

Dangerous Railroad Crossings. How you can help.

To all concerned:

My son, Brian Wolford and I, farm south of Findlay and patronize Legacy's West Findlay grain facility. When I go down CR 84 to and from the elevator, I have been concerned over the years that because of the angle of the RR close to the elevator and fertilizer plant that you can never see back to your right out of a big truck. You have to pull across the tracks blind. I believe because of this, that this is a dangerous crossing.

I talked to Norfolk Southern (800-946-4744) and was told this was five to seven years out to be updated with lights and gates unless they were convinced that it was more dangerous than most.

I called Ohio Rail Development and talked to Julie Finnegan (614-728-9497). This crossing was ranked 15-16,000 – high is 3100. Normal cost for per crossing for lights and bars is \$250,000 to \$300,000 with Norfolk Southern. It could be funded at 50% to 90% when done.

As a Cass Township trustee, we have been asked to allow RR to put up lights and bars at very small township roads. When we told them we had much more traveled roads, we were told the computer said nobody had been killed there. It scares me that computers are supposed to be smarter than motorists and farmers.

Another contact I made was Jill Henry with Angels on Tracks. I was told there was a three page application to be filled out by County of Township Trustees for 60% funding. I am working on this.

As a farmer, we have to have numerous working clearance lights on all our trucks and trailers. Trains do not have to have lights on the side of the train, yet they always have the right of way.

A good driver would never pull out onto a road without looking both ways, but because of the angle of the tracks, this is not possible here.

I feel that this situation needs to be brought to the attention of the right people.

The life you save may be ours.

Thanks,
Jerry Wolford

Contact information:
Norfolk Southern crossing #476843V on CR 84 800-946-4744

Angels on Tracks – Jill Henry- 330-738-3197

Ohio Rail Development – Matt Dietrick – 614-644-0295

CSX – Cathy Stout – 614-644-0313