

City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Monday, November 7, 2016

Regular Meeting

Item Reports2

Council to authorize the City Manager to send a letter to the Burlington Northern Railroad regarding the condition of railroad crossings.

Staff Contact: Nathan Johnson, City Manager



308-632-4136
2525 Circle Drive
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

November 8, 2016

Bryson Mulhurn
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway
2430 Avenue I
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Dear Mr. Mulhurn:

My name is Nathan Johnson and I am the City Manager for the City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska ("Scottsbluff"). I am writing to request a meeting with you or whomever you determine is appropriate in order to discuss the condition of the railroad crossings at 5th Avenue, Broadway and Avenue B in Scottsbluff. We have received complaints by motorists because of their rough condition and pursuant to Scottsbluff Municipal Code at §§17-2-1 and 17-2-2 as well as Nebraska Revised Statute §§16-211 and 16-212, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad ("BNSF") is required to maintain the condition of its railroad crossings so they are safe and convenient for public travel and do not necessitate the slowing of traffic to avoid possible damage to tires or other parts of vehicles. The condition of the crossings are deteriorating to the point where citizens of Scottsbluff are concerned about damage to their tires or other parts of their vehicles as well as their safety when crossing your railroad tracks.

It may be that we need to discuss a priority in resolving the condition of the crossings if you cannot maintain or work on them all at the same time. However, we want to open a dialogue before we find it necessary to adopt a resolution and demand that the crossings be maintained. Again, I am writing to begin a dialogue with you in an attempt to obtain a schedule as to when the crossings can be maintained. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours very truly,

Nathan Johnson, City Manager
City of Scottsbluff