



City of Cambridge

Executive Department

LOUIS A. DePASQUALE
City Manager

July 26, 2018

LISA C. PETERSON
Deputy City Manager

Brian Christy, Director
Transportation Oversight Division
Department of Public Utilities
One South Station, Fifth Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Brian Christy,

On July 16th, 2018, the City of Cambridge submitted the attached Notice of Intent (NOI) under 49 CFR Ch. II Part 222 Subpart C Section 222.43, to establish a Quiet Zone (QZ) within the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, on the Fitchburg Main Line of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) North Side Commuter Rail, at the highway rail grade crossing at Sherman Street. At the time the NOI was sent, we had been informed that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) was the agency responsible for highway rail grade crossing safety, and the NOI was therefore sent to MassDOT. Subsequent to the submission of the NOI, MassDOT informed the City that this responsibility actually lies with the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) Transportation Oversight Division. As a result, we are sending you a copy of the attached NOI, which is dated July 16, 2018.

The NOI has a 60-day comment period, which originally ended on September 14, 2018. Because we are submitting this to you 10 days later, we are extending the DPU's comment period by 10 days, to September 24, 2018.

However, we are hopeful that you can provide us with any comments earlier than that date, since the comment period will end early if we receive comments from all parties earlier than the 60-day deadline. The sounding of the horns at this crossing (which started on June 29, 2018) has been extremely disruptive to local residents, and we are therefore working to expedite the process of establishing a QZ, in terms of both the paperwork that is required and the physical installation of the required improvements.

Thank you very much for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Louis A. DePasquale,
City Manager

cc: Joseph Barr, Director of Traffic, Parking, and Transportation
Nancy Glowa, City Solicitor
Norma Jean Griffiths, Crossing & Trespassing Regional Manager, Federal Railroad Administration

Attachments (1)

