

Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing Proposed Back-Up Options Survey

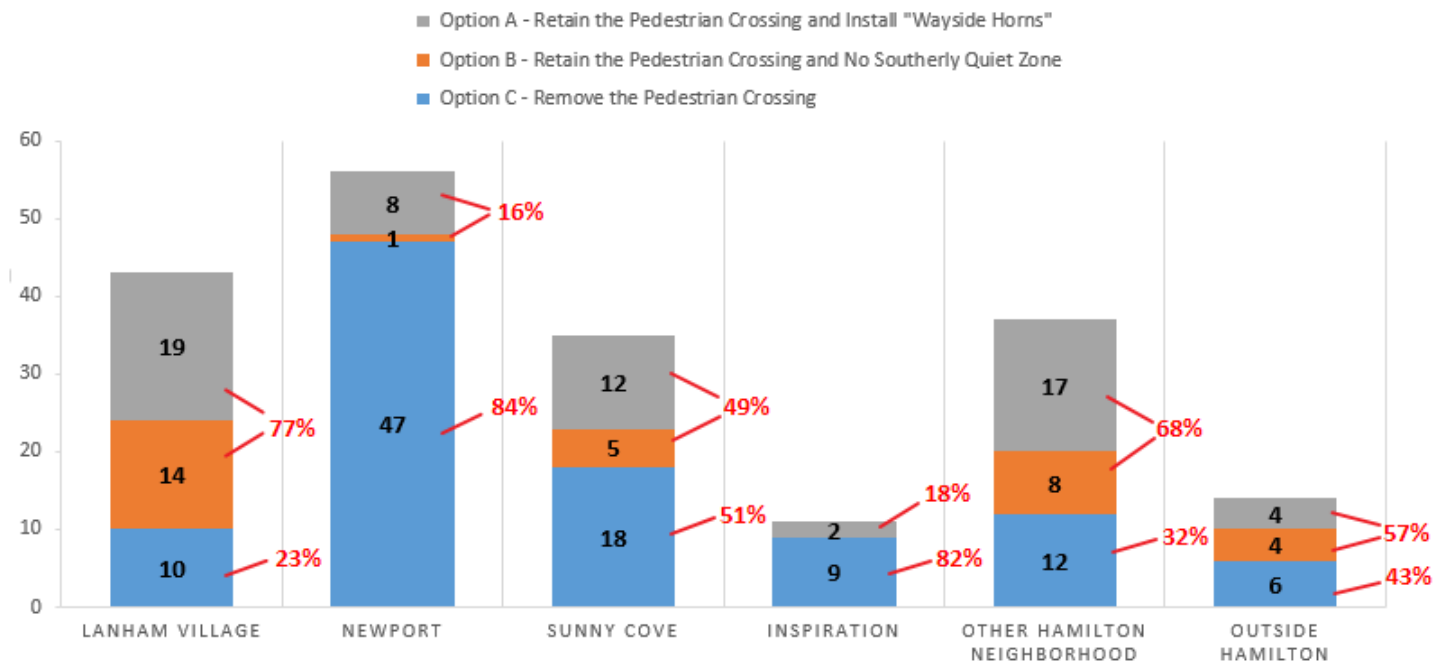
Final results as of October 11, 2016 at 12pm

In response to the August 24th community workshop, the City sought feedback from residents on proposed back-up options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing in the event a Quiet Zone could not be established for the crossing. Options included (A) retaining the pedestrian crossing and installing wayside horns, (B) retaining the pedestrian crossing and no southerly Quiet Zone, or (C) removing the pedestrian crossing. The survey, open from September 28 – October 11, 2016, will provide the City Council with input from Novato residents in their decision-making process.

This report includes a summary of all survey responses by location, as well as all participant comments received as of the close of survey on October 11, 2016 at 12pm. All respondents were required to provide personal data (name, address and email) in order to validate their participation; however, this personal data has not been published and is intended to remain confidential.

The City Council will review the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing back-up options at their October 11, 2016 meeting.

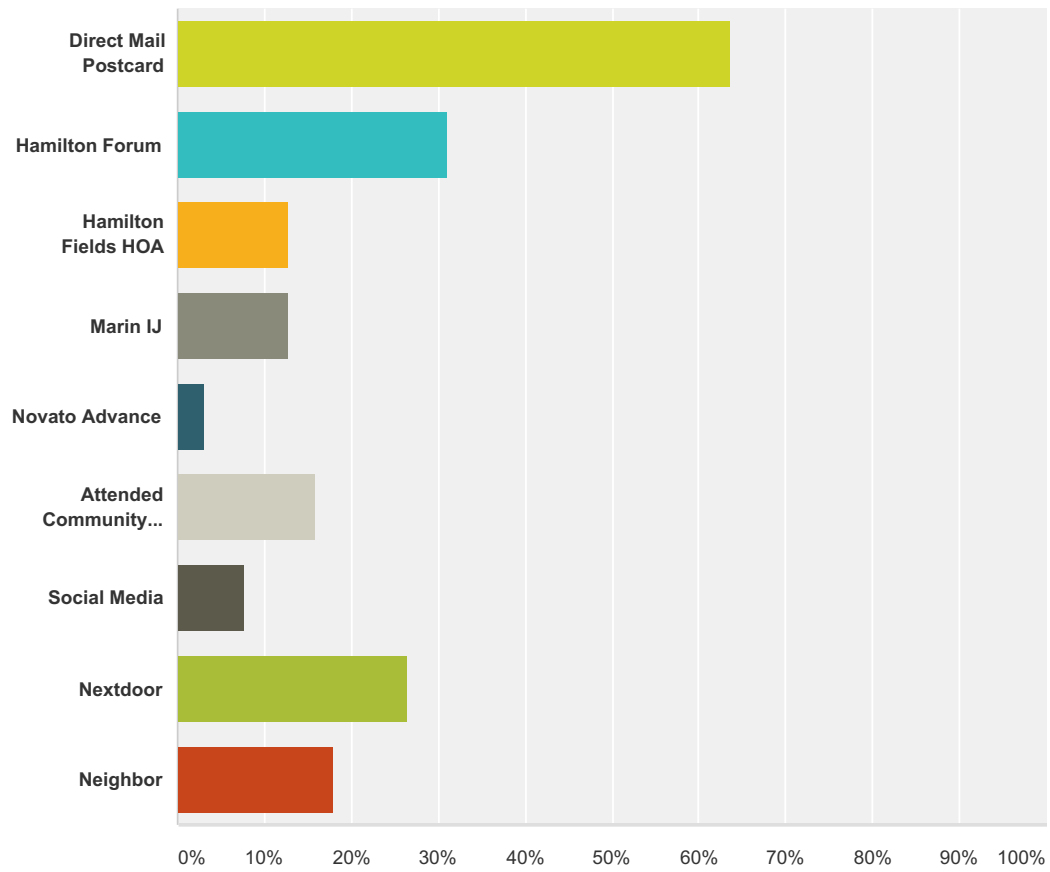
HAMILTON STATE ACCESS ROAD PEDESTRIAN CROSSING SURVEY RESULTS: RESPONSES BY LOCATION



Back-up Options	Number of Responses by Location							% of Other & Outside	Total % of All
	Lanham Village	Newport	Sunny Cove	Inspiration	% of 4 Neighborhoods	Other Hamilton Neighborhood	Outside Hamilton		
Option A - Retain the Pedestrian Crossing and Install "Wayside Horns"	19	8	12	2	28%	17	4	41%	32%
Option B - Retain the Pedestrian Crossing and No Southerly Quiet Zone	14	1	5	0	14%	8	4	24%	16%
Option C - Remove the Pedestrian Crossing	10	47	18	9	58%	12	6	35%	52%
Total	43	56	35	11	100%	37	14	100%	100%

Q4 How did you hear about this project? (check all that apply)

Answered: 196 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Direct Mail Postcard	63.78% 125
Hamilton Forum	31.12% 61
Hamilton Fields HOA	12.76% 25
Marin IJ	12.76% 25
Novato Advance	3.06% 6
Attended Community Meeting on 8/24	15.82% 31
Social Media	7.65% 15
Nextdoor	26.53% 52
Neighbor	17.86% 35
Total Respondents: 196	

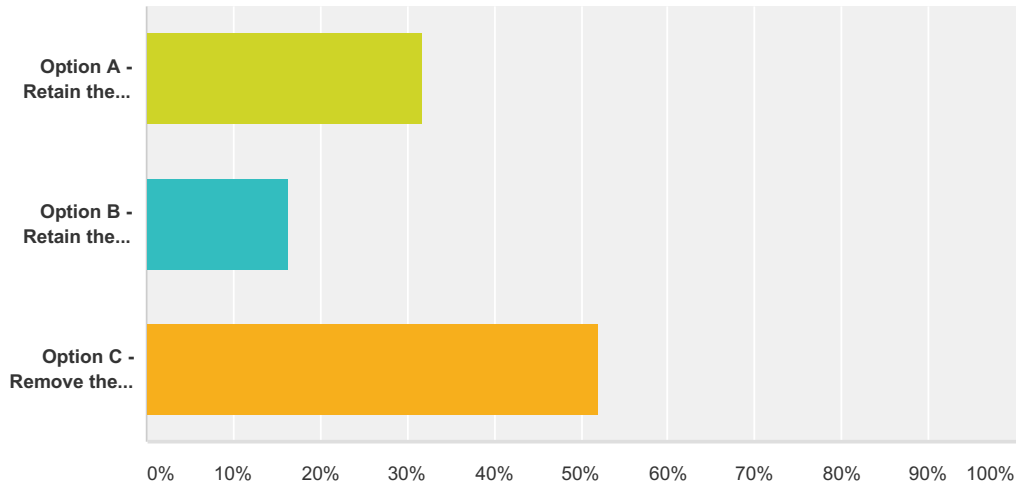
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Family	10/10/2016 1:58 PM

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

2	Hear the horn being tested	10/4/2016 5:30 PM
3	father	10/4/2016 2:03 AM
4	Email from city of Novato	10/3/2016 8:56 PM
5	The train blows that horable sounding horn several times a day.	10/3/2016 7:47 PM
6	Email notification	10/2/2016 11:35 PM
7	Email from City of Novato	9/30/2016 3:39 PM
8	Lanham Village HOA	9/30/2016 11:54 AM
9	Receive City notices directly	9/29/2016 3:55 PM
10	City of Novato E-Mails/Newsletters/Web-site --- surprised this wasn't included as an option.	9/29/2016 2:53 PM
11	I live in the neighborhood	9/29/2016 1:37 PM
12	Novato Chamber	9/29/2016 11:40 AM
13	I was sent email by the City of Novato	9/29/2016 11:27 AM

Q5 Of the following options, which do you prefer? (please select one; additional details on these options are available on the previous page and at novato.org/hamiltonpedxing.)

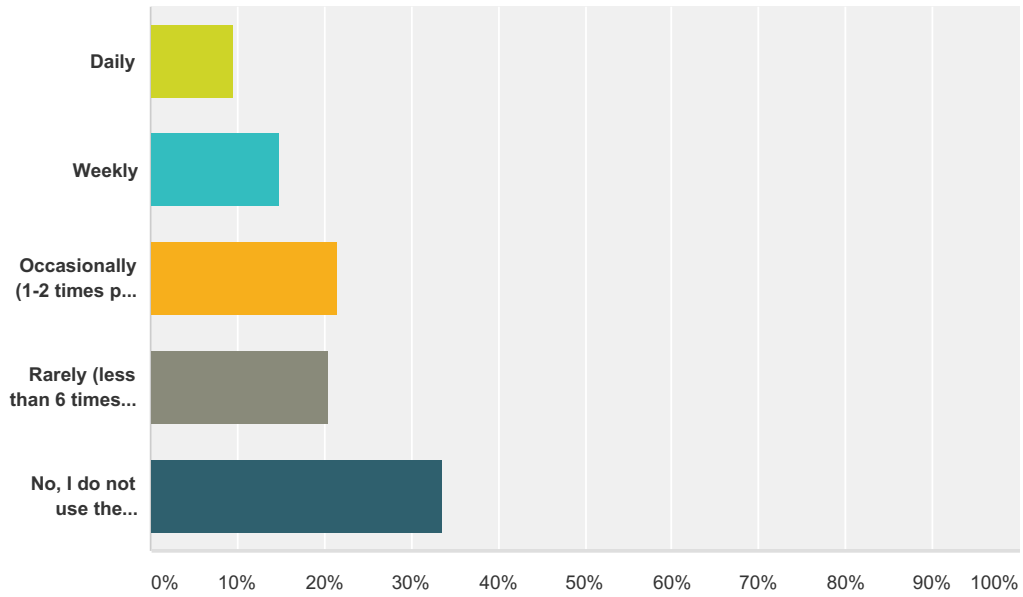
Answered: 196 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Option A - Retain the Pedestrian Crossing and Install "Wayside Horns"	31.63% 62
Option B - Retain the Pedestrian Crossing and No Southerly Quiet Zone	16.33% 32
Option C - Remove the Pedestrian Crossing	52.04% 102
Total	196

Q6 Do you use this pedestrian crossing?

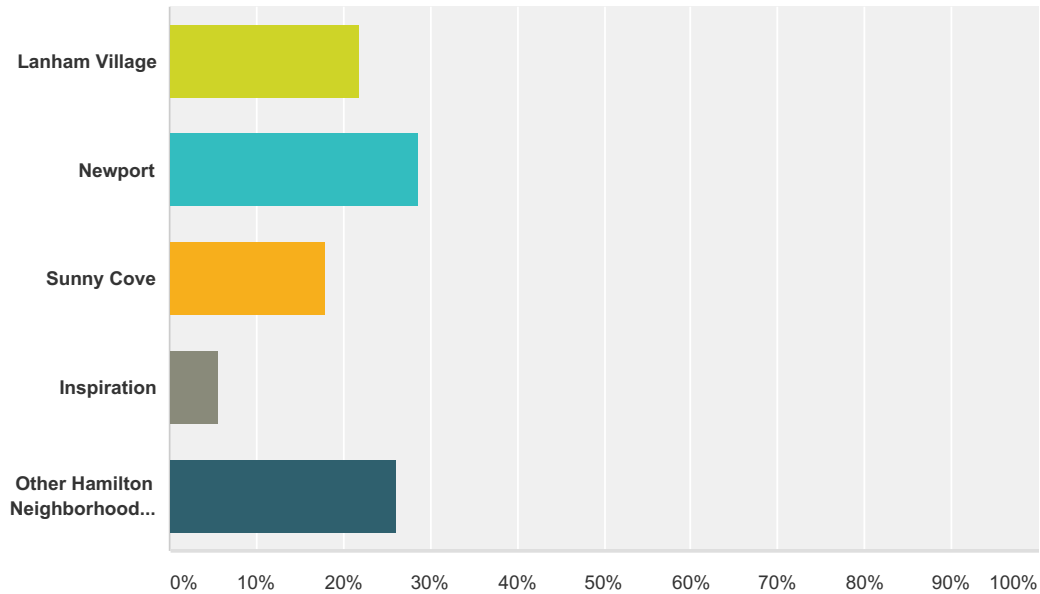
Answered: 196 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Daily	9.69%	19
Weekly	14.80%	29
Occasionally (1-2 times per month)	21.43%	42
Rarely (less than 6 times per year)	20.41%	40
No, I do not use the crossing.	33.67%	66
Total		196

Q7 Where do you live? (please select one)

Answered: 196 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Lanham Village	21.94% 43
Newport	28.57% 56
Sunny Cove	17.86% 35
Inspiration	5.61% 11
Other Hamilton Neighborhood (please specify)	26.02% 51
Total	196

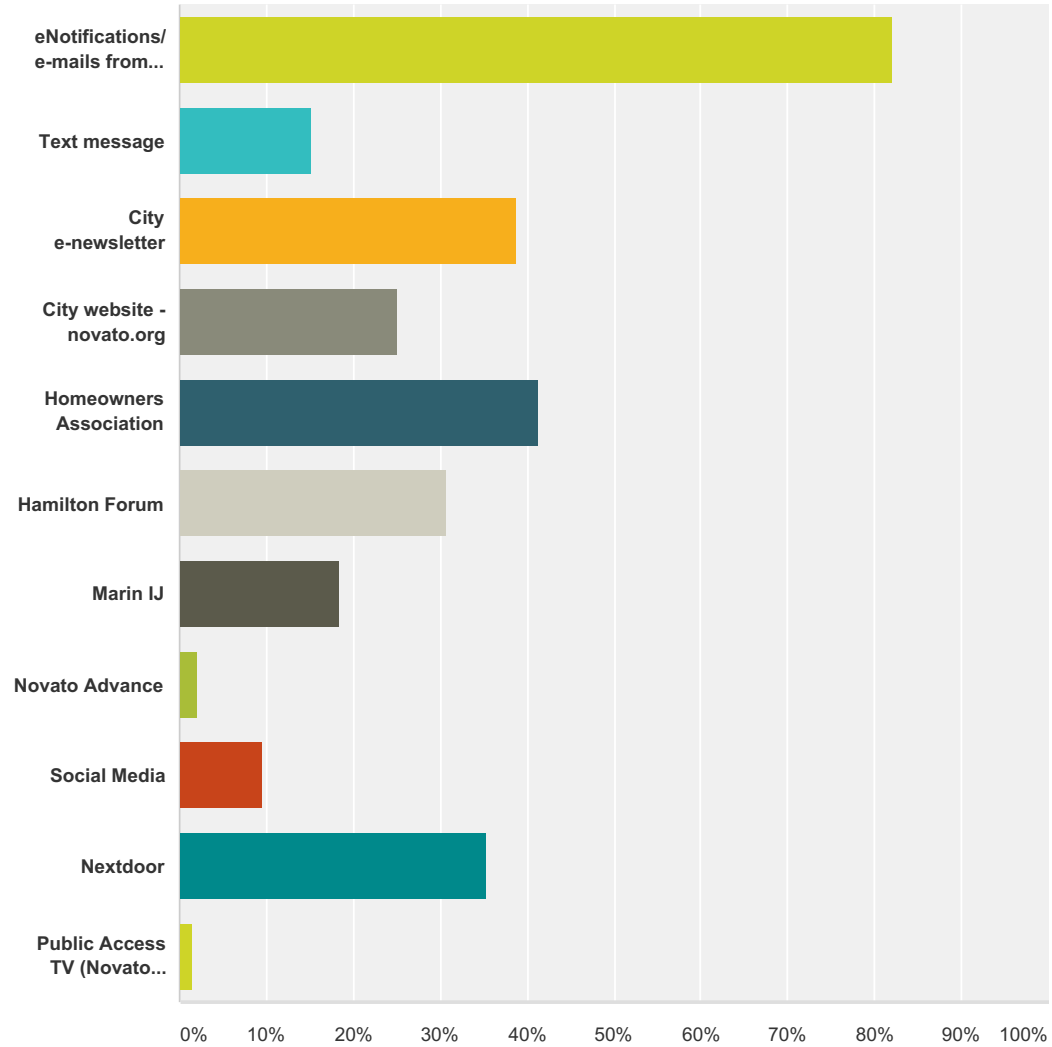
#	Other Hamilton Neighborhood (please specify)	Date
1	Country Club Estates -- not a Hamilton neighborhood, but we still hear the train horns!	10/10/2016 3:31 PM
2	Bayside	10/10/2016 11:26 AM
3	Bayside	10/10/2016 4:22 AM
4	Traditions	10/8/2016 8:29 AM
5	off alameda del prado	10/7/2016 8:11 PM
6	Meadow Park (homeowner)	10/6/2016 1:01 AM
7	hamilton woods	10/5/2016 3:31 PM
8	Out of the area	10/5/2016 9:41 AM
9	Skylark Meadows	10/4/2016 8:48 PM
10	Ignacio Valley	10/4/2016 10:52 AM
11	Alameda del Prado / Posada del Sol area.	10/4/2016 12:08 AM
12	The Landing	10/3/2016 8:56 PM
13	Not Hamilton, Ignacio	10/3/2016 7:10 PM

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

14	Loma Verde	10/3/2016 3:39 PM
15	Across highway from Hamilton.	10/3/2016 12:42 PM
16	Business Park	10/3/2016 12:00 PM
17	Ignacio	10/2/2016 5:49 PM
18	NA	10/2/2016 5:15 PM
19	Bayside	10/2/2016 6:58 AM
20	Ladera Vista	10/1/2016 5:04 PM
21	Southgate	9/30/2016 5:14 PM
22	Southgate and, yes, we can hear that stupid horn from here	9/30/2016 3:40 PM
23	Traditions	9/30/2016 3:39 PM
24	Marin Valley Mobile Country Club	9/30/2016 1:34 PM
25	Hamilton park	9/30/2016 8:11 AM
26	Southgate	9/30/2016 7:24 AM
27	Traditions	9/30/2016 6:55 AM
28	Bayside	9/30/2016 5:55 AM
29	Traditions	9/30/2016 12:22 AM
30	Hamilton Park	9/29/2016 9:09 PM
31	Southgate	9/29/2016 7:16 PM
32	Hamilton park	9/29/2016 5:57 PM
33	Meadow Park	9/29/2016 5:52 PM
34	Hamilton Park	9/29/2016 4:47 PM
35	Southgate	9/29/2016 4:06 PM
36	Traditions	9/29/2016 3:39 PM
37	Southgate	9/29/2016 3:33 PM
38	Southgate	9/29/2016 2:53 PM
39	Bay side	9/29/2016 2:51 PM
40	South Gate	9/29/2016 2:36 PM
41	Traditions	9/29/2016 2:31 PM
42	Traditions	9/29/2016 2:28 PM
43	Traditions	9/29/2016 2:08 PM
44	Hamilton park	9/29/2016 2:00 PM
45	Hamilton Park	9/29/2016 1:53 PM
46	Meadow Park	9/29/2016 1:50 PM
47	southgate	9/29/2016 12:29 PM
48	South Gate	9/29/2016 12:08 PM
49	Bayside	9/29/2016 11:56 AM
50	Commerical - Hotel	9/29/2016 11:40 AM
51	I don't live in Hamilton. I do bike that area a lot and have used this crossing.	9/29/2016 11:27 AM

Q8 How do you prefer to receive notifications from the City of Novato? (please choose top 3)

Answered: 196 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
eNotifications/e-mails from the City	82.14% 161
Text message	15.31% 30
City e-newsletter	38.78% 76
City website - novato.org	25.00% 49
Homeowners Association	41.33% 81
Hamilton Forum	30.61% 60
Marin IJ	18.37% 36
Novato Advance	2.04% 4

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

Social Media	9.69%	19
Nextdoor	35.20%	69
Public Access TV (Novato Community Television Ch. 26 & 27)	1.53%	3
Total Respondents: 196		

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Post Card	10/7/2016 2:50 PM
2	postcard in mail	10/6/2016 9:00 PM
3	postcard	10/5/2016 3:31 PM
4	post card	10/5/2016 1:10 AM
5	us mail	10/4/2016 6:25 PM
6	postcard/mailing	10/4/2016 12:35 PM
7	father	10/4/2016 2:03 AM
8	text to 415-299-7059	10/3/2016 9:50 AM
9	direct mail	10/2/2016 12:22 PM
10	By direct mail	10/2/2016 9:23 AM
11	Direct mail postcard	9/30/2016 3:58 PM
12	email please	9/29/2016 4:42 PM
13	Hamilton Forum	9/29/2016 2:00 PM
14	direct mail postcard	9/29/2016 1:44 PM

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

Q9 Please add any additional comments:

Answered: 101 Skipped: 95

#	Responses	Date
1	Hi, The SMART transportation system can bring us into a future were we work together towards environmental solutions whereby we can improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion. We need to work to preserve the Pedestrian Xing that exists because a vote to close the Xing divides our community and deprives people of a Xing at an important expected location. In proximity to the Xing we have 2 Elementary Schools, 2 Child Care Centers, the Homeward Bound facility, the Lanham Village community with 154 units, and the Novato Public Library... There is a Senior Housing Development and Residential Housing Development in the planning stages with the City of Novato... Additionally, there is land on the corner of C street and State Access Road that is owned by the Novato Unified School Dist. for the purpose of potential future development of a Teacher/Student Technology Training Center and Athletic Fields... The entire area is quite possibly to be developed in the future pursuant to a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) General Plan philosophy which emphasizes development in corridors situated near mass transit... The Hamilton area clearly fits this model... It is stated that closing the Pedestrian Xing is likely to be permanent... How would closing the Xing be logical in light of the existing and future pedestrian impact?..... All residents living in close proximity to the SMART train are impacted by the current noise. Removal of the pedestrian crossing isn't a solution.... The implementation of a Quiet Zone from Novato through San Rafael and the installation of Wayside Horns as per Federal Transportation Dept. rules has not yet been tested.... There will still be a need for Train Horns to sound at the station and possibly at road crossings, whether Quiet Zones exist in the immediate area. Removal of the existing SMART pedestrian crossing with the given future economic and environmental considerations isn't a viable solution. Greg Hanna and Kim B. Stafford Lanham Village Residents	10/11/2016 11:59 AM
2	I used the ped. crossing extensively when my children were at the charter school and often now to go to the library but I'm concerned about the impact of the noise on home values, esp. for those homeowners closer to the train. (Recently a Newport home sold for \$50K under the asking price due to its proximity to the crossing.) I also worry about the safety of kids, esp. teens, using the crossing, even with the bells and horn. That pathway to the charter was never totally safe because children had to walk in the street after they crossed the tracks.	10/11/2016 10:31 AM
3	You may text me at 415-302-5300. Another option: No horns at all. Instead, use: * Bells, * Cross arms, * Flashing lights on train, * Reduce speed of train, * Employ live person to look out train window. All of which are being done. Therefore, we do not need horns. Why is this not listed as an option for the intelligent, caring, tax-paying people of Novato? (Please don't say "Federal Regulation.") Thank you.	10/10/2016 8:28 PM
4	The current noise level even with just the testing is a real problem. I am working night shifts and it is difficult to sleep in the day even with windows closed. I fear that keeping the crossing and schoolkids using it is an accident waiting to happen, e.g kids being irresponsible around the gates, playing 'chicken' etc. The crossing should be removed!	10/10/2016 8:11 PM
5	We were promised that we would in quiet zone by the city of novato and now we have to endure this horn sound every 15 mins of the day. It's horrific. Our neighbor packed her bags Today and left to live at her daughter's house because she couldn't take the horrific horn sound any longer. We have lived here for 14 years and have never seen anyone using the pedestrian crossing.	10/10/2016 7:14 PM
6	It's imperative to keep open the pedestrian walkway, either through wayside horns or no quiet zone. Without it, it would completely cut off access to the library, Novato Charter school, and Hamilton school and it would be a much longer walk to get from Hamilton to those areas (in addition to Lanham village where I live)	10/10/2016 5:33 PM
7	We were told this would be a quiet zone, we want a quiet zone.	10/10/2016 5:02 PM
8	I like the train sound	10/10/2016 4:04 PM
9	Since the pedestrian crossing has been established and people use it, it should be kept. But we cannot consider this project finished until we add the necessary local horns to prevent the Smart Train horn from disturbing all of us. We need to spend the additional money to finish the project.	10/10/2016 3:31 PM
10	Many residents have lived in our community for thirty years and have enjoyed access to the open space via State Access Road crossing. Now we have two elementary schools, two day care facilities, a homeless shelter, a public library and a proposed NUSD teacher training center. A crossing must be preserved for the health and safety of all those invested in our neighborhood. The best option is a raised crossing to preserve access and insure safe passage of children , seniors and people with disabilities. Removal of this pedestrian crossing isn't a solution. I appreciate the efforts of the City to join with COM and City of San Rafael towards a better solution.	10/10/2016 2:57 PM

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

11	I walk this pedestrian crossing almost every day. To eliminate this access would cut off my historical access to the wetlands/observation hill and my daily loop with my aging dog. If access to the pedestrian r.r. crossing is eliminated I would have to cross very busy Hamilton Parkway without a stop sign to get across to the sidewalk and then cross over Hamilton again and cut back through Homeward Bound property and that very "iffy" lot behind this just get to my community entrance. That access is very important to my enjoyment of my community and I am tired of feeling because we live in Lanham, the most affordably wonderful place in Marin, there is some "folks up the hill" snobbery going on. They have cost the city and government hundred's of thousands of dollars with their demands for the wetlands truck access...and I don't want their needs to preempt my historic access to my entire community. Wayside horns or not, that access is very important to my enjoyment of my neighborhood and community. Thank you. Maureen Zeuss	10/10/2016 2:10 PM
12	Would prefer to keep the crossing, but not if it means there can be no quiet zone there	10/10/2016 12:36 PM
13	Obviously the best option is not even listed on this survey -- the option of an expanded Quiet Zone encompassing Novato and San Rafael. City staff and the previous city council have really let us down, by letting residents get "blindsided by the issue of the pedestrian crossing. If the city was not so late applying for the Quiet Zone this issue would have been surfaced much earlier and our plans could have been more easily	10/10/2016 11:26 AM
14	I WOULD LOVE TO SEE AN OVERPASS BUILT AT THE CROSSING FOR PEOPLE TO WALK OVER. WHY IS THAT NOT AN OPTION?	10/10/2016 10:06 AM
15	Once again this survey is poorly done, because it puts too much emphasis on cost of options vs quality of life impacts. It seems once again the survey is designed to slant the outcome of the answers.	10/10/2016 4:22 AM
16	The train horns are a serious nuisance. The limited use of the ped crossing does not justify the negative quality of life impacts of train horns sounding on the homeowners living in close proximity to the ped crossing. Remove the crossing.	10/9/2016 3:56 PM
17	I use the crossing frequently. I love the convenience of its location.. In the beginning of the test period the conductors would sound the horn once or twice at the crossing.. In the past Month or so the horn has been sounding excessively. I would say 5 to 6 times each passing and very long and loud. seemingly more than necessary.. I am very much in favor of keeping the crossing. I think a wayside horn would be a good alternative. That way the loudness and excessive repetition of the horn sounding would be more acceptable. Is it possible that the conductors would prefer to eliminate the crossing? They seem to be making the sound as unpleasant as possible. The train is going by now and the conductor has sounded the horn 6 times very loudly. Why would this be necessary?. Its 7: 36pm on Saturday October 8th.	10/8/2016 7:44 PM
18	I think most parents wouldn't mind a little longer walk if it meant they wouldn't have to worry about ANY crossing dangers.	10/8/2016 8:29 AM
19	I really like having this crossing as I - and my whole family - can get to the library now without driving. It's a wonderful asset to the community!	10/7/2016 3:09 PM
20	The Inspiration neighborhood is greatly impacted by the noise pollution created by the Smart Train. the sound goes right through you and creates stress. Just awful.	10/7/2016 2:50 PM
21	I would like to retain the pedestrian crossing, even if the wayside horns can't be installed. I do not find the current level of train noise bothersome, but I use the crossing on average 10 times a week to reach the open space.	10/7/2016 9:10 AM
22	Please remove the crossing!	10/7/2016 8:43 AM
23	total waste	10/6/2016 11:37 AM
24	The train horns are obnoxious, to add the bells would be unbearable and we would sell our home and move to a quieter neighborhood. It also impacts our home values.	10/5/2016 3:24 PM
25	Please close the crosswalk!!! noise level is unbearable! After night shift of work there is no quiet time to sleep or rest. Walking extra quarter mile is only beneficial for any one who wishes to walk on the other side. It disturbs to many neighbors, affects little children during day time naps, people can not enjoy their peace as they used to. Second is the only option A, with wayside horns. Absolutely NO to option B!	10/5/2016 2:08 PM
26	I would vote for localized horns pointed down, but I/we have no idea how loud that would be without a sample.	10/5/2016 9:54 AM
27	Although the access is a nice amenity, the constant train horn noise will be very disturbing to residents, especially those living near the train tracks and will deter from their quality of quiet enjoyment of their life.	10/5/2016 9:41 AM
28	People will cross with or without a crossing so you MUST maintain a crossing, whether it be a wayside horn or get rid of the quiet zone. There is a blind curve there so pedestrians can't see the train coming! I grew up in Chico and at least one person a year died due to crossing where there were no crossings.	10/5/2016 8:55 AM

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

29	As an "informal crossing" I am surprised it was retained and upgraded in the first place. I work nights and sleep during morning commute times, and the train horn is very loud as it is mostly un-obstructed through my community. A fourth of a mile takes about 8 minutes to walk, and about two minute to bike, so people looking to exercise should embrace this, otherwise the minimal time saved for people try to get somewhere faster is really affecting quality of life, property values etc. for them to save a few minutes. I wish we could keep the crossing for those who need it, but I'm sure nobody realized the effect of the horns. (they are just testing now, but soon it will be all day every day) and for the night sleepers an occasional blast at night .	10/5/2016 1:10 AM
30	We are excited about the public transport and would be a an alternative to the already crowded roads !!	10/4/2016 11:05 PM
31	The use of horns that can be heard over extended distances on trains seems an antiquated law. It should suffice that each crossing has lights (for hearing impaired) and a bell and gates. If someone can't figure out a train is coming by those signals it would signify something seriously wrong with an individual. What if the same law was implemented for automobiles to sound their horns at each pedestrian crosswalk ? OR if there was a two way stop at an intersection and all vehicles must sound their horn who have the right of way? It's mildly romantic to hear a train in the distance but when living near train tracks it is more than an annoyance. If you have traveled throughout the country you can plainly notice that most areas become the poorest, run down, and neglected areas due to loss of property value. This train is a great idea but personally, I find it an intrusion upon my privacy when my windows are closed and I live a quarter of a mile from the crossing as the train's horn penetrates the walls of my home where I attempt to enjoy creating music, writing, reading and other forms requiring contemplative focus. I can only imagine what people who are closer must be experiencing. Again, I believe that the FRA holds to an outdated need and the Federal law should be challenged and not adhered to without question. In view of the choices given I have opted for removal of the crossing. However, I do feel strongly that the need of such forewarning of an approaching train is an outmoded form of notice. Unless, I intend to drive my herd of cattle across the track on the way to Texas in which case I would like to make sure that all trains have cattle guards as well. Sadly, this crossing would be missed.	10/4/2016 10:28 PM
32	Please consider that removing the crossing (option C) will not only be extremely difficult to reverse in the future, it will also have the effect of segregating neighborhoods in Hamilton...not the vision of our current military OR our re-visioned and rehabbed air force base. Please, find a way to retain the crossing!	10/4/2016 8:51 PM
33	I use the pedestrian crossing several days per week. I favor Option A, as it would maintain the crossing yet provide a technologically intelligent alternative to train horn noise. I feel that the cost of implementing this option would be mitigated over time and well worth the investment. The least desirable option would be to close the crossing: your statistics bear out its use, which will likely increase with building of the nearby senior center.	10/4/2016 6:25 PM
34	Unsafe pathway. No side walk on that side of HPkwy, no crosswalk.	10/4/2016 5:38 PM
35	The road, Hamilton Parkway, has no sidewalk on the same side of the street as the crossing. There is also no pedestrian crosswalk going from Newport to the side of the street with the crossing. It's dangerous for kids to cross the street to get to the dirt field on their way to the crossing. Again, there is no pedestrian crosswalk on this section of Hamilton Parkway going from the neighborhoods to the train track crossing.	10/4/2016 5:30 PM
36	While I am all for greater access and originally wanted the crossing kept, the reality of living with the LOUD clanging and honking has forced me to to re-evaluate. Yes, a few people will be inconvenienced if the crossing is closed. But those of us who live close enough to be BOMBARDED by the noise all day are more than inconvenienced. It is surprisingly stressful, not to mention how it interrupts sleep (even with ear plugs!), conversation, work and reading. (It cannot be "ignored"; one doesn't acclimate to it as one does to, say, traffic noise.) The noise has a deep impact on the quality of life here. Our neighbor, in his eighties, had to go away for two weeks because he couldn't stand it. Will his family have to move? Do we have to sell our homes because we can't live with the constant intrusion? (And who will want to pay almost a million dollars for a house that may as well be in an industrial area, what with all the LOUD jangling?! I fear we have all lost property value already ...) I also want to point out that the hundred-some people who were counted as using the crossing were individual users. Whereas the three-hundred-sixty (?) or so "residential units" within the noise zone probably represent at least twice that number, as most homes have two or more people living in them. So it's several hundred people affected, probably more like a thousand something ... compared to the hundred or so who might be inconvenienced by the loss of the path. Also, there is no crosswalk on Hamilton Parkway! It's a very wide, busy street with fast cars and trucks and no safe place to cross. (And when I walked from the Charter School to the ped crossing, I found the road to be quite deserted, and my first thought was that I wouldn't encourage my children to walk home that way! They would be much safer crossing the bridge to Hamilton Parkway, with plenty of cars and people around to see that they are safe.) Please ... Take out the crossing. For the greater good of the greatest number of people. Thank you.	10/4/2016 4:52 PM
37	these horrible horns while very annoying, will cause very negative impact on property values in the nearby Newport subdivision	10/4/2016 4:41 PM
38	How are you verifying the "votes"? All you ask for is the address. The way this is set up I could do a couple of dozen.	10/4/2016 3:00 PM

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

39	We understand that post cards/mailings cost the city and the taxpayers extra money, but the overwhelming number of emails make it difficult to separate the important emails from the junk, and citizens should probably not be expected to navigate the city's website on a nearly daily basis to learn about critically important issues such as SMART quiet zones and/or the so-called Marin Sports Academy. At least (for us) the postcards/mailings get our attention and response. [Thank you for the Quiet Zone postcard.]	10/4/2016 12:35 PM
40	There are no sidewalks on C Street or State Access Road. I've walked from my house in Lanham Village to the library and feel very unsafe with card speeding around the corner from State Access onto C Street. I do not believe the C Street route should be recommended to anyone! A safe path now exists connecting Hamilton Parkway with Main Gate Road and everyone should use it even if it adds some distance. Eventually there will be an overcrossing and other safe sidewalks and pathways in the redeveloped area containing the library, day care and charter school. Until then I vote for people to use the safe pathway through the Smart Station. If I had a second vote, it would be for wayside horns which your poll should have allowed for.	10/4/2016 12:24 PM
41	Since installations of the crossing, I have been walking to the library instead of driving. It's really a great benefit to me to have the crossing.	10/4/2016 12:12 PM
42	I find the idea of removing the crossing dangerous. The skate park and Hamilton shopping has caused that area to be a natural crossing for our youth. One death is too many to not have a safe standard crossing.	10/4/2016 8:40 AM
43	My family and I live right next to the crossing and the noise does not bother us. The crossing is and will be decades to come an important pathway.	10/4/2016 1:45 AM
44	The horns are loud, are sounded more times/longer duration than seem to be necessary, and will lower housing resale value. I feel the number of residents negatively impacted by the intrusive horn sound hugely outnumbers the relative handful of people using the crossing. Thank you for inviting impacted residents to provide feedback.	10/4/2016 12:08 AM
45	Please retain the cross walk. We can see it from our backyard so we are living with the train noise. And we still want the cross walk. We don't know what future development will look like and we will likely want the cross walk instead of having to walk the extra distance.	10/3/2016 9:03 PM
46	The noise from the horns is excessive and highly disturbing to the citizens of Novato/Hamilton. If we would have had any idea that this noise would destroy our community tranquility we would have voted no to the Smart Train! Please stop the testing now.	10/3/2016 7:52 PM
47	I moved to Novato to live in peace. The train blows the horn 4 times every time it passes. My house is less than 100 yards of that unpredictable noise that's very upsetting each time it passes. Remove the crossing and silence the train. NOW!	10/3/2016 7:47 PM
48	Pedestrian crossing to C street is extremely unsafe after crossing tracks from Hamilton you enter a roadway with no sidewalk, bike lane, or signage at a corner in the roadway that connects to state street. Cars using as exit from dropping off at Hamilton, Charter School and North Bay Children's center race by the crossing. Pedestrians are more likely to be hurt by cars than trains if pedestrian traffic increased along this route. Presently The safest route us to use the new bike/pedestrian walkway from Hamilton parkway to Main Gate Road. Quite frankly Third Street is a safety liability for the City and under no certain terms is a safe route to school. I know tried twice walking my daughter to Hamilton and feared for our safety walking into on coming traffic on the street.	10/3/2016 3:42 PM
49	I can hear the train horn in Loma Verde neighborhood so I can imagine it's a bit louder in the immediate area. Couple that with 30 times plus per day and that just might get a bit distracting for those living in the immediate vicinity.	10/3/2016 3:39 PM
50	Dangerous crossing at this time. No sidewalk entrance from Hamilton parkway, no sidewalk or safe pedestrian walkway on C Street. Should be temporarily closed until area is fully developed.	10/3/2016 3:28 PM
51	Please keep the quiet zone	10/3/2016 12:50 PM
52	The horns are to loud and to many.	10/3/2016 12:42 PM
53	I believe it is imperative to keep the pedestrian crossing at any cost. The crossing also makes it easier for my family to get to the station/stop to use the SMART train system. We are looking forward to using it Daily once it is active and it would be unfortunate to have to travel a significant distance to access the station/stop. One of the reasons we purchased a home in Lanham Village was to have access to SMART system for our commute and losing the pedestrian crossing access will be extremely unfortunate. Thank you for your time.	10/3/2016 11:18 AM
54	My family would really appreciate if you will approved the closure of the pedestrian crossing if that's the only way to stop the horn of the train, because it's really loud. We've leave in our home since 2003, and it has been a quiet area, until this train truck came along. I have voted against it 3X, because I want to maintain this area to be quiet as much as possible. Thank you for your kind consideration.	10/3/2016 9:50 AM
55	All previous documentation when we voted for SMART talked about how quiet it was going to be and since testing has started it has been the total opposite. I am slowly changing my mind about wanting a train now	10/3/2016 9:16 AM

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

56	As mentioned above, I use this crossing daily as I walk to the open space. It is safe, the signage is clear and is closed for perhaps two minutes when the train crosses it. I also hear the train whistles daily and this is now similar to noise from the freeway, sirens and other background noise. It seems a great waste of money to change something that is working and no doubt incurred a significant cost to install.	10/3/2016 9:01 AM
57	The train is an asset. The train horn is less than a few seconds, each trip. There are so many things the City didn't plan on ahead of time - like the downtown station. That seems like a no brainer for business and real estate interests, especially Novato's Thursday market, and all those people of modest income who live near there. Now it's the horns. And how about the access to the parking lot on Main Gate road. A very good addition would be a road from Hamilton Pkwy to the Hamilton station parking lot. I was at that meeting, and the overwhelming majority (80%?) favored a second access road to the parking lot.	10/2/2016 11:35 PM
58	- the crossing is infrequently used and 2 nearby crossings are readily available - the intensity of the train horn and wayside horn significantly affects the ability to live nearby which in no way can be offset by the few people crossing - as a physician I should alert you that pedestrians waiting to cross while a train is coming can get hearing impaired from the train horns or wayside horns. This especially applies to children. -therefore I strongly urge to close this crossing	10/2/2016 6:30 PM
59	The sound of train horns are comforting to some of us who grew up within range of railroads. It adds needed audio character and a reminder that transportation is provided by more than just automobiles in the North Bay area.	10/2/2016 5:15 PM
60	It is a shame to recommend deletion of the pedestrian crossing, but the current blaring is intolerable. I especially have sympathy for Newport and Lanham Village residents who live even closer than I. The federal rail interpretation [not actual promulgated rules] of existing "guidelines" makes no sense in this circumstance, but unless quiet zone is extended south of Hamilton Parkway there is no real other solution to the problem. Too bad as this crossing is already the most well defended of any I have ever seen in my 64 years....	10/2/2016 12:22 PM
61	For the amount of increased noise for all the neighbors through out Hamilton, especially those of us close by, it seems like a detour of 4/10 of a mile is not a big deal and well worth it.	10/2/2016 11:41 AM
62	The train horns are SOOOO LOUD!!!! All day long.	10/2/2016 9:23 AM
63	Get rid of the crossing- the trains are way to loud!	10/1/2016 5:51 PM
64	I do not understand why SMART needs to sound their horns during the testing phase when they will supposedly be silent once operational. They are training under conditions that will no longer exist -- at the expense of our health. And the idea that this enhances safety is bunk. I opt for immediate application for Quiet Zones and for removal of the crossing ASAP. I live in one of the homes most affected. It is making us all crazy. My neighbor moved out for two weeks to give her 80+ year old husband a respite from the AM noise. We are not whining; this is serious. See my email of 9/30 elaborating the many good reasons to removed the crossing. Thank you.	10/1/2016 5:07 PM
65	Despite the high cost, a wayside horn seems like the correct long term solution. We should think long term.	10/1/2016 3:45 PM
66	My 2nd choice would be to install wayside horns. The current option is not sustainable - horns are very loud starting early in the morning.Having 300-400 homes suffer for approx 100 pedestrians doesn't make sense.	10/1/2016 2:19 PM
67	city staff should have known about this years ago when QZs were first discussed. They should have taken care of this then. Now, when so many residents are impacted by the train sounds, the best alternative is to abandon this ped crossing.	10/1/2016 10:56 AM
68	The horn is very loud and annoying. I see option C as the only option.	9/30/2016 9:55 PM
69	The horn is oppressive. All of Novato would have quiet zones except Hamilton. It is not worth a crossing that will be little used. Also, anyone next to the horn at the crossing will be risking hearing loss due to the horn. A really bad situation.	9/30/2016 7:42 PM
70	The crossing is a big part of the neighborhood and should remain. Option A is the best option for everyone.	9/30/2016 6:30 PM
71	I love the sound of the trains!!!	9/30/2016 5:36 PM
72	do away with the crossing - we need the peace and quiet restored to our neighborhood immediately! In fact do away with the whole train - what a waste of money	9/30/2016 5:08 PM
73	The horn is loud I wouldn't want to live any closer than I do.if the only way to keep the ped crossing is to use the wayside horn than so be it.	9/30/2016 3:58 PM

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

74	<p>That nobody thought a rail crossing with horn blasting day and night would be a problem in a residential neighborhood is beyond incompetence. We live 1.5 miles away behind a low hill in South Gate and still hear that horn all the time. The train never passed even the most elementary cost-benefit analysis yet promises and outright lies suckered voters into approving it on the fourth try. A tiny minority will benefit from the train and will be the loudest voices for keeping it, even when it becomes obvious that it's not financially sustainable. It never should have been passed in the first place, but here we are. Short of eliminating this boondoggle altogether, the only reasonable option is to remove the crossing. Or, we could have a fourth option whereby we keep the crossing and summarily ignore the federal rail bureaucracy by not having any horn - just lights and crossing guards.</p>	9/30/2016 3:40 PM
75	<p>I was very happy to see the crossing as it was a safe shortcut to the library and my children's school. I'm waiting for a safe cross walk to be placed or a stop sign so that we can safely cross the street to get to the train crossing. The Wayside horns should have always been considered. It's unfortunate that they weren't as now we'll have to pay more \$\$.</p>	9/30/2016 12:39 PM
76	<p>We hear the train horns half-a-mile away. It's more fair to inconvenience 100 people or so who use the crossing than the 1,200 (3 occupants average of 375 homes) people who would have to live with the noise of any kinds of horns.</p>	9/30/2016 12:11 PM
77	<p>Thank you for involving the Hamilton community and all the work you do!</p>	9/30/2016 11:54 AM
78	<p>There has been some variation of a pedestrian crossing from State Access Road across the tracks to Hamilton Parkway, whether official or otherwise, at the same location as long as I have been in the neighborhood, and I have genuine concerns that removing an authorized crossing, with all of its safety considerations, will encourage rogue crossings. Or pedestrians climbing/cutting holes in fences and taking their chances dodging trains while dashing across the tracks. Secondly, the SMART plans indicate that trains will be required to sound horns when departing the adjacent station, which means the neighborhood will be exposed to regular train horns anyway, regardless of whether the pedestrian crossing is closed, but without offering a safe crossing for pedestrians. This suggests the crossing might as well remain, for no additional cost, and the sound implications will remain the same. (Additionally, what were residents expecting when moving into a neighborhood with existing train tracks? Correct me if I'm wrong, but my recollection of the original plan of the Hamilton development always incorporated a light rail system?)</p>	9/30/2016 8:34 AM
79	<p>2nd choice is wayside horns</p>	9/30/2016 8:11 AM
80	<p>to lessen the impact of wayside horns could some type of sound wall be build around the crossing to further limit the impact to surrounding neighbors. if you purchase a house near train tracks one might expect a train and it associated noise could occur one day.</p>	9/30/2016 7:24 AM
81	<p>I am sad that option one and three will cost money but this crossing does not make sense. I don't think its safe and I don't think the noise it generates is appropriate.</p>	9/30/2016 6:55 AM
82	<p>The wayside horn is the best compromise, taking into account the needs of all interested parties. The noise impact of the horn is far more localized and would be a relatively minor intrusion compared to the train's regular horn, which will be always sounding at Hamilton Station.</p>	9/30/2016 5:55 AM
83	<p>I would like to see an option that temporarily closes the pedestrian crossing until the quiet zone issue is resolved. These photos that are used do not show that this crossing dumps people on to an unsafe C Street, a blind curve with no sidewalks and high brush on either side. It's very unsafe for pedestrians. Please put the sidewalk in place before the pedestrian crossing is open. Children should not be walking on road shoulders as this did on Nave Drive for several years until the path was installed. I would hope that all council members walk this pathway before they make their decision and think of the homeowners that are less than 100 feet away. Thank you.</p>	9/30/2016 12:22 AM
84	<p>There are many kids and homeless people around here. They may not be present to what is going on around then so I think the quiet zone is a dangerous idea.</p>	9/29/2016 9:09 PM
85	<p>There are lots of complaints from neighbors on horns so let's see what can be done to extend the quiet so the train can be a positive impact to our community</p>	9/29/2016 5:57 PM
86	<p>I really want and hope the crossing can remain open but only if within the quiet zone. For me, any horn noise is unacceptable for this crossing.</p>	9/29/2016 5:52 PM
87	<p>Although I don't use the crossing much now, I anticipate that would change in the future as I work less and am home more.</p>	9/29/2016 5:08 PM
88	<p>The pedestrian crossing is an important part of keeping Hamilton connected. It is an important path to the wetlands and to the library. Retaining the crossing will allow more flexibility for future development on C Street. My hope is that the crossing will become part of the quiet zone. If not, the Wayside horn is the next best option. I would like to see additional data on actual pedestrian crossings (weekend and weekday). Thank you.</p>	9/29/2016 4:06 PM
89	<p>Very comprehensive information. Hopefully no one will claim this survey is biased if they disagree with the public feedback!</p>	9/29/2016 3:39 PM

Back-up Options for the Hamilton State Access Road Pedestrian Crossing

90	The difference between removing it and adding the Wayside Horns is \$65 - \$130,00. Use the same Hamilton fund the City of Novato accessed to pay for the redundant downtown Station to pay for this amenity that will only increase in use over time and as more development occurs in that area. It will also improve public safety -- if it's removed do you really think people won't try to cross anyway: fences can be cut and climbed over.	9/29/2016 2:53 PM
91	It boggles my mind that this issue was not considered earlier, especially by those who voted for trains. Being far from the crossing, the only option that negatively impacts me is Option C, should I want to use the crossing. I choose Option A as a courtesy to my Sunny Cove and Newport neighbors.	9/29/2016 2:36 PM
92	One of the main reasons that I'm voting to remove the crossing has to do with the crossing itself & not the horns. I really like option B (at no cost), but I can understand that the quiet zone is important to residents closer to the tracks. I'm in Traditions, so not immediately affected. I use the crossing regularly as I run on Hamilton many days a week and take routes that use the crossing. The location of the crossing on the C Street side couldn't be worse. It's on a blind corner with no sidewalk/shoulder. It's very dangerous. For that reason, I'm in favor of closing it - so that kids don't have issues walking to school/library, etc. Thank you.	9/29/2016 2:28 PM
93	Love the train & the ability to still get to the library easily!	9/29/2016 2:08 PM
94	None	9/29/2016 2:00 PM
95	As a person on disability who has written Jared Huffman on the issue, the closure adds 1 mile to any trip I try to make if the crossing is removed. I will do all I can to prevent the closure and hope that the costs to install wayside horns can be shared by the government entities involved. I will say that just 2 days of use survey at the crossings doesn't reflect weekend traffic from walkers, hikers, bikers etc.... Thank you for allowing further discussion on this important issue.	9/29/2016 1:44 PM
96	I walk my dogs daily in that area. I use the path next to the train and see people walking from Hamilton Parkway down the railroad tracks to get to the ped crossing once in a while, Hardly anyone uses that crossing and you can reach state access from main gate. The horns are a constant source of stress and anxiety for me and my family. It feels like living in an industrial area. We are on the verge of leaving the area and selling or renting out our house if this noise continues, This is not the environment we moved up here for. Between increased traffic ,up coming development, the possibility of the obnoxious sports park and the horn noise. Our peace and quiet in Hamilton that we have had for 18 years is gone. Will not even use the train except for novelty when it first opens. Does not help with the commute of anyone I our household	9/29/2016 1:40 PM
97	I am firmly in favor of removing the crossing. The noise is constant and is a serious nuisance!!	9/29/2016 1:37 PM
98	Even if the crossing is included in a quiet zone the signals will still cause significant noise. Closing of the crossing is the fist choice under any alternative.	9/29/2016 1:06 PM
99	I wish we knew how close we are to getting the area covered by the quiet zone. So many people will suffer if it is closed and if it is open without a quiet zone. Its a shame that this, along with so many other issues were not resolved in the earlier stages of this planning. This train thing is a complete mess and will likely cause much more trouble than it ever solves. Just a shame how poorly planned it is, how poorly communicated it has been and how a complete "bate and switch" has taken place. Without the Larkspur connection, this should have been shut down before it began. San Rafael is going to suffer so much loss, it will become a train station town and not much else. I think in 10 years we will have a very unhappy county because of this mess. I am not alone in feeling this way, so many people are afraid of this train and what will happen. Things are already a mess and it isn't even running yet. What a disaster this is. Marin didn't agree to have this train and now because of a careless effort by an Assembly person, we have it anyway and will just have to alter our lives. But, I've lived here my whole life and I'm am very certain the right will bubble up and make sure this does not destroy our way of life.	9/29/2016 12:23 PM
100	Thank you for your work on this. The 100K estimate to REMOVE the per crossing seems very high. I hope you get competitive bids.	9/29/2016 12:14 PM
101	I work out of my home and am a fairly public person in my field. I regularly conduct public webinars with several hundred attendees which are also recorded for additional playback. The horns are SUPER LOUD and can be heard on these webinars. I don't have an alternative facility. I recognize the convenience for those who walk - that extra half mile is probably a pain for their occasional walks. For me, this is a business issue. 30 trains a day with those loud horns impact my ability to do my job - which means my ability to get paid. This is a financial impact - not just a quality of life impact.	9/29/2016 11:49 AM