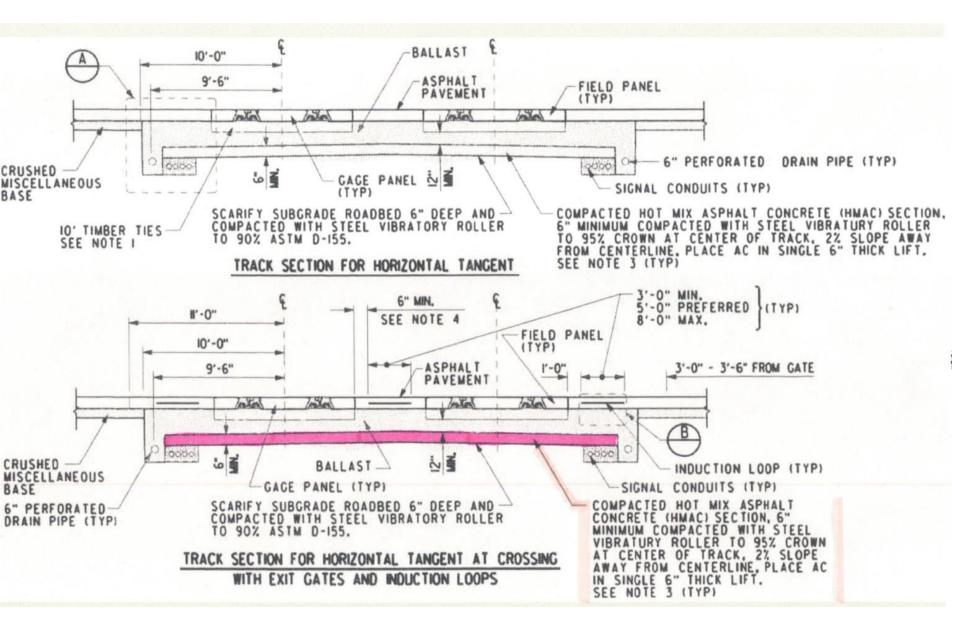
Standard for All Highway-Rail Grade Crossings

6-inch Thickness of HMAC Underlayment

nstalled An estimated 60 to 70 Highway Crossings with Asphalt Underlayments

between 2007 and 2012

Performance has been Excellent



The state of the second of the second S. 10 14450 CONGER AND IN 1825 A STATE ADDRESS 952 Martin . A DECEMBER OF THE OWNER and and don't steam and the destruction of the second Contra Line of the sector of the last

Card Later

Metrolink Accordinate

Los Angeles

Osborne Street

DUMPING PROHIBIDO DLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED DEMAL CODES 555-602-374.3



Polymerized Cold-Mix Asphalt

METROLINK

















- Began AUC in 2000
- Do 7 to 8 AUC per year (14 in 2013, 12 in 2014, 11 in 2015, 6+ in 2016)
- Estimate over 150 AUC Installations
- Typically use Concrete Surfaces
- AU is 6 inches thick



WVDOT pays for:

- Crossing Materials
- 6-in. Asphalt Underlayment
- Traffic Control
- Drainage Pipe
- Tie Differential



US 60 Rainelle, WV

- No Failures due to Lack of Support
- Standard Practice if State Money is Used
- Considered a Betterment Program to Upgrade Crossings for Improved Performance



Fifth Avenue Huntington

US 50 Bridgeport



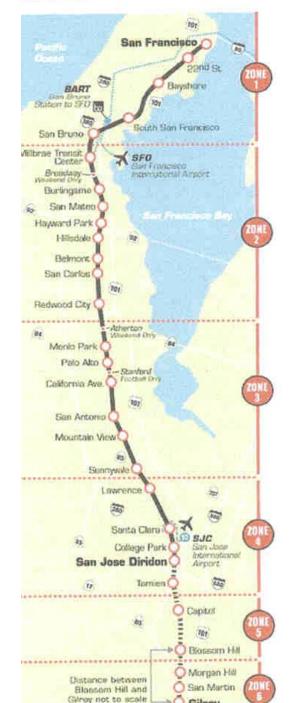


Ashton, WV WV 2 Installed November 2001 CSX





stem wap



San Francisco ↔ San Jose/Gilroy Regional Rail Link



55 Miles Long Trains per Day -- Caltrain (92), UP (3) Used Asphalt Underlayment Since 1999

	D. MAXEY	PENINSULA CORRIDOR JOINT POWERS BOARD
Caltrain. 1250 Son Carlos Avenue Son Carlos, CA 94070	PROJECT MANAGEMENT D. GREENAWAY	BAY AREA RAIL NETWORK CALTRAIN SYSTEM SCHEMATIC MAP
	STRUCTURES Z. AMARE	
	TRACK/CIVIL R. SCARPINO	





1999 to 2013

- Crossovers #20 = 10
 Stations since = 10
- Turnouts = 12
- Street & Pedestrian Tunnel Inverts = 2 Crossings = over 59
- Tunnel Approaches = 4

 - Bridges Approaches = 15









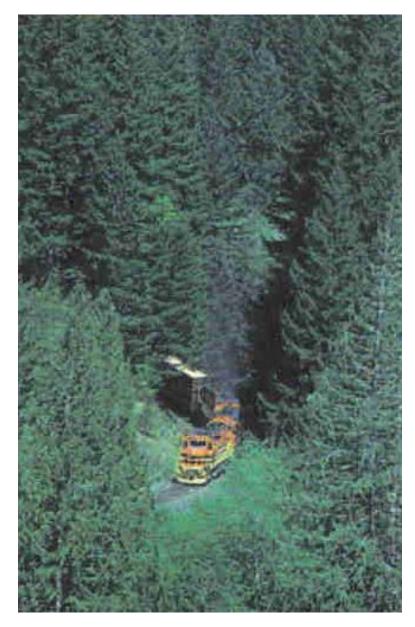




Portland & Western Railroad



Portland & Western Railroad



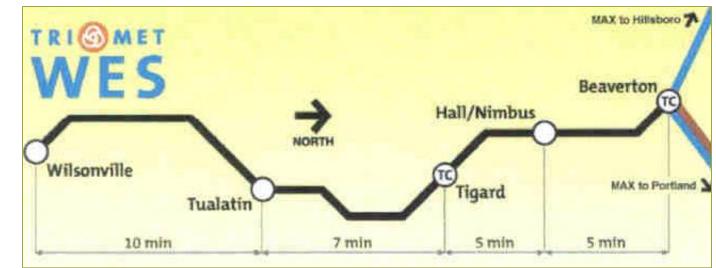
WES – All 18 Public Crossings plus an Underpass

P&W – Do 12 to 15 Crossings per year,

Oregon DOT pays for Materials, RR Railroad pays for Labor/Equipment Fairly standard procedure,

Perfect performance, no mud, no surfacing required.







Junction City, OR April 23, 2014, 3500 feet long

Also, Independence, OR, 2000 feet long

Many completed ranging from 30 to 350 feet long

Several more crossing planned for rehabilitation





Typical Crossing on WES Commuter Line



SW 5th Street in Beavertown

SW Scholls Ferry Road



Typical Crossing on P&W Freight Line

SW Teton Avenue in Tualatin May 2010





SW Teton Avenue in Tualatin May 2009



Geary Street in Albany

Salem Avenue SE in Albany





Iowa Department of Transportation Primary Highway Crossing Program

Mary Jo Key, Grade Crossing Project Manager

Travis Tinken, Construction Inspector

September 25, 2012





State Surface Repair

- Road Use Tax Fund
- Application based
- First come, first serve
- 60% fund, 20% local, & 20% RR
- 10 year back log in 1998
- Crossing life was 2 years
- Since 2000 80 to 90 of the 167 crossings on the Iowa DOT primary system have been underlain with asphalt
- No crossings failures to date due to structural failures or settlement



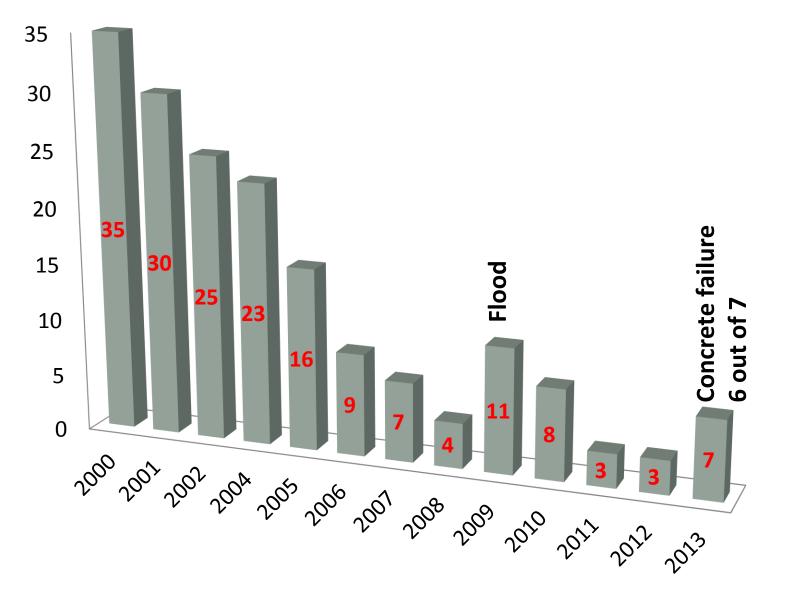




Rt 69 Story City, Iowa Placed in 2000 4000 ADT, 4% Trucks 50 MPH Traffic

Russell, Iowa BNSF Double Main Placed in 2000





Completed



Iowa DOT and Driver Benefits

- Safer, smoother, longer lasting crossings
- Limited crossing complaints
- IowaDOT manpower, equipment, funding and resources can be used else where
- Streamed line processes allows fewer IowaDOT staff members to manage
- Fewer highway closures and driver disruptions





RR Benefit After Rebuild

- RR production track work done by gangs do not have to go thru the crossings -- skip
- The signal department has significantly fewer false activation issues
- Less maintenance time spent on surface failures and repairs
- Fewer slow orders









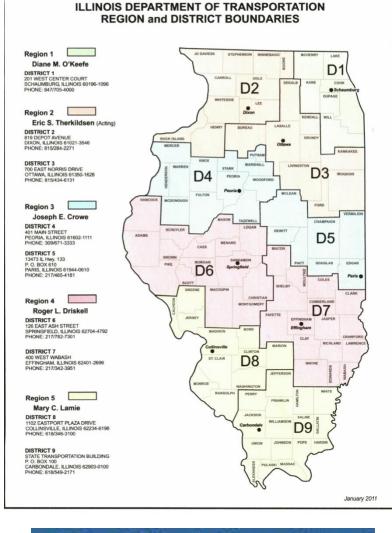


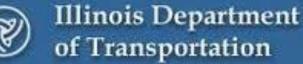












The Illinois Commerce Commission Manages 6900 Public Crossings on Local Roads and Streets



The Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF), administered by the ICC, was established by the Illinois General Assembly in 1955. Beginning with state fiscal year 2010 (beginning July 1, 2009), the ICC was given permission to utilize the GCPF to help pay for grade crossing surface renewal projects. The GCPF is used to reimburse railroads for all materials, including contract labor (i.e., asphalt paving, traffic control, etc.). The railroads pay all labor costs to install the new crossing surfaces.

Since 2010, 32 crossings renewals have utilized asphalt underlayment. The asphalt layer is specified as 6-in. thick, 12-ft wide and extend a minimum of 25 ft beyond ends of the crossing.

Asphalt underlayment is designated for all crossings on designated truck routes and all crossings on roads/streets with traffic volumes > 5,000 vehicles per day.

Guidelines for Railroads Applying for GCPF Assistance to Renew Public Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Surfaces (Local Roads and Streets ONLY)

Below are guidelines for the renewal of highway-rail grade crossing surfaces located on the local roads and streets system where assistance from the Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) is requested.

SAMPLE-

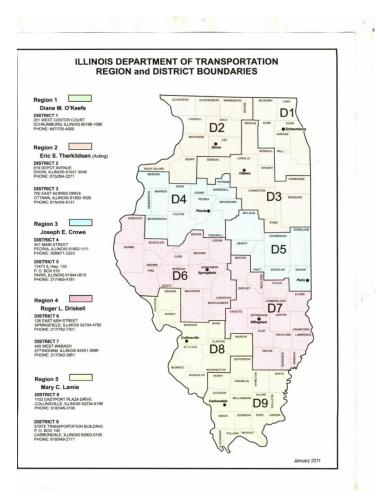
LETTER OF REQUEST (Use LETTERHEAD of Railroad Company Making the Request)

Current Date

Mr. Michael E. Stead Rail Safety Program Administrator Illinois Commerce Commission 527 E. Capitol Avenue Springfield, IL 62701 Eldorado Street Decatur CSX Installed 2010 Picture 2013 Champaign County Fair Drive CN, Installed 2012 Endurance/Composite Picture 2013



IDOT Manages 760 Public Crossings on State/Federal Routes



- The Nine Districts are primarily involved utilizing "Railroad Corridors".
- IDOT is similarly involved as ICC relative to utilizing asphalt underlayment.



Illinois Department of Transportation

IL Rt. 119, Vermilion County KBSR RR, Installed 2009 Picture 2016

Urbana @ Lincoln/University Startrack Installed 2012 Picture 2013

hrid

COUNTRY FR

US 51 Clinton De Witt County CN, Installed 2004? Picture 2013

IL Rt. 1 Gordon's Jct. INRD Renewed 2011 Picture 2016 Startrack -

ILLINOIS

FRIDAY FISH FRY LELIZABE 4:00-7:00

STOP

ALL WAY

CAUT 40 BETWI

HIGH

DO N STO

TRAL

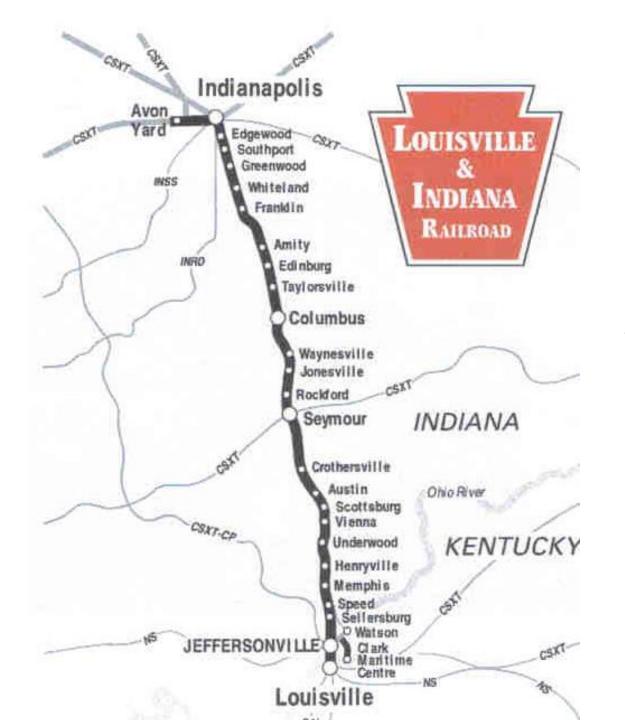


IL Rt. 33 Palestine INRD Renewal 2013 Picture 2016

<

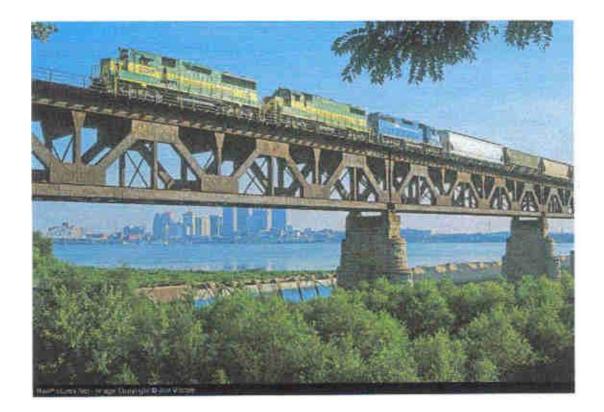






140-mile line

Began using asphalt underlayment in 1996 Since then 30+ crossings underlain (20+ with state funds)





Major Crossings

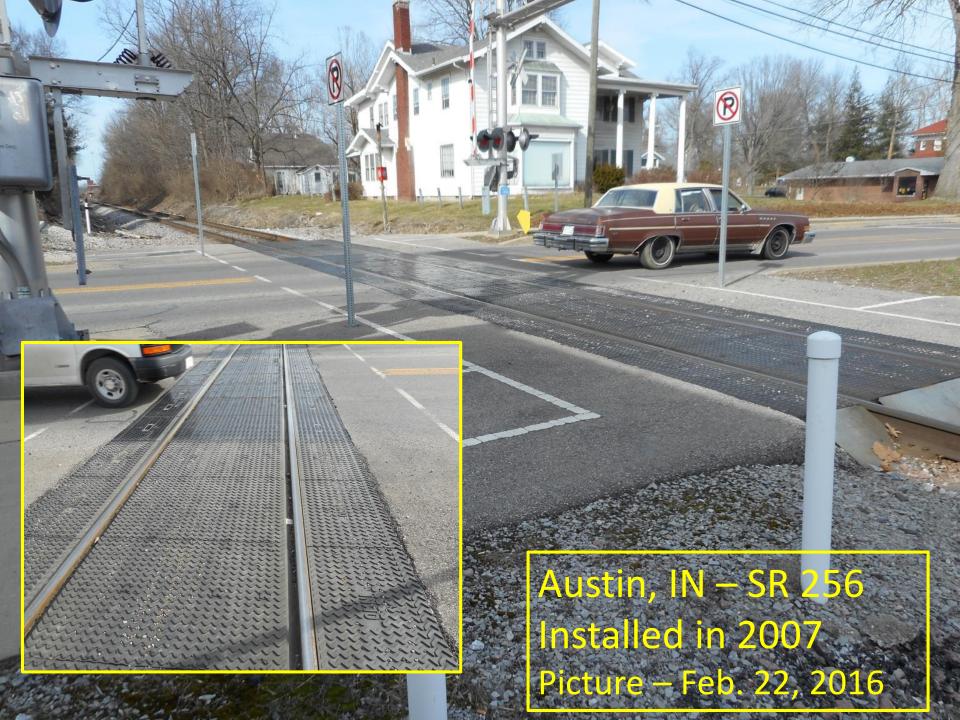
All in Perfect Condition (Two changed out During Widening)

Have 180 Public and 60 Private Crossings



Charlestown NA Pike, MP 104.75 Jeffersonville, IN – Installed 2003





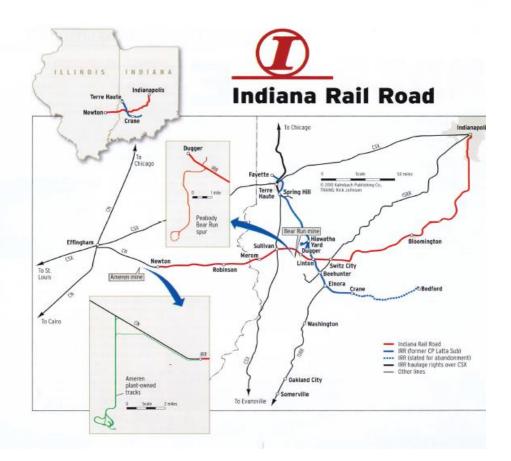






S, Walesboro SR 450 Installed 2010 Picture 2016

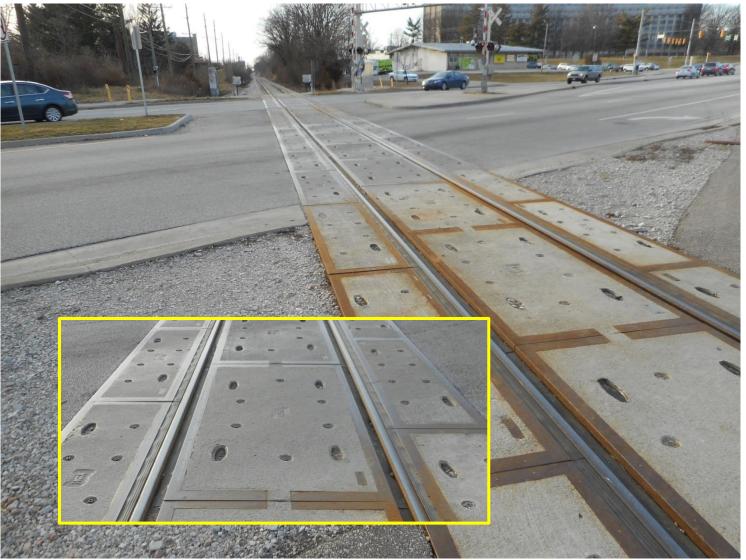




Route 46 --- Bloomington Installed 2011 – Picture 2013



Route 46 Bloomington Installed 2011 – Picture 2016











3rd Street --- Bloomington Installed 2011 – Picture 2013





3rd Street --- Bloomington Installed 2011 – Picture 2016









INDOT Ft. Wayne District Projects























Long-Term Trackbed Settlement

Longitudianl view of highway/rail crossing containing asphalt underlayment

<----Approach----> <----Extent of asphalt underlayment----> <----Approach---->

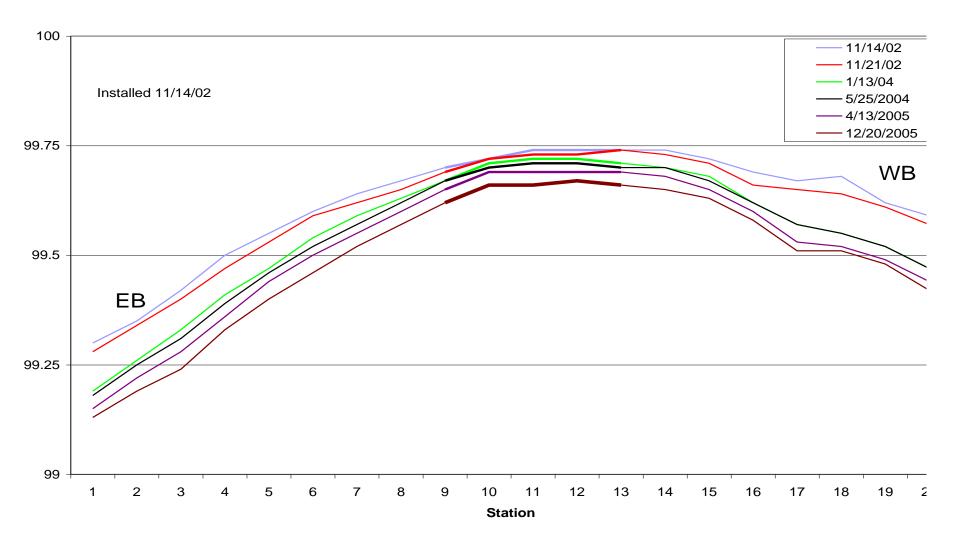
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Station 1 Station 9 Station 12 Station 20 Crossing Surface Asphalt Underlayment Station 8/ RogdBed Station 13

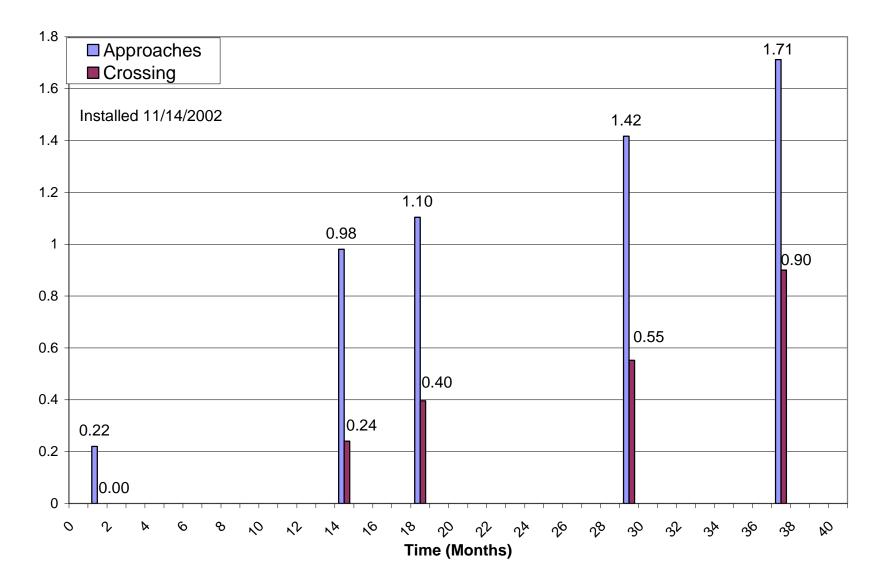
KY Coal Terminal--Heavy Train and Extra Heavy Highway Traffic with ASPHALT



Top of Rail Elevations for KY Coal Terminal # 2 Track



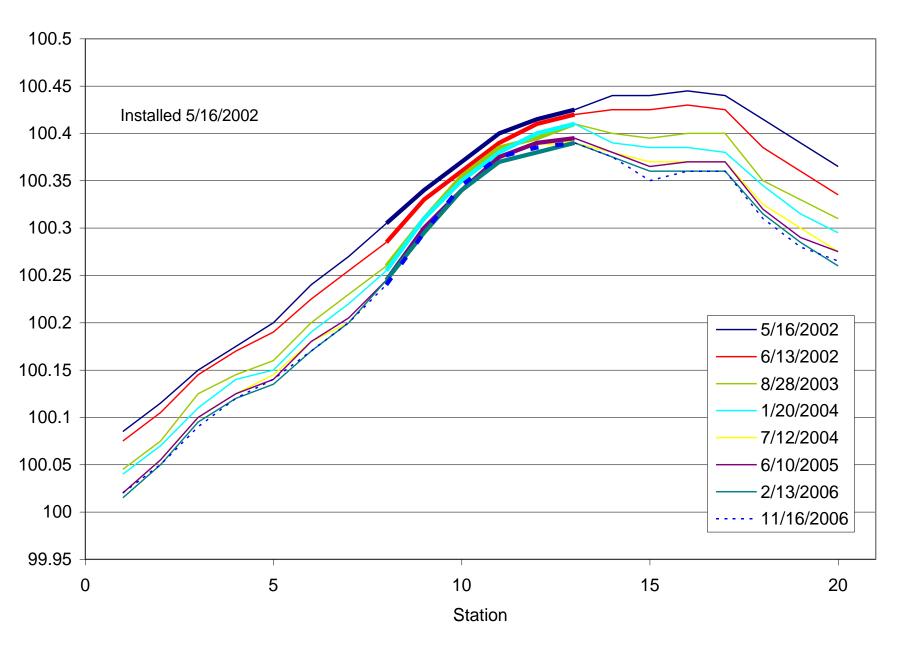
Average Asphalt/Approach Settlement for KY Coal Terminal #2



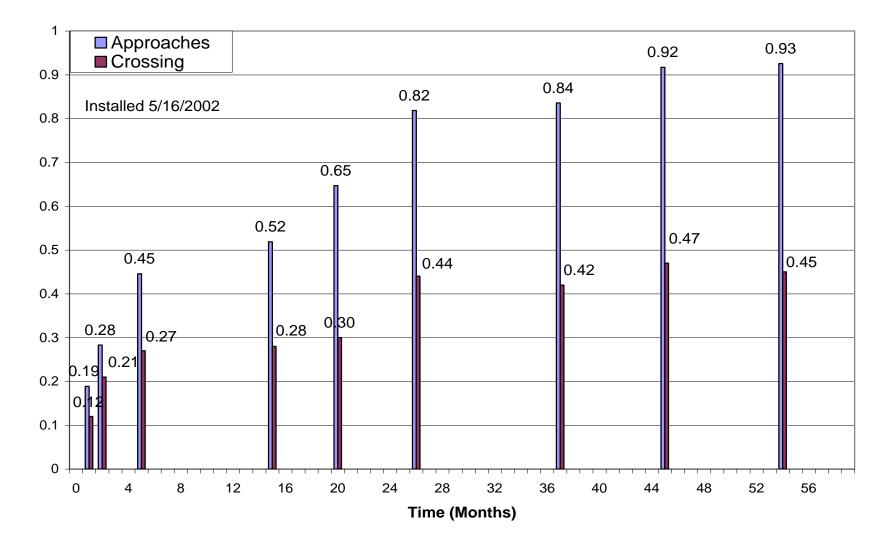
Stanley (US 60)--Medium Train and Heavy Highway Traffic with ASPHALT



Average Top of Rail Elevations for US 60 Stanley



Average Asphalt/Approach Settlement for US 60 Stanley



REFERENCES

- 1. Rose, J.G., Malloy, B.R. and R.R. Souleyrette (2014). Rehabilitation, Assessment and Management Practices to Ensure Long-Life, High-Performance Highway-Railway at Grade Crossings, Proceedings of the Joint Rail Conference JRC 2014-3761, Colorado Springs, April 2014, 14 pages.
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- 3. Rose, J.G., Durrett, D.M., Walker, L.A. and J.G. Stith (2009). Highway-Railway At-Grade Crossings: Trackbed and Surface Pressure Measurements and Assessments, Research Report KTC-09-05/FR 136-04-2F, Kentucky Transportation Center, May 2009, 53 pages.
- 4. Rose, J.G., Swiderski, M.G., Anderson, J.S. and L.A. Walker (2009). Highway-Railway At-Grade Crossings: Long-Term Settlement Measurements and Assessments, Research Report KTC-09-06/FR 136-04-3F, Kentucky Transportation Center, May 2009, 104 pages.
- 5. Rose, J.G. and B.R. Malloy (2014). Effect of Enhanced Trackbed Support Railway/Highway At-Grade Crossing Performance, Research Report KTC-14-16/SPR452-13-1F, 180 pages.
- 6. Malloy, B.R. and J.G. Rose (2014). Railway/Highway At-Grade Crossing Surface Management: An Overview, Research Report KTC-14-17/SPR452-13-2F, 62 pages.
- 7. Malloy, B.R., Purcell, M.L. and J.G. Rose (2014). Railway/Highway At-Grade Crossing Surface Rehabilitation Manual: Recommendations and Guides, Research Report KTC-14-19/SPR452-13-4F, 60 pages.
- Rose, J.G., Malloy, B.R. and R.R. Souleyrette (2016). Effect of Enhanced Trackbed Support on Railway/Highway At-Grade Crossing Performance. *Proceedings of the 95th Annual Meeting of TRB*, Washington, D.C., January 2016, 18 pages.
- 9. Malloy, B.R., Rose, J.G. and R.R. Souleyrette (2016). Rehabilitation of Railway/Highway At-Grade Crossings: Recommendations and Guides. Transportation Research RECORD, *Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, Washington, D.C., January 2016, 27 pages.

Thank You for Your Attention Any Questions

Represent Typical Activities

Not All-Encompassing

Represent Current Practices

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