Proposed Section Number(s)	Agree with concept and text as proposed	Agree with concept; suggested rewording of text in Comments	Disagree with concept	Comments Please include justification for your position based on objective experience and empirical data. If there is a specific statement with which you take exception, please provide the Page and Line numbers from the mark-up version of the proposed MUTCD text. BNSF opposes the reference to "trains" in the proposed Support
3A.02	NO	NO	163	statement on page 510 at line 21 (in accordance with FHWA instructions above, all references to page and line numbers in this comment refer of the corrected mark-up version of the proposed MUTCD text (document no. FHWA-2020-0001-0038)). Trains and locomotives do not have the capability for direct communications with highway motor vehicles. FHWA should delete this reference to trains.
5B.03	NO	YES	N/A	In the proposed Guidance statement in this section, BNSF requests FHWA amend the first sentence (lines 1 and 2 on page 514) to read as follows (additional proposed language underlined): "The following considerations (except for railroad and light rail transit grade crossing active warning devices) should be used to better accommodate machine vision used to support the automation of vehicles and benefit the performance of the human vehicle operator." First, BNSF strongly opposes any reference that might be understood to require elimination of post-mounted active warning devices under paragraph A of the proposed Guidance (line 4 on page 514). A significant portion of active warning devices are presently post-mounted, and the cost and resource burdens, as well as the potential negative grade crossing safety implications of this proposal as to active warning devices, would be tremendous and have not been considered. In addition, the 200 Hz refresh rate for LED traffic signals that appears on page 514 at line 9 should also not apply to active warning devices. Current railroad equipment commonly operates at a refresh rate of 50 Hz. CAV machine vision should be able to detect flashing lights operating at refresh rates of 50 Hz. Any suggestion that refresh rates must be 200 Hz would represent an extraordinary cost and burden imposition that FHWA has not accounted for. The present power grid powering railroad grade crossing warning systems will often only support 50-60 Hz maximum. To comply with a 200 Hz requirement would literally require replacement of the power grid in some circumstances. Further, this proposal would represent a huge cost burden in the area of lamp replacement alone, requiring replacement of hundreds of thousands of existing lamps, along with the costs of employee travel and work time necessary to accomplish such under a change to 200 Hz. The CAV industry is still in its infancy with few autonomous vehicles on the road, and CAV's should be developed to account for the infrastructure they must navig

5B.05	NIO	NIO	VEC	DNCE appears the inclusion of the assent neverth of the
GU.GC	NO	NO	YES	BNSF opposes the inclusion of the second paragraph of the proposed Guidance statement (page 515 at lines 1-2) recommending that V2I communication should be used to relay train arrival or presence. BNSF also opposes inclusion of the Support statement proposal (page 515 at lines 7-9) indicating CAV needs are better addressed through V2I infrastructure. Active grade crossing equipment has not been designed or equipped for V2I communication, and there is no evidence to support the statement that it could be more reliable or accurate for CAV use. Rather, it is imperative that CAVs be equipped and capable of reliably detecting existing crossing activation devices based on machine vision, to ensure motorists are adequately protected across the broad range of grade crossing scenarios.
8A.01	NO	YES	N/A	After the term "privately-owned roadways" in the first sentence of the Standard in this section (line 33 on page 680), FHWA should add the words "pathways or sidewalks", because not all private atgrade railroad crossings are on private roadways or involve only vehicular traffic. The revised sentence should read as follows (additional proposed language underlined): "Except at grade crossings of privately-owned roadways, <u>pathways</u> , <u>or sidewalks</u> , the traffic control devices, systems, and practices described in this Manual shall be used at all grade crossings open to public travel, consistent with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations."
8A.12	NO	YES	N/A	For purposes of ensuring continued highway-rail grade crossing safety, BNSF recommends the proposed Guidance statement (page 687 at lines 16-20) remain a Standard (as it is in the 2009 MUTCD). BNSF also requests FHWA retain the references to "shall" in the existing Standard rather than revising to "should" as proposed (page 687, lines 17 and 19). BNSF also recommends adding a new Guidance statement to this section advising that: "The Diagnostic Team should review the findings of the engineering study and determine the appropriate measures to clear traffic from the grade crossing." This additional Guidance would ensure railroads will have representation in reviewing the engineering study to ensure safety at a highway-rail grade crossing the railroad operates over, and because railroads are familiar with the design capabilities of crossing safety equipment. Additionally, BNSF recommends FHWA consider increasing the existing reference to 200 feet in the Standard to 500 feet (page 687 line 17). This increase might provide a further margin of safety in situations that involve traffic queuing near circular intersections.
8A.14	NO	YES	N/A	BNSF recommends deletion of the portion of the Guidance statement on page 688 lines 40-45, because it parallels the existing Standard in Section 6N.17. BNSF also requests amendments to
				the proposed Guidance statement in this section on page 688 at

				lines 46-51. BNSF requests the below changes to clarify the
				situations in which the Guidance statement applies, and to require
				the involvement of the railroad company or transit agency in the
				traffic control planning process (proposed additions are reflected by
				underlined language, with strikeouts reflecting proposed deletions):
				"When a temporary traffic control zone extends over an active grade
				crossing (see Section 6N.17) equipped with automatic gates and
				either one lane two-way or reversible lane operation is used, and
				where the direction of traffic in any lane is reversed over the grade
				crossing, any improperly located gate arms that might cause
				vehicles to stop within the minimum track clearance distance (see
				Section 8A.07) should be removed the railroad company or transit
				agency shall be part of the temporary traffic control planning
				process. At locations where a gate arm is removed Where a grade
				crossing warning system is not modified to support the temporary traffic control operation, a railroad company or transit agency
				employee serving as a flagger and at least one uniformed law
				enforcement officer should be in place at all times that rail traffic
				might approach or occupy the grade crossing."
				BNSF also recommends deletion of the proposed Guidance on
				page 689 (lines 19-22) of this section because those statements are
00.04	NO	\/F0	N1/A	ambiguous and not related to traffic control devices.
8B.04	NO	YES	N/A	BNSF requests FHWA delete the words "deemed essential by an
				engineering study" in the Guidance statement on page 692 (line 10) of this section, and instead insert the words "determined by a
				Diagnostic Team." FHWA should also revise the following sentence
				(beginning on line 19 of page 692) to read as follows (proposed
				additions are reflected by underlined language, with strikeouts
				reflecting proposed deletions):
				"If the STOP sign is installed at the Crossbuck Assembly instead of
				at the highway-highway intersection, a Diagnostic Team should
				consider ation should be given to installing a YIELD sign or
				intersection some other traffic control device at the highway-
				highway intersection."
				BNSF recommends this revised language because a Diagnostic
				Team with railroad representation should be involved in determining
				unusual situations that warrant use of STOP sign at a grade
				crossing, and to evaluate t-intersections for proper signage.
				FHWA should also amend the first sentence of the proposed
				Standard (page 692, lines 24-27) in this section to read as follows:
				"If a Crossbuck Assembly is installed on the approach to a passive
				grade crossing located at a highway-highway intersection controlled
				by a traffic control signal that is not interconnected with the grade
				crossing and not preempted by the approach of rail traffic <u>, a</u>
				Diagnostic Team shall be convened to determine the appropriate
				traffic control devices. YIELD sign with a TO TRAINS (R15-9P)
				supplemental plaque shall be installed on the Crossbuck Assembly."
]		1	

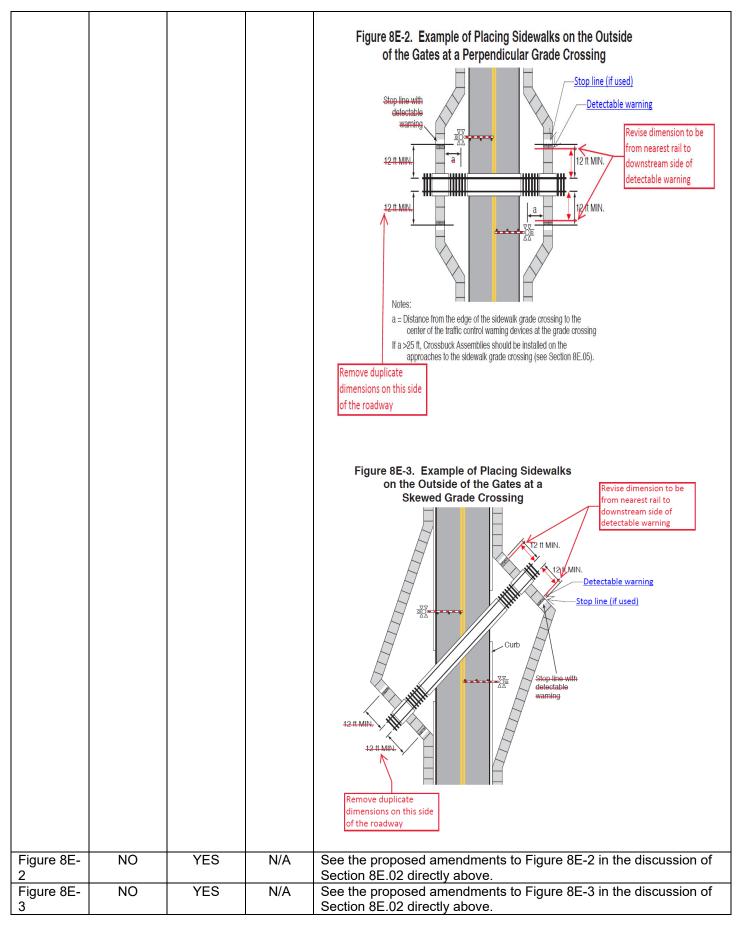
				This recommendation is made because the "TO TRAINS" supplemental plaque is not necessary, and if included there should be a sign figure. Further, a Diagnostic Team with railroad representation included should be involved in determining the appropriate traffic control devices at a highway-rail grade crossing.
8B.16	NO	YES	N/A	FHWA should delete the sentence in the Standard (beginning on page 698 at line 16) regarding the LOW GROUND CLEARANCE plaque only remaining in place for 3 years. For safety reasons, and so all drivers regardless of familiarity with a crossing are made aware of low ground clearance, BNSF recommends the plaque remain in place permanently (per Part 2).
				BNSF also requests the proposed Guidance statement on page 698 at lines 18-22 should instead be deemed an "Option". The word "should" in the proposed language on line 21 of page 698 should be be replaced with the word "may". The phrase "or in place of" (also on line 21) should be deleted. These proposed changes will allow a road authority the flexibility to make the appropriate safety decisions depending on the type of vehicle that needs to be addressed at a particular crossing.
8C.05	NO	YES	N/A	BNSF recommends Section 8C.05 (page 704, lines 4-22) be revised from that proposed by FHWA to read as follows (proposed additions are reflected by underlined language, with strikeouts reflecting proposed deletions):
				"Section 8C.05 Edge Lines, Center Lines, Lane Lines, Raised Pavement Markers, and Tubular Markers Guidance: Except as provided in Paragraph 2, if edge lines (see Section 3B.09) or lane lines (see Section 3B.06) or center lines (see Section 3B.01) are used on an approach to a grade crossing, the edge lines and center lines and lane lines should extend up to and across the track(s) to reduce the likelihood that road users might inadvertently turn into the track area.
				If crossing surface maintenance or approach roadway maintenance is required or performed which alters the markings, the removal or replacement of the markings, raised pavement markers and/or tubular markers should be coordinated between the road authority and the railroad or transit agency.
				Option: The edge lines <u>and center lines</u> and <u>lane lines</u> may be omitted from the highway surface at a grade crossing <u>if the railroad or transit agency determines that the</u> surface cannot retain the application of the edge line or lane line marking. If recommended by a Diagnostic Team, raised pavement markers (see Section 3B.16) may be used to supplement the edge lines or <u>center lane</u> lines that extend up to and across the track(s). Federal Register Number 556: Remove references to lane lines and replace with center lines. If recommended by a Diagnostic Team, tubular markers (see
				Section 3I.01) may be used to supplement the edge lines that extend up to and across the track(s).

Guidance: Tubular markers should net be installed in accordance with railroad or transit agency and regulatory authority (if applicable) clearance requirements within 6 feet of any rail. Option: Shorter tubular markers may be used where they are installed closer to rails. Standard: The color under both daytime and nighttime conditions of raised pavement markers or tubular markers that are used at a grade crossing shall be the same color as the edge line or center lane line that they supplement." As reflected above, BNSF recommends amending reference from "lane lines" to "center lines" throughout Section 8C.05, as center lines are more significant from a safety perspective and lane lines would include outer edge of pavement markings. Next, BNSF recommends the additional Guidance and Option sections as described above to make clear the need for coordination with the relevant railroad or transit agency if the markings at a crossing contemplated by this section are disturbed. BNSF also recommends deletion of reference to the six-foot limitation in FHWA's proposal in order to make this section consistent with proposed Section 8D.01. Further, it is also more beneficial for decisions involving marking placement to adhere to the specific railroad or transit agency guidance versus compliance with an arbitrary six-foot limitation. BNSF also recommends FHWA include an additional Option in this section permitting the use of tubular markers between tracks when appropriate, as proposed above.
RC.06 NO YES N/A FHWA should revise the second sentence of the proposed Guidance statement in this section (at page 704, lines 38-40), to read as follows (proposed additions are reflected by underlined language, with strikeouts reflecting proposed deletions): "If used, dynamic envelope pavement markings should be placed at a distance 6 feet from parallel to the nearest rail in accordance with unless the operating railroad company or LRT agency requirements standard advises otherwise". This revision would delete reference to the six-foot limitation consistent with our comments on Section 8C.05 above, and would make this section consistent with proposed Section 8D.01. Next, BNSF recommends FHWA delete Figure 8C-4 and its reference in this section (line 48 of page 704), because the markings are more clearly addressed in Figure 8C-3 and in Part C (Figure 8C-4 as proposed has the potential to cause confusion). Last, BNSF also recommends FHWA revise Figure 8C-3 to include an additional clarifying explanation regarding coordination between road authorities and the railroad or transit agency (to read as

				"If crossing surface maintenance or approach roadway maintenance if required or performed which alters the markings, the removal of the markings should be coordinated between the road authority and the railroad or transit agency." The proposed BNSF amendment to Figure 8C-3 is reflected in blue text in the figure below: Dynamic envelope Dynamic envelope Optional white cross-hatch markings if transverse lines are present
				Note: Some pavement markings and other required traffic control devices have been omitted for clarity Optional Dynamic Envelope Pavement Marking
				The distance between the rail and the dynamic envelope pavement marking should be equal to 6 feet unless otherwise advised by the operating railroad or light rail transit agency. If crossing surface maintenance or approach roadway maintenance is required or performed which alters the markings, the removal or replacement of the markings should be coordinated between the road authority and th railroad or transit agency.
Figure 8C.3	NO	YES	N/A	See the proposed amendments to Figure 8C-3 in the discussion of Section 8C.06 directly above.
Figure 8C.4	NO	NO	YES	See the discussion of the BNSF recommendation to delete Figure
8D.01	NO	YES	N/A	8C-4 in the discussion of Section 8C.06 directly above. FHWA should delete the proposed Guidance statement sentence in on page 706 at lines 38-40. BNSF recommends such because this sentence conflicts with the proposed sentence in the Standard directly above (at lines 34-35). Consistent with the proposed Standard in this section, the minimum dimensions should conform with those provided by the relevant railroad or transit agency.
8D.03	NO	YES	N/A	In the Support statement on page 709 (line 42), BNSF requests deletion of the word "typically". BNSF also recommends deletion of

				two sentences in the Guidance statement on page 710 (lines 5-6
				and 9-10) addressing the tip of the gate arm and the gate arm being in upright position. This request is to make this proposed section consistent with Section 8D.01 and Figure 8D-1.
				Next, in the proposed Standard on page 709 at lines 23-26, FHWA's proposal specifies a 4" minimum height for retroreflective gate striping. However, the proposed Standard is not tenable for gates longer than 32 feet. Gates are tapered beyond 32 feet to be able to withstand high wind impacts. In light of this consideration, BNSF proposes FHWA amend the relevant Standard language as follows:
				"The height of the gate arm retroreflective tape on the vertical face of the gate arm shall be four inches in height minimum for the first 32 feet of gate arm length (measured from the center of the gate mast to the tip of the arm). If gate arms in excess of 32 feet long are required for a crossing application, the front face of the remaining gate section can taper down to no less than two inches in height to improve the arm's ability to sustain high wind conditions."
				Last, in the proposed Guidance statement on page 710 (lines 11-12) addressing the distance the counterweight should extend when the gate arm is in the down position, BNSF recommends FHWA replace the dimension of "4.25 feet" with "56.5 inches".
8D.05	NO	YES	N/A	FHWA should revise the sentence beginning on line 34 of page 711 of the proposed Standard in this section to read as follows (proposed additions are reflected by underlined language, with strikeouts reflecting proposed deletions):
				"If an Exit Gate system is present, the queue exit gate clearance time (see AREMA Manual Part 3.3.10 Section 8D.10) shall be long enough to permit the exit gate arm to lower after a design vehicle of maximum length is clear of the minimum track clearance distance (see Section 8A.07).
				BNSF requests this change so the Standard is consistent with the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association terms for exit gate clearance timing, and to amend the reference from Section 8D.10 to the applicable AREMA Communications & Signals Manual Part.
				Next, this section also references Figure 8D-2. BNSF recommends that for the "obtuse angle" drawing in Figure 8D-2, that FHWA delete the proposed language accompanying that drawing and instead describe that:
				"Medians or islands between gates and/or gate locations to be determined by the Diagnostic Team."
				BNSF recommends this change for purposes of consistency with Section 8D.01, and because a Diagnostic Team with benefit of railroad representation can more appropriately determine a median or island between gates. The proposed BNSF amendment to Figure 8D-2 is reflected in red text/strikethrough and blue text in the drawing below:

				Medians or islands between gates and/
				Median island between gates or gate locations to be determined by the Diagnostic Team
				OBTUSE ANGLE ACUTE ANGLE
				Lateral clearances shall be in accordance with Figure 80-1
				Legend Direction of travel Entrance gate Exit gate And Chapter 8D. Note: In an effort to simplify the figure to show typical location plans for flashing-light signals and four-quadrant gates, not all traffic control devices are shown on this figure.
Figure 8D-	NO	YES	N/A	See the proposed amendments to Figure 8D-2 in the discussion of Section 8D.05 directly above.
8E.02	NO	YES	N/A	FHWA should replace the word "pedestrians" in the Support statement on page 729 (line 42) with the word "user". Bicycles and wheelchairs are referenced in this Support statement (page 729 at lines 42 and 43), and so this requested change will more appropriately describe the affected universe of crossing users. Next, this section references Figures 8E-2 and 8E-3. BNSF recommends those figures be revised as follows (proposed amendments in red text and blue underlined additional language). BNSF makes these requests so the figures are consistent with our comments on section 8E.04 further below (dimensioning in all Chapter 8E text, with figures revised to provide measurements from "nearest rail" for consistency purposes):



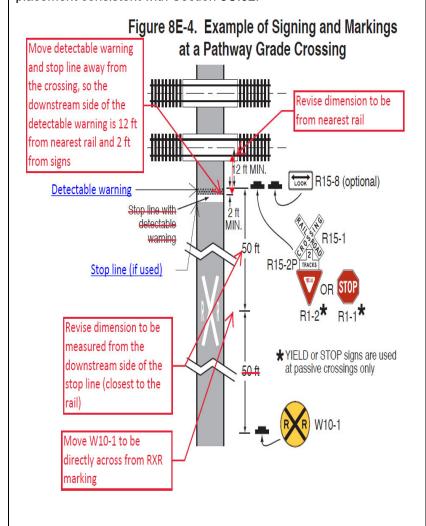
8E.03	NO	YES	N/A	The first sentence of the proposed Standard on page 730 (line 14) should be revised to read (proposed amendment underlined):
				"Pathway <u>and sidewalk</u> grade crossing signs shall be standard in shape, legend, and color."
				The addition of the words "and sidewalk" to the sentence will make the proposed Standard consistent with the title of this section and with the following paragraph (page 730 at line 19).
				Next, on line 21 of page 730, BNSF recommends that the proposed table references be deleted and replaced with the correct reference to "Table 9A-1".
				BNSF also recommends that the Guidance statement as proposed on lines 22-25 of page 730 be deleted and be replaced with a paragraph that reads as follows:
				"No portion of a traffic control device or its support should protrude into the pathway or sidewalk grade crossing. Minimum clearance dimensions between pathway grade crossing traffic control devices and the closest track should conform to the requirements provided by the railroad company and/or transit agency."
				BNSF recommends this revised paragraph be adopted for consistency with Section 8D.01 and because the clearance dimensions should be consistent with those established by the appropriate railroad or transit agency.
8E.04	NO	YES	N/A	BNSF recommends that the proposed Guidance statement in this section on page 731 (at lines 20-24) be revised to read as follows (proposed additions underlined, strikethrough reflecting proposed deletions):
				"If used at pathway or sidewalk grade crossings, the stop line should be a transverse line that extends across the full width of the pathway or sidewalk at the point where a pathway or sidewalk user is to stop. If no detectable warning is provided, the stop line should be placed at least 2 feet upstream from the automatic gate, counterweight, flashing-light signals, or Crossbuck assembly (if any of these are present), and at least 12 feet perpendicular from the nearest rail.
				BNSF recommends this amendment so the Guidance statement is consistent with the detectable warning standards and to clarify that the dimensions cited are only applicable if detectable warning is not provided.
				Next, in a following Guidance statement in this section on page 732 at lines 4-12, BNSF recommends that the discussion be revised to read as follows (proposed additions underlined, strikethrough for proposed deletions):
				"The width upstream to downstream dimension of the detectable warning should be at least 2 feet.
				Detectable warnings should be placed immediately downstream from the pathway or sidewalk stop line approaching the grade crossing (if a stop line is present) or should be incorporated into and made a part of the stop line. The downstream edge of the

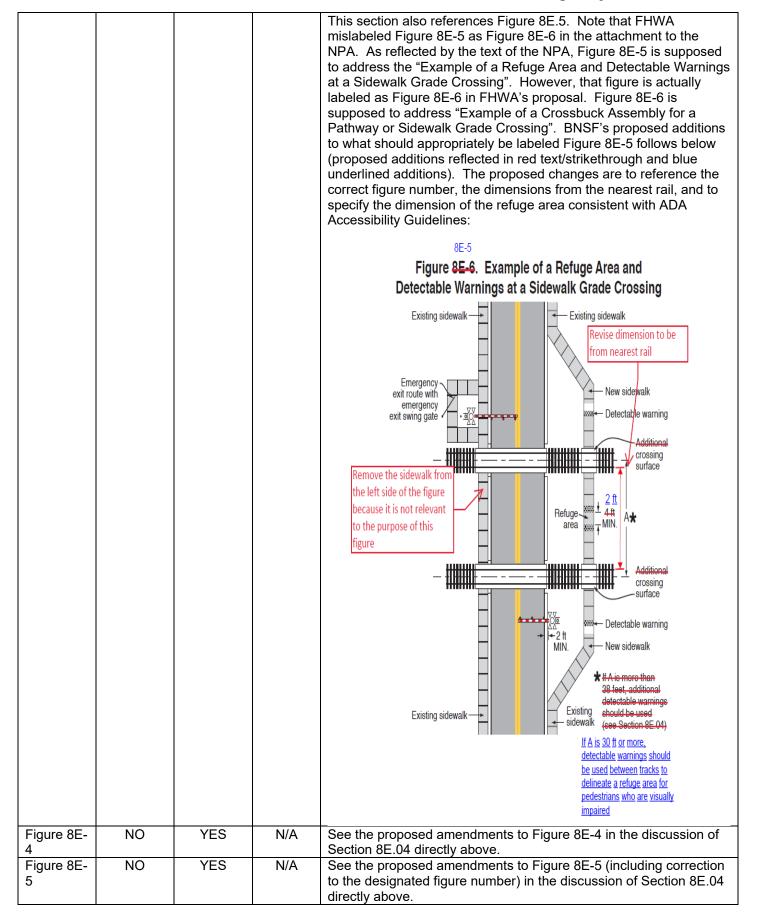
detectable warning <u>adjacent to the grade crossing</u> should be located at least 2 feet upstream from the automatic gate, counterweight, flashing-light signals, or Crossbuck assembly (if any of these are <u>present</u>), and at least <u>no less than 12 feet perpendicular</u> from the <u>center of the nearest track nearest rail</u> (see Figures 8E-4).

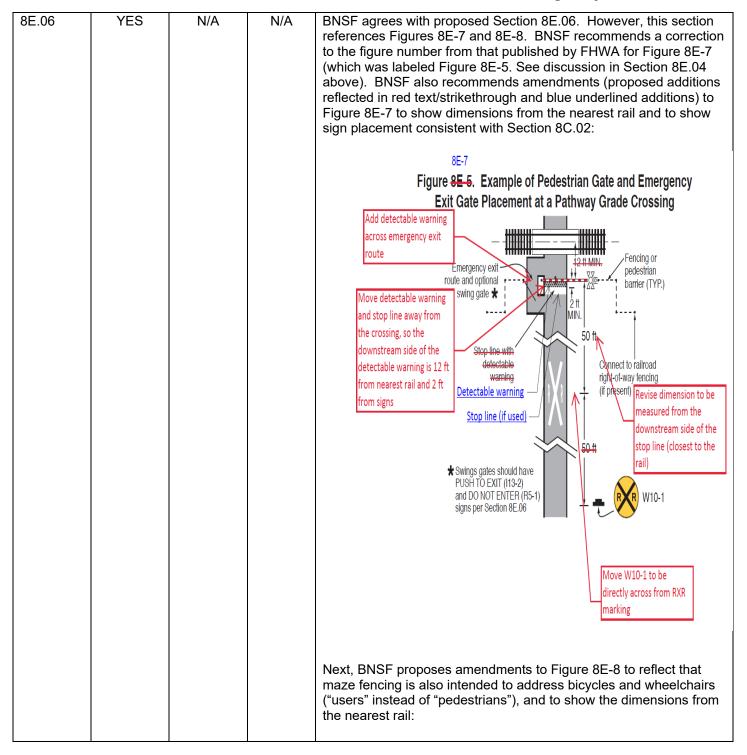
If the distance between the centers of two adjacent tracks at a sidewalk or pathway grade crossing is more than 38 feet 30 feet or more measured from the inside rail to the inside rail, additional detectable warnings should be used to designate the limits of the pedestrian refuge area (see Figure 8E-5)."

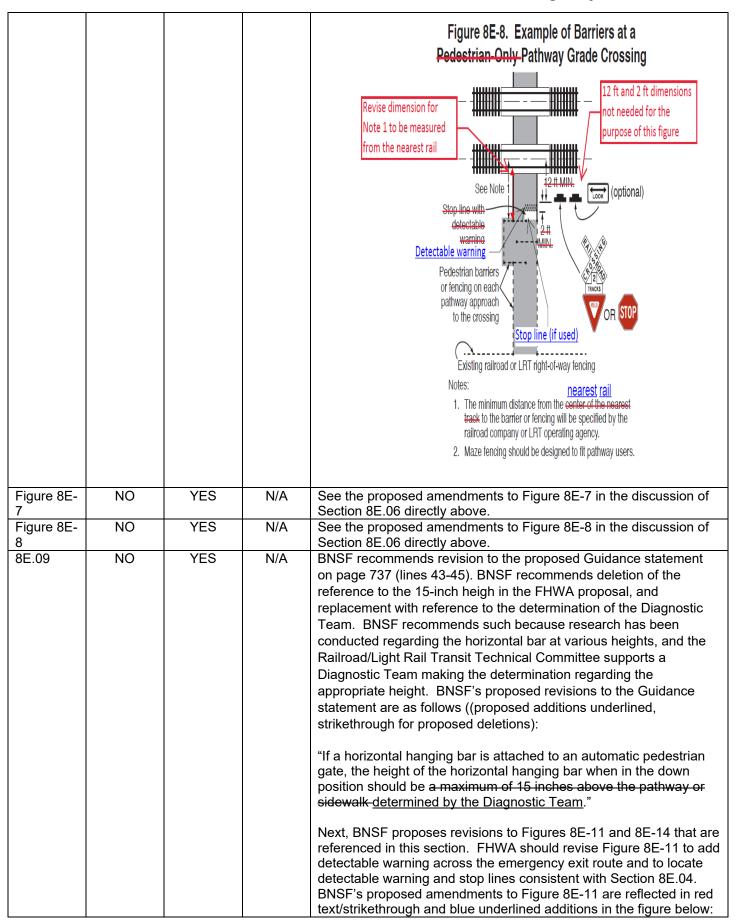
BNSF recommends these revisions for purposes of clarity and for consistency with the Guidance statement for stop lines appearing elsewhere in this section. The proposed revisions would also amend all dimensions in Chapter 8E to reference the "nearest rail" for consistency purposes.

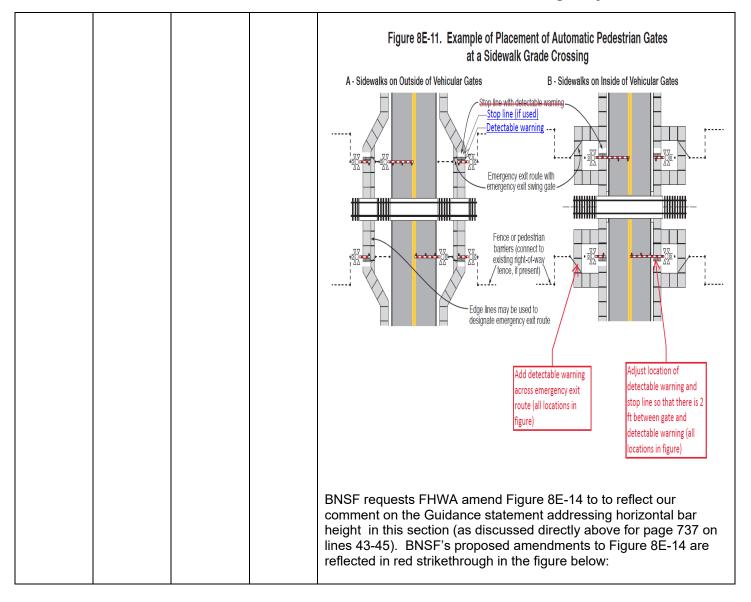
Next, this section references Figure 8E-4. BNSF requests FHWA adopt the below amendments to this figure (additions reflected in red text/strikethrough and blue underlined additional language). These amendments are intended so Figure 8E-4 is consistent with the proposed text of Section 8E.04 as proposed in this comment, and to show the dimensions from the nearest rail and the sign placement consistent with Section 8C.02:











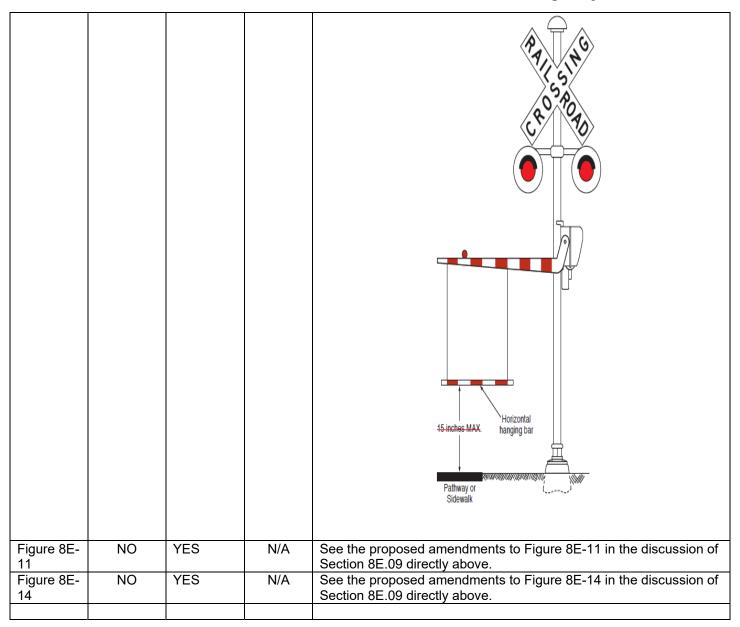


TABLE 2. AGREE WITH ANOTHER COMMENTER. If you agree with another commenter, please indicate the commenter with whom you agree with and note any additional information FHWA may find helpful or any exceptions.

Docket Comment	Agree with	Agree with	Additional information helpful to FHWA, or exceptions to
Number and/or	commenter's	commenter;	commenter's comments
Commenter Name	comments	with	
	as written	exception(s)	
Association of American		YES	8A.14 – BNSF recommends that railroad "shall" be consulted
Railroads / American			as part of the temporary traffic control process
Short Line and Regional			
Railroad Association			