

Update on Railroad Quiet Zones in the Village of Pewaukee

Date: April 17, 2025

The Village engineer, RA Smith, completed its study for the Quiet Zone process in February. They found that the existing improvements/infrastructure on the four crossings met the standards of the Federal Railway Administration for a Quiet Zone.

The study also reports that the detection equipment at two of the crossings, W. Wisconsin and Kopmeier, are simple motion detectors. This is an older technology that has been replaced by a "Constant Warning System" which measures the speed of the train as it approaches. RA Smith is communicating with the Federal Railway Administration to find out if they will require the detection equipment at those two crossings to be updated.

The engineer anticipates the following time-line of tasks to complete:

Target Date	Event

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May 20, 2025	The Village of Pewaukee will pass a formal Resolution in support of a quiet zone designation
May 23, 2025	The Diagnostic Review Meeting. This is a required step in the process. It brings together all the major stake-holders for a Quiet Zone. It includes the Village, Wisconsin Dept of Transportation, The Office of Commissioner of Railroads in Wisconsin, the Federal Railroad Administration and Canadian Pacific Railroad representatives.
May 30, 2025	The Village sends a notice to WisDoT to update the U.S. Dept of Transportation Crossing Inventory Form. The notice must include the Resolution and QZ study
June 20, 2025	The Village publishes a notice in the newspaper that it will establish a Railroad Quiet Zone under 49 CFR 222.43. This notice starts a 60 day comment period.

September 5, 2025

The Village publishes a notice in the newspaper that the Quiet Zone has been established under 49 CFR 222.43. This notice requires a specific date and time for which the QZ goes into effect. The notice must allow time for the railroad to update their systems. The Village engineer recommends the date/time be midnight six weeks from the date of the notice which would be 12:01 am on Friday, October 10, 2025.

The resolution must precede the Diagnostic Review Meeting so the date of the meeting drives the rest of the schedule.

The engineer is hoping the final determination about the detection equipment will be made at the Diagnostic Review Meeting. If the equipment must be updated it would create a new time-line.