Sunol Quiet Zone

Alameda County, in partnership with the ACEforward Program, sponsored a Quiet Zone to be implemented in the Sunol community on the Oakland subdivision of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) from Castlewood Drive in Pleasanton thru Main Street in Sunol.

The Sunol Quiet Zone is an area where train horns are restricted 24 hours per day, except in emergency or dangerous situations.

The Quiet Zone commenced on June 30th, 2018 at 9:00 AM. Hopefully the Sunol Quiet Zone is already improving the quality of Life in Sunol.

What is a Quiet Zone?

A Quiet Zone is a stretch of railroad where train horns are not sounded when trains approach public crossings, except in emergency and/or dangerous situations, or to otherwise comply with Federal regulations. ACE Engineers have been fully trained to comply with the Quiet Zone.

Emergency or dangerous situations include, but are not limited to, persons on or near the track, severe weather conditions, and poor visibility.

Due to Federal Regulations, trains must continue to sound the bell while operating through the crossings.

Which Crossings?

Castlewood Drive
Bond Street
Main Street

Complaints: Who to Call

Union Pacific Railroad
Response Management Communications Center
(888) 877-7267 (live operator available 24/7)

The complaint will be logged and forwarded to the appropriate UP contact.

Complaints: When to Call

As with any new rule, it does take some time for the Engineer’s to become familiar with the location of the Quiet Zone. Positive Train Control (automatic train handling software) is also active in the area and can cause the horn to activate automatically.

Please make sure that the horn was sounded in error and that a dangerous situation did not occur. Note that Engineers have the discretion to sound the horn based on what they observe in the surrounding environment.