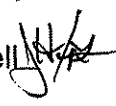


**Mayor**  
John Murray  
**Mayor Pro Tem**  
John Grego  
**Council Members**  
Mary Hornsby  
Ed Martin  
Willard Rodarmel



**Redevelopment  
Division**

210 Fox Street  
Lemoore • CA 93245  
Phone (559) 924-6704  
FAX (559) 924-6743

**TO:** Lemoore City Council  
**FROM:** Judy Holwell   
**DATE:** March 29, 2007  
**SUBJECT:** SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY RAILROAD - UPDATE

---

Over the past several months, staff has been working with the San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVRR) to try and remedy the issues of railroad crossings being blocked for extended periods of time and also the increased speed at which the train passes through our community. Attached is a Synopsis presented to us by Jack Gauthier, General Manager at SJVRR. At the time this was submitted to us, late January, 2007, Mr. Gauthier offered to come to one of our Council meetings to discuss these issues. Since that time, Mr. Gauthier has been out on leave and his return date is unclear. I had a discussion with the Assistant General Manager, Keith Bargsdale, explaining our concerns and he said that if Mr. Gauthier did not return soon, then he could attend our meeting and try to address our concerns. I was given a date when Mr. Gauthier was scheduled to return and since we felt that he was the best person to address our concerns, we decided to wait for him to return.

A couple of week ago, I again tried to reach Mr. Gauthier and he was still out, so I left a message with Mr. Bargsdale asking him to attend our meeting. I waited several days for a response and then finally called SJVRR directly. It was then that I learned that Mr. Bargsdale had resigned and I was forwarded to Richard McGowan, Manager Marketing and Sales, Customer Service Representative. Mr. McGowan is willing to come and meet with us, but his schedule is full during the month of April. I am waiting to hear from him as to his availability for either of our two Council meetings in May.



## SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY RAILROAD CO.

---

221 NORTH F STREET • PO BOX 937 • EXETER, CA 93221

TELEPHONE: 559.592.1857 FAX: 559.592.1859

SYNOPSIS OF PROBLEM ISSUE IN THE CITY OF LEMOORE, CA CONCERNING SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY RAILROAD SWITCHING OPERATIONS FOR LEPRINO FOODS PLANT AND AUTO & PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC DELAYS AT THE FOLLOWING ROAD CROSSINGS: {FOX, FOLLETT & LEMOORE}.

- **PROBLEM ISSUE:** During switching operations at the Leprino Foods Plant in the City of Lemoore, CA, the San Joaquin Valley Railroad has reportedly fouled or blocked the three aforementioned Railroad crossings for extended periods of time, causing undue delay to both pedestrian and auto traffic that has at times led to excessive traffic congestion and unsafe action by pedestrian traffic.
- **RAILROAD ISSUES:** The railroad, in the performance of its service requirements, is required at times to block the crossings for short periods of time while pulling loads from the Leprino Foods Plant and re-spotting empty cars. Every effort should be made to not block Railroad crossings for any extended periods of time and the San Joaquin Valley Railroad has endeavored to do this, but has, at times experienced failures in this regard at this location and has been working to correct any and all deficiencies at this location.
- **PROBLEM RESOLUTION:** Upon discussion of this issue with the City Attorney of Lemoore, the San Joaquin Valley Railroad has instituted the following operational changes.
  - Advanced the time that the train crew would be arriving at Lemoore to provide a switch to the Leprino Food Plant.
  - Avoid or eliminate any switching operations during the time frames of 0700 hours through 0900 hours and 1600 hours and 1800 hours.
  - Eliminate or minimize any excessive crossing delays by appropriate operational changes.
  - Provide follow-up review with City Attorney for progress and success of these adjustments.

