

# When Trains Stop at Road Crossings – Q&A

## Why do trains sometimes stop and block road crossings?

There can be many reasons: Congestion on the system generally or in a specific train yard, a surge in shipments (harvest time, etc.), track repair or maintenance – any number of things.

## How long can a train block a crossing?

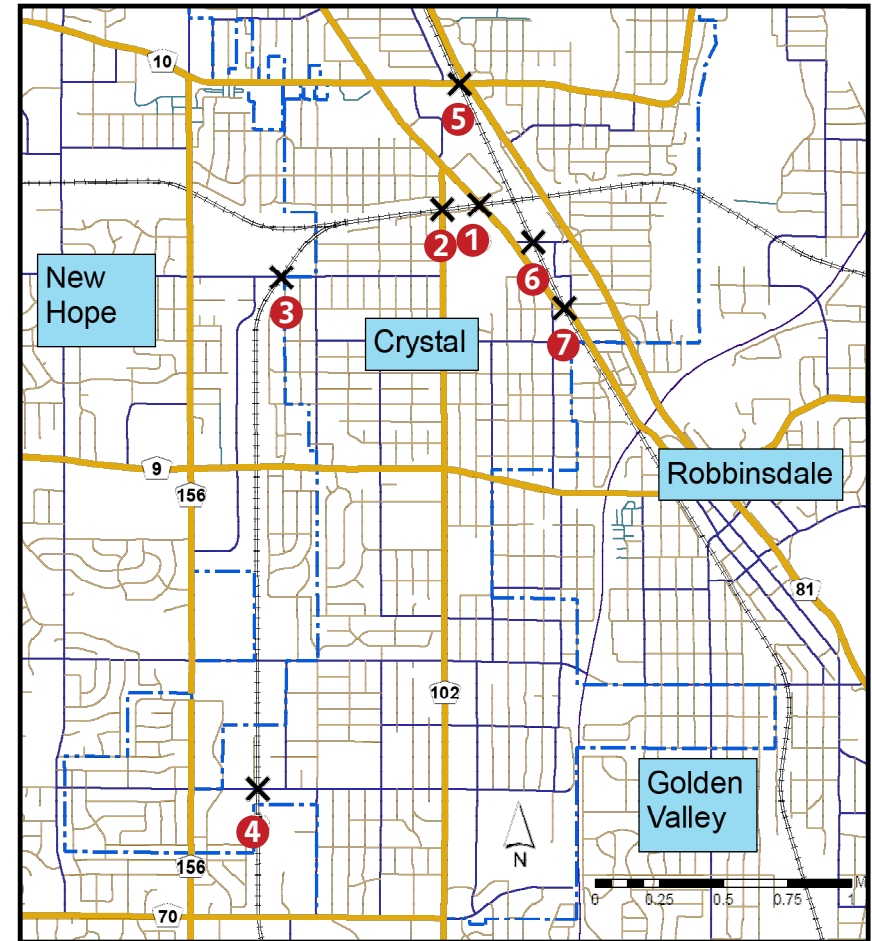
There is a state statute that prohibits railroads from blocking a public road crossing for more than 10 minutes; however, the city's enforcement options are limited by federal rules and case law.

## Is there anything that the public can do?

Let the railroad know that a train is stopped and blocking a crossing. Don't wait for 10 minutes to pass; let the railroad know right away. In some cases, the railroad dispatcher may be able to move things along and reduce the time the crossing is blocked.

## So how do I do that?

At each railroad crossing there's a blue sign with white letters that gives a toll free number for the railroad and an identification number for that particular crossing. If you see a train stopped and blocking a crossing, you can call the phone number and provide the crossing identification number:



**1** Canadian Pacific  
West Broadway  
Phone: 1-800-716-9132  
Crossing ID #688-952K

**3** Canadian Pacific  
49th Ave.  
Phone 1-800-716-9132  
Crossing ID #854-220E

**5** Burlington Northern Santa Fe  
Bass Lake Road (56th Ave.)  
Phone 1-800-832-5452  
Crossing ID #095-632V

**7** Burlington Northern Santa Fe  
West Broadway near 48th Ave.  
Phone 1-800-832-5452  
Crossing ID #095-628F

**2** Canadian Pacific  
Douglas Dr.  
Phone 1-800-716-9132  
Crossing ID #688-953S

**4** Canadian Pacific  
32nd Ave.  
Phone 1-800-716-9132  
Crossing ID #854-223A

**6** Burlington Northern Santa Fe  
Corvallis Ave.  
Phone 1-800-832-5452  
Crossing ID #095-629M

