

# Quieter Glendale to cost more than expected

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GLENDALE - Updating the circuitry to create a quiet zone in Glendale at the three railroad crossings would cost \$100,000 per crossing, said Councilmember Debbie Grueninger at the March 5 council meeting.

That \$300,000 would be in addition to the cost of any new device to create a quiet zone, she said.

"Anything that we do is going to trigger that \$100,000 per crossing," she said.

Grueninger said the newly discovered cost would be discussed in future joint meetings between the Glendale Police and Street Committees, which are investigating the quiet zones.

That includes several options village officials have been looking at to reduce train horn noise in the village; adding four gates at each crossing, constructing barriers between lanes so drivers don't cross to the other side of the road when the current two gates are down, or installing wayside horns, which blast digitally recorded train horns at each of the three railroad crossings at Sharon, Albion and Oak avenues.



Village officials demonstrated a wayside horn last month at each intersection. The horns, which would cost \$100,000 per crossing, direct the sound toward oncoming automobiles at about 80 decibels, eliminating the need for train engineers to blow their horns the required four times per intersection.

"I would like to visit some communities that have installed supplemental safety measures to see how it works for them," said Grueninger.

Right now, 1,000 residents can hear the horns blast through town 40 to 80 times per day, according to Glendale Administrator Walter Cordes.

One of the goals in Glendale's 2000 master plan is to implement quiet zones in the village.

The village also considered closing one of the crossings at Albion Avenue. But Mayor Tom Todd said March 5 that out of 24 people surveyed recently on Albion, 20 opposed closing the crossing.

Glendale officials are looking in to getting grant money to help pay for a quiet zone.

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