



*City of Hollywood, Florida*  
*Office of Community and Public Relations*

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Residents Will Rest Better at Night Starting Oct. 3<sup>d</sup>  
as Hollywood Bans Train Horns***

**HOLLYWOOD, FL** – Residents in Hollywood's Park East and Emerald Hills neighborhoods will soon be able to rest better at night. City officials recently completed the application process and received approval to ban train horns in Hollywood, which will become effective on October 3, 2006.

"This is cause for celebration," said Hollywood Mayor Mara Giuliani. "I--and some other elected officials have been seeking to get this done for more than a decade! I want to thank our persistent staff, who have worked with their counterparts in Dania Beach to accomplish the goal of getting an official 'quiet zone' designation. We all wished it could have happened more quickly, but the federal process required a lot of work on the part of other agencies over which the City had no control."

The Federal Railroad Administration, which regulates all operations and safety standards for all railways, granted the City of Hollywood's request for a waiver in September. The waiver affects all trains traveling through the City of Hollywood at the City's five crossings on the CSX Railway.

"Working with Tri-Rail, we have coordinated completion of all of the enhanced safety measures for certification of Hollywood's quiet zone," said Bob Rawls, the City's Director of Building and Engineering Services. "In addition, we have completed all of the regulatory requirements, and our safety features far exceed the required standards put forth by the Federal Railroad Administration."

(MORE)

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**HOLLYWOOD**  
*Like Nowhere Else!*

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## TRAIN HORNS BANNED IN HOLLYWOOD – 2/2

Each railroad crossing, from Stirling Road south to Pembroke Road, is complete with double gates on both sides of the road, pedestrian gates and un-mountable curbs. The enhancements have completely confined the crossing zone and physically excludes vehicles and pedestrians, said Rawls.

“Historically, train horns were used as a warning signal for an oncoming train,” said Rawls. “Today, we have other safety measures such as visual signals, physical barriers, curbs and medians, and flashing lights that are coordinated with traffic signals. There is really no need for blaring train horns any more.”

Steven Reese, president of the Lakes of Emerald Hills, is excited about the idea of being able to sleep through the night without being startled awake by each passing train.

“I feel the abandonment of the train whistle is long overdue, especially for the residents who live along the railroad corridor,” said Reese. “Adults and children experience great fear when train whistles blast in the middle of the night. This practice needed to be abolished a long time ago.”

For more information, please contact Alison Hibbert in the City’s Office of Community and Public Relations at (954) 921-3397.

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