



ANGELO SANTABARBARA
Assemblyman 111th District

THE ASSEMBLY
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ALBANY

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October 14th, 2022

Office of the Administrator
Federal Railroad Administration
Region 1
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator,

I am writing today to relay concerns regarding increased noise from trains in particular at railroad crossings that have been brought to my attention by constituents in New York's 111th Assembly District in the Town of Rotterdam (Schenectady County). We have also previously received complaints about increased train noise in the Village of Fort Plain (Montgomery County). In both of these instances, train horn usage has noticeably reduced the quality of life for residents in these communities. Specifically, residents have complained that noise from train horns at railroad crossings seems to have increased at locations like the ones Burdeck Street and Princetown Road in Rotterdam during hours of the night.

Upon researching this issue, it has come to my attention according to the Department of Transportation's website, the Train Horn Rule (49 CFR Part 222) provides an opportunity for localities to mitigate the effects of train horn noise by establishing "new quiet zones," where railroads can be directed to cease the routine sounding of their horns when approaching public highway-rail grade crossings. Many of my constituents in the noise impacted areas have expressed interest in establishing these new quiet zones as an option to mitigate the noise impact. With that said, I'm interested in pursuing more information about this option on their behalf and request your assistance on the process of establishing quiet zones at these locations with all the necessary safety measures that are needed. I can be reached at 518-382-2941 or by email at santabarbaraa@nyassembly.gov.

Thank you,

Angelo Santabarbara

Member of the New York State Assembly

111th District | Representing areas of Albany, Montgomery & Schenectady Counties