APPENDIX D

CITY OF PIERRE/DM&E RAILROAD CROSSING STUDY OPEN HOUSE MEETING RECORD NOVEMBER 27, 2006

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CITY OF PIERRE/DM&E RAILROAD CROSSINGS STUDY NOVEMBER 27, 2006 OPEN HOUSE TRANSCRIPT

The following is a summary of the Public Open House held on November 27, 2006 for the purpose of public involvement for the railroad crossing alternatives at the "S-Curve" and Pierre Street crossings and the whistle free study for the remaining at-grade crossings.

1.0 OPEN HOUSE

An open house was held on November 27th, 2006 at the Kings Inn located at 110 East Sioux Avenue. 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. The purpose of the open house was to discuss the Pierre/DM&E Crossing Study and more specifically the grade separated alternatives developed at the "S-Curve" and Pierre Street and a Whistle Free Study conducted at the remaining at-grade crossings. A total of 58 people attended the open house. See Attachment A to view the attendance list.

The goals of discussion regarding the crossing study at the open house were to present the alternatives developed at the S-Curve and Pierre Street and results of the whistle-free study to the public and to gather public input. A brief presentation (Attachment B) was given to inform the public of the intent of the study and to generate questions and/or comments. Directly following the presentation, the public was encouraged to ask only general questions regarding the study and to wait to discuss project specific comments during the open house format of the meeting.

Following the presentation, the public was encouraged to view a variety of displays that were available, including boards with text and graphics showing the *Crossing Alternatives* at the S-Curve and Pierre Street and improvement recommendations for a quiet zone at the remaining atgrade crossings. In addition to the presentation, an informational pamphlet was distributed as the public signed in.

Correspondence received from the public was logged and, if requested, a response was sent to the specific public entity or individual.

The following summarizes the informal comments received at the meetings:

- Most comments were generally supportive of the Project.
- There were several questions regarding re-routing the rail line around Pierre.
- There was a question asking if the DM&E does not move forward with the expansion, will the SDDOT and City of Pierre still move forward with a grade separated crossing at the S-Curve.
- There were several comments in support of Option 6A, which is the grade separated crossing at Polk.
- Received a comment regarding an additional option for review. This option maintained the existing alignment (Wells/Sioux) as the state highway. An overpass would tee into Wells Avenue at Polk Street, cross over the rail, curve and tie into Sioux Avenue.

Follow-up. HDR laid out an Option 6B to address this comment. Attached are the plan and profile for this option. Included with the aerial, we have identified pro's and con's for this option.

Informal comments are those that were expressed to staff at the meeting but were not submitted as oral or written testimony.

A total of 8 written comments were received (See Attachment C). Comments and issues identified in the written comments were similar to those expressed informally at the meetings and included:

- 1. For the Grade Separated options at the "S-Curve":
 - One comment received from the owner of the Capitol Inn & Suites preferred Option 4.
 - Two comments received favor the Polk Avenue location for an overpass (Option 6A).
- 2. For the Pierre Street location, comments received were:
 - Two comments received favor Option 1. Both stated that any other option would destroy businesses in the area.
 - Received one comment that also favors Option 1, but further expresses the need to obtain a minimum 13' clearance and replace the existing bridge with a single span bridge.
- 3. Received one comment requesting that the trains be re-routed around the City because of health issues and affects to traffic and business.
- 4. Received one comment stating that nothing heard convinces him that the costs of what has been proposed are worthwhile, practical, or feasible. Anything done will disrupt the population for years.

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Pierre/DM&E Railroad Crossings Study

PROJECT OPEN HOUSE NOVEMBER 27, 2006

Presentation at 5:35



Agenda

November 27, 2006

- ✓ Introductions
- > Project Goals
- S-Curve Options
- ▶ Pierre Street Options
- > Poplar Street
- ▼ Whistle Free Crossings
- > Open House Format



Introductions

- > Citizens Committee
- > SDDOOT
- V City of Pierre
 - V HDR



Project Goals

- > Feasibility of Crossing Upgrades
- I) S-Curve
- 2) Pierre Street
- 3) Poplar Street
- > Create a "Quiet Zone"
- > DM&E Railroad



S-Curve

> 7 Original Options

> Narrowed to 3 Options



Pierre Street

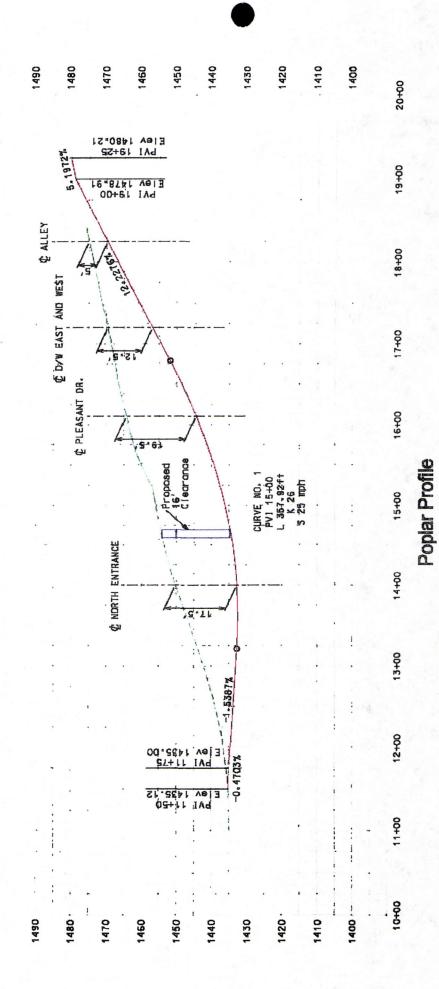
> 3 Original Options

> Added a 4th Option



Poplar Street

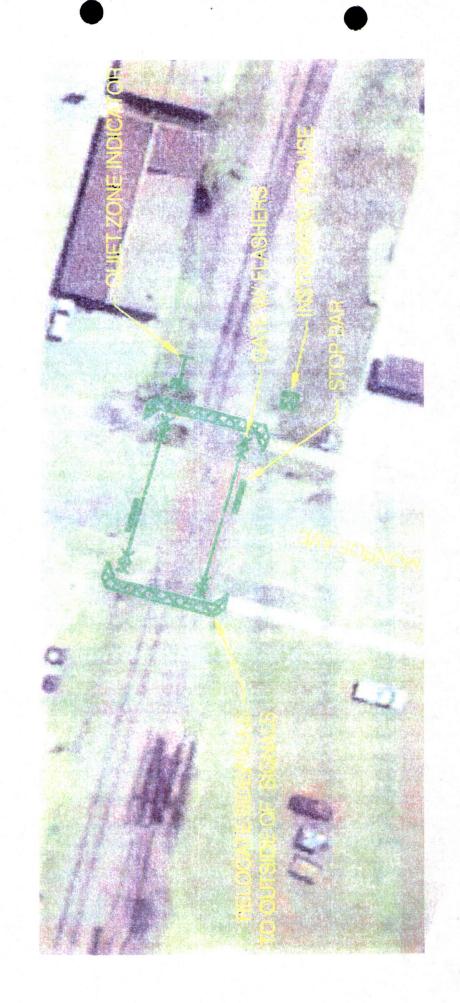
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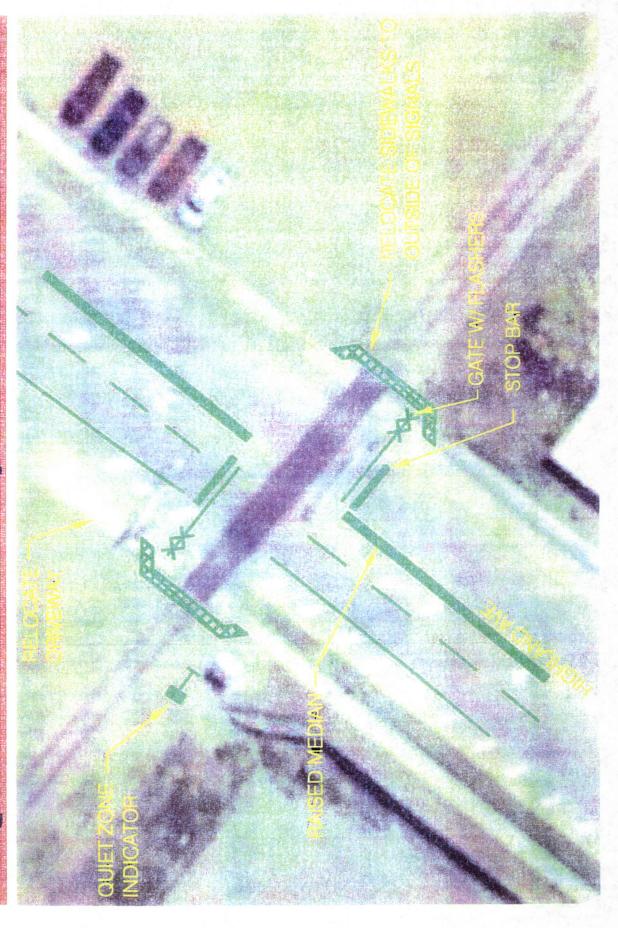
Quiet Zone

- > 2 Types of Improvements
- 1) 4-Quadrant Gate System
- 2) 2-Quadrant Gate System W/ Raised Median





2-Quadrant Gate System w/ Median



Open House

Additiona Questions

Terry Keller – SDDOT 700 East Broadway Ave Pierre, SD 57501

Ph. 605-773-3721

Steve Hoff – HDR 6300 S. Old-Village Place Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Ph. 605-977-7740