

Written Comments - CSX Blocking Front/Bridge Street Crossing

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Ryan Martin

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

This has been a problem for years but it has been worse recently with the construction on the Memorial Ave bridge. If the tracks are blocked, I have been delayed upwards of an hour if traffic is bad going over that bridge. These are not minor inconveniences.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Gary Palmer

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

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There are plenty of other ways to get from West Side to Agawam and vice versa. I see a train on the app or the lights are flashing I seek an alternative route. Pretty easy. What is this hullabaloo all about? Trains and trucks keep the economy moving. I do not feel so entitled that waiting for a train when there are alternate routes is going to get my shorts in a knot.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Heather Martin

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

The CSX train blocking this particular bridge for upwards of an hour is a constant issue, occurring daily. I've been late to work a number of times because of this. My daycare is an 8 minute drive from my home in West Springfield to Agawam, if the train is not there. If the train is there there is a second route I can take but the traffic now being diverted away from this bridge causes back ups this way. This is especially troublesome during the Big E season. Not only this but the train very frequently blocks the bridge during key business hours, when people need to get from point A to point B. This train is an absolute nuisance and creates a great deal of inconvenience for many of us.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Alissa drost

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

At least one time every day it's blocked for a decent about of time making people re route to memorial ave which is just as bad because there is a huge construction project happening Also makes People's driving more dangerous because now they are late to where they need to be

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Your Name (First and Last) *

john wood

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

blocking of the tracks has ben an ongoing issue. CSX blocks the tracks while assembling trains.. With the limited access to agawam it is also a safety hazzard

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Mark Cancelliere

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

It is very common that if the train is moving slowly or comes to a stop over the road at Front St. It is going to be stopped for at least 30 minutes and this is extremely common. Definitely weekly, it may be daily. I've waited over 20-30 minutes many times in the pass 3 years.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

josh palmieri

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

i drive this road 10x daily from my house to my shop, it seems better the last few months, but still i have waited over an hr multiple times. i know i could go around but with big E or the agawam bridge being one lane it can take 30+ mins to get around so its crap shoot. At the end of the day i have waited an hr many times, 30+mins probably hundreds of times, and usual wait is 20-25mins multiple times a day. it is frustrating but nothing any one can do against CSX. thanks - josh

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Susan Benoit

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I have been in line many time as the train as stopped and blocked the road for as long as 35 minutes or more. I have then gone around to River street only to see that the train is still parked there as the lights are still flashing on Springfield st. Many people work and this caus es us to be late.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Mark Cancelliere

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

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Your Name (First and Last) *

James Dotiwalla

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

CSX has been in violation of this law for years now. If I'd have known there was such a law I would have kept a record of time's and dates that I had been stuck there for over five minutes and had to alter my route due time constraints of my job. That crossing has been a nuisance to the local people for year's.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

David Dionne

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

They not only block, but for past few years are holding horn all hours of night and waking everyone up. Please fix these problems

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Jim Drost

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I live in west Springfield and work in agawam and at least 3 times a week I get stuck at the train sometimes just stopped other times pulls forward and back over and over again taking as much as 1 hour at times and with the bridge construction the traffic gets so bad. Hopefully never an emergency when this train is just sitting there

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Your Name (First and Last) *

John Santillo

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

The blockage of this roadway every day at least twice per day CSX trains tend to block access from Agawam to West Springfield, and vice versa. It started out harmlessly, as little as 10 ti 15 minutes, but has increased up to an hour long. It has to stop, and CSX cannot hijack our public roadways any longer, this needs to STOP IMMEDIATELY!!!

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Carianne Leahy

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

The amount of times i have been stuck for more then10mins at the railroad tracks has insane! I have been late for multiple appointments/ picking up my children or just completely inconvenienced! If they are doing the changing of the tracks i would recommend not peak traffic times! Or establish a more efficient process to ensure the wait times are less! I don't mind waiting for a MOVING train but one that just sits their is being selfish

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Richard Flak

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

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Inconvenient having to use River Road or Rt 57 to access Agawam .

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Frank Palange

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

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It really devistates me to think that after years of complaining about this issue I had to make a hard business decision to sell our Automotive Parts store due to not being able to efficiently deliver parts from Agawam to West springfield. Over 75% of our deliveries came from Agawam to West Springfield and repair facilities just would not wait for deliveries or take the chance that they would be late. On a personal note it just gets aggravating to wait upwards of 30 to 60 minutes. In most circumstances you could turn around and go over the traffic jammed bridge but this one particular time I was driving a 13 foot tall 44 foot long RV that you can not go the other way because it doesn't fit under the underpass and I got caught at the RR tracks in a traffic jam and it was impossible to turn that rig around. At that point I called CSX to find out why the train had been sitting over the crossing for more than 30 minutes and I was told that they can do that any time they want because they gave the towns permission to cross their tracks years ago and they could shut down that crossing any time they wanted. At that point I hung up and continued to wait a total of 64 minutes missing appointments and my passenger missed a lunch appointment.

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Written Comments - CSX Blocking Front/Bridge Street Crossing

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Patricia Weiner

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I have been stopped at this intersection numerous times for lengths of time varying from 10 to 34 minutes through the years. I have lived in West Springfield for 27 years and this has been a consistent problem.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Kathleen Croteau

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

TOTAL NIGHTMARE!! There is no reason for this. We residents are subjected to this too often. Growing up in West Springfield and as an adult living in Agawam, I personally have dealt with this too many times so I try and take what I call the "scenic route" down river road to reach Rt 20 or back to town. Hopefully now someone will be being held accountable and changes will be made. Why can't CSX time their trains that need to stop in the middle of our crossing overnight when there is minimal traffic? Why is it always mid morning and at traffic hour when we are just trying to go home after a long day? Frustrating to say the least.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Madelyn Miller

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I live near the High School in West Side. A number of times over the past two years, I have tried to visit Rocky's Hdw. in Agawam, Block Jewelers when they were located on Walnut St, or a dear friend that lives off Springfield Street in Feeding Hills. I've lost track of the number of times I drove to the "Strathmore Bridge" only to find traffic backed up for a lengthy period of time- going either or both ways- many times 10-20 minutes waiting! Or having to turning around and dealing with the ongoing RE-CONSTRUCTION traffic at the bridge near the BIG E, has been more than FRUSTRATING!

For months it was a complete waste of time, before they finally got those "long promised" signal warning lights installed, which do help a bit, but those are not visible from all directions. I cannot imagine the FINANCIAL DAMAGE that has been done to local businesses on both sides of the bridges over the past two years.

I have basically avoided those two stores, and found alternative places to shop for needed items. Having to get to Feeding Hills by going west on Route 20 , and through Westfield via #187 is also a waste of time and GAS!!

There has to be a better way that is equitable for the residents of AGAWAM and WEST SPRINGFIELD and CSX to co-exist!

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Rachel Knowles

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I go over this bridge 5 times a week to get to work. Very frequently and without any regularity, there is a train slowing or stopped at the crossing. I never know if I will hit the train going to or from work. When the train is stopped I have to go around, which adds 10 minutes to my journey. About 7 minutes into my go around of the stopped train I can see the train on a bridge as I go under that bridge. Generally (8 times out of 10) I can see the train is still stopped.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Thomas Nostin

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

CSX has continuously blocked the railroad crossing during weekdays (Monday - Friday) especially during the Noon to 1pm timeframe for most if not all that 1 hour period. Many times the trains are simply parked on the track and movement is non-existent for most if not all of that time frame. I personally have been blocked for more than the 5 minute requirement over 100 times. This has to stop.

Tom Nostin

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Fred Bryant

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

This has been going on for at least 50 years. In West Springfield, there are, I believe, 3 signs with lights indicating when a train is using the crossing. Agawam has one access to the crossing, and no sign with a light is necessary. Considering the signs and the number of alternate routes from one town to the other, I don't see this as an issue.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Alissa drost

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

At least one time every day it's blocked for a decent about of time making people re route to memorial ave which is just as bad because there is a huge construction project happening Also makes People's driving more dangerous because now they are late to where they need to be

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Jessica Berchin

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

That train has been a nuisance for years. Something should have been done ages ago. The flashing lights on route 20 and 147 have improved the situation but sometimes the timing is off by the time you get to the tracks. With all the construction going on at the intersection of 147, Suffield St. and the bridge, a five minute trip has taken residents anywhere from 20-45 minutes making us late to wherever we were expected to be. It's almost become a joke when all we have to do is say "train" and we get it. My son once had to drive all the way up to Westfield to get to route 20. The bridge was closed and the train was there. Then there are the people that I have observed numerous times zigzagging through the barriers before the train arrives. I know it's not right but knowing how long the train sits there for, I almost can't blame them. If something can be done we would all appreciate it!

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Patricia Young

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

There have been numerous occasions where I have waited for a very slow-moving or stopped train at the Front/Bridge Street grade crossing for much longer than 10 minutes. I recall a specific instance where I wasn't in a hurry so I waited in line and it was over 30 minutes before the train actually moved and it had been stopped at the time I joined the line so it was clearly blocking the crossing for longer. On another occasion I waited for a slow-moving train that eventually stopped, stayed that way for a few minutes then started back in the opposite direction very slowly which all took much longer than 10 minutes. I have also witnessed a train stopped and blocking the tracks on many more occasions at which point I left the area to seek an alternate route to my destination. These blockages occur at various times throughout the day and make traveling between West Springfield and Agawam quite challenging and very frustrating. I am quite shocked there is a Mass General Law prohibiting trains from blocking public ways for longer than 5 minutes and nothing has been done to rectify this problem that has been occurring for many years.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Joseph DuMONT

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

According to this post, the Inspector caught them doing this ONCE... Time for a new inspector since CSX does this on a daily basis. This has been going on for decades. Why did we as taxpayers pay to raise all the bridges in the area so that they could "double stack" the container cars? If they actually did this it would cut the length of the trains and they would NOT have to block this crossing. I have yet to see a double stacked container car in the years since we paid millions of dollars to raise these bridges for this private company. I am thinking instead of a \$500 fine, they company should be forced to repay the taxpayers of this state for the millions of dollars we spent changing our infrastructure for their benefit which is unused by them.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Jonas Barrientos

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I fear that someday there could be a tragedy caused by the inability of emergency vehicles to cross the tracks being blocked by a train for an extended period of time. Certainly, each city has its own jurisdiction for emergencies, but a very serious emergency can not be predicted and the blockage could have very serious consequences endangering lives.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Dawn ROberts

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I am a cyclist who bikes from West Springfield into Agawam and to CT 4-5 days per week in warm weather. Using the Front street bridge crossing is by far the safest way between Agawam and West Springfield as other road ways between the two towns are not accessible by bike or are under construction and unsafe due to lack of bike lanes and space for a cyclist on the reduced lane roadways. I have been stopped, due to a train on the tracks, 1-2 times per week for years and often wait for up to 30 minutes for the train to move. When the weather is cooler, stopping for this long results in me freezing in my workout clothing. When the weather is warm, it is an inconvenience and time delay, which is just frustrating. When I have to get home to get to work and am stuck on my bike at the train, trying to ride around the alternate way (the Big E bridge) takes an additional 30 minutes by bike, and though I am lucky I can do this physically, Ive been late to work due to it more than once. I now have to plan for the “what if there is a train” and shorten my trips or go around the unsafe way to avoid a delay when I cannot be late. It is frustrating that safe, reliable roadways are limited due to the CSX trains.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Kathryn Norris

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

Though our home is less than a minute from the Front Street crossing, we can rarely use that route, having waited many times over an hour and often over 30 minutes for the train to clear. Emergency vehicles can no longer chance the crossing! This has been a regular occurrence, at least once a day, often more than once, in the years since CSX took ownership of the rail yard. As they are building the train, it stops, backs up, moves ahead, backs up again, etc. We wonder if it is feasible to uncouple a segment of the train well beyond the crossing, and continue to assemble the rest. We appreciate the need for rail transport of goods, but status quo is unworkable.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Amy Craven

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I travel this route daily and can't express the frustration of getting stuck for 30+ minutes. Turning around and looping back through Agawam one the back has started is almost pointless at times due to the Rocky's Bridge construction. I am ok with a 5 or even 10 minute delay, but anything beyond is not acceptable.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Krysta santana

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I have personally sat at the train crossing for 30 mins to a half hour train completely stopped. When moving approximately 15 minutes. Then attempted to go around and sat in traffic for another half hour to get into agawam over the bridge .its very scary that emergency vehicles could have trouble getting threw .not to mention parent pick up from schools and such .its awful.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Karen Blinderman

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

If only 38 minutes was the norm for the trains to block this crossing! Many of the trains stop, start, stop, start, back up and go forward for much longer than 38 minutes – this happens regularly. The video cam and warning lights help, but oftentimes they don't register the train has stopped. I was stuck there trying to get back from Agawam during a Big E a few years ago. There was no getting away from traffic within Agawam; all roadways were at a standstill. I stayed at the crossing for well over an hour; eventually calling the W.S. police for advice. Was told there's nothing they or Agawam police can do; CSX is what it is and can ignore the situation as they have done for years. (I ended up making a U-turn and somehow getting through Agawam/Feeding Hills over the mountain to Westfield and down Route 20. If I remember correctly, we've also had instances where the end (or beginning, who can tell?) of a train is just over the crossing gates on the papermill side. That is truly frustrating, especially when the secondary crossing was open, but traffic was not allowed access. I shudder to think how many lives may have been impact when ambulances could not use this path. While the bridge reconstruction has been a pain, it pales compared to the egregious CSX trains blocking this particular crossing. At least with the bridge, there's an end in sight; and things have improved in that area already. With this crossing, there's nothing in sight. Thank you for any consideration you may give to the citizens of West Springfield and Agawam for help in making this crossing better and safer. If the trains remain more than a mile long, I'm not sure how anything will be fixed.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Lesley Vila

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I love in WS and work in Agawam. When coming home in the afternoon usually the warning lights are off but by the time you get to the tracks the train has already blocked the road. I have sat for almost an hour because the train is stopped and moves slowly to the left. Then slowly goes to the right. So you think it is going to start moving so the road can open but it doesn't. Very frustrating.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Lesley Vila

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

If this has been a law on the books for years. Why hasn't the town of West Springfield done something about this long before now. I commend our current mayor and town councilors but shame on our past mayors or town councilors for not enforcing this. You have caused a lot of headaches for the residents of your town.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Donald and Ann MarieLaduzenski

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

There has to be a way around this issue. Is there the possibility of stopping the train prior to that Bridge/Front St crossing and bringing the cars they need to drop at the yard? Can trains be piggybacked to make them shorter and cross quicker? It is impossible to tell how long you may be sitting there. Is there a signal or timer that tells how long you will be sitting there? Very frustrating.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Andrew Vardakis

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I have lived above this crossing on pleasant street for 56 years and it has been like this for years.. and was worse when strathmore paper was operational and when the train station (now a church) was in service.. why is it now an issue but not 20, 30, or 40 years ago..

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Patricia Garbacik

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

It is frustrating that our town is so inconvenienced by CSX. Not only is this crossing a constant annoyance, but also the refusal to correct the RR bridge on Union Street to accommodate all the trucks going in and out of the yard. The truck traffic and all the noise has destroyed our use of the Historic Town Common as a gathering place for town members. If the Union Street bridge was fixed to accommodate the trucks, the trucks would be going through the Memorial Ave exit which is heavily populated with stores and businesses.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Glenn Grabowski

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

Have observed numerous occasions where the train has been blocking the crossing for more than 5 minutes over the years.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Diane Clark

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I have been late to my appointments several times. Since I was in a line of cars I was unable to turn around and take the alternate route.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Joe Miller

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

My wife and I don't even attempt to go over the Front/Bridget St. bridge any more. It is always blocked by trains. And with construction going on at the Memorial Ave. bridge going into Agawam it makes it even worse.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

M Moore

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

When I see a training blocking this crossing, I immediately turn around and find another route, because I know it will not be just a few minutes. Obviously, I have no proof (since I don't stick around anymore), but I've waited at this crossing enough times in the past to know not to bother waiting for these trains to move. I've seen many cars do the same thing. I didn't realize that the regulated limit was 5 mins. That's really interesting.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Jamie Dorman

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I have personally seen CSX block the public roadway many times. The time blocked ranges from 15 minutes to 45 minutes from what I witnessed. It is a complete inconvenience and possible emergency to the public.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Susan Albertson

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I work in CT and the easiest way for me to get to work is over the tracks through Agawam to Suffield. After a long day, nothing is worse than coming home and trying to get over the tracks and see the train sitting there or just coming in or out of the rail yard and stopping on the tracks. I have sat there for an hour many times. At rush hour it's not a quick fix to just go around. Made worse with the bridge construction but still very time consuming even without that construction. It's a waste of time and gas. I used to call the rail yard from the car and report the blocked crossing. CSX then changed that and you couldn't get a live person and had to complete an online reporting of the crossing. The camera has helped but it's still ridiculous to have a road blocked and for the amount of time. I live with the tracks right behind my house, so I'm very used to living with the train. CSX makes it seem like their time is valuable and know one else's time is. They had no problem raising the bridges when it benefitted them to be able to do double high cars, but they don't seem to care when it doesn't benefit them. They have a job to do, the surrounding residents also have appointments, family and jobs to get to. Thank you for your time.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Angela Tourville

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

It is a constant struggle trying to determine if a train will be at a standstill I have missed appointments and have been late to work due to the unpredictability of the trains in when they stop.

There have been multiple times that I've had to literally go through the town of Agawam through Westfield just to get to Route 20 because a train has been stop for more than a half an hour

It is definitely an inconvenience and anytime that train stops it backs up traffic and every other aspect of coming from Agawam to West Springfield and vice versa there's only so many ways in and out and the train blocking this entrance really affects a lot of the community in a negative way if it could be more predictable or possibly not a full stop covering the passing it would definitely make quality of life in West Springfield and in Agawam much better

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Google Forms

Written Comments - CSX Blocking Front/Bridge Street Crossing

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Lorri Twaddle

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I frequently cross into Agawam over the front Street railroad tracks. It is extremely annoying that they block that crossing for long periods of time. I have seen drivers go around the gates several times to beat the train so they are not stuck there for 20 minutes or more. One time I had been waiting 18 min and the train had passed but the gates had not opened yet, and a frustrated driver went around the gate not knowing there was an Amtrak train coming the other way. The train missed his vehicle by inches. It was a terrifying moment. This has been going on for years and we are all tired of their inconsideration for the problem and dangers this causes. I hope this can be resolved once and for all

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Louis Rossetti

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

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I live in West Springfield & I use the Front/Bridge Street Crossing everyday. I use it to cross for work & I use it to cross for shopping in the neighboring town of Agawam. I cannot tell you how frustrating it has caused me to be blocked from going to my home & Work and waiting for the train. I have waited well over 1 hour and 10 minutes on 2 occasions just last year. On other times I've waited well over 30min. If I'm lucky 10 minutes is a blessing and I always stay in line there thinking that day or time in that day is going to be the 10 minute time. Don't get me wrong 10 minutes to me is too long to wait for anything. Truthfully I honestly I think that's why some people risk their lives to try and beat the train that is on coming so they don't get caught in a waiting game hoping the train will end quickly but never does. 70% of the time the trains slow roll for the 30min interval or LONGER the train WILL end at the last train car resting right in front of the crossing as not to lift the crossing gates even so no one would be able to get by anyway. Now the KICKER is that after you wait there for endless time the train will start to move BACKWARDS. It's enough to want to lose it, Sincerely Lose It!! Please make this STOP happening PLEASE.

I WANT TO VERY MUCH THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO ME AND MY INPUT ON THIS MOST SERIOUS MATTER.

Sincerely,

Louis Anthony Rossetti

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Paul Normand

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

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Totally Unacceptable

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Leah Negrucci

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

Yes it is frustrating when the train is stopped down by front Street for an extended period of time. The flashing lights that were recently put up to let you know a train is there to help although I wonder if they are able to stop before the railroad crossing so cars can still go through-which was the case this morning when I crossed over the train was stopped just to the left of the car crossing which was fine because it was not holding up traffic. Now I don't know if this is a possibility or not but if they have to stop and could stop either before or after the crossing it would relieve the frustration. It seem to be much more frequent during big E traffic time when there was lots of cars trying to get home after a day spent at the Big E.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Lise Larochelle

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I feel that the wait time is totally uncalled for and if it's impossible for CSX to control the blocking Front/Bridge St. crossing the public should be able to know how long the wait will be by the electronic signs that display that the train is crossing.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Mary Langevin

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

Many times I have waited several minutes while a train was crossing only to have the darn thing stop. When it finally starts to go again it backs up. That is when you know that you have waited in vain. Time to turn around. I know I've waited many, many times for more than 10 minutes only to finally leave and go around. Very inconsiderate.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Glenn Hoey

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

First and foremost, thank you very much for allowing us to voice our opinion on this topic. As a 29 year resident of Dorwin Drive (Mittineague Park) and past (Covid) 14 year Agawam employee I have experienced on way to many occasions, where I had been waiting for a extended period of time for a freight train to move from blocking the intersection(s). At my longest calculated point (shortly before live stream cameras) I sat as the 3rd person in line with my phones stopwatch activated and timed my delay for a full 43 minutes before the train even started to move. Nearly 3/4 of a hour. That is of course is only one out of the thousand times I have witnessed a train parked there for extended periods of time. I normally will loop back around to River St to get home or to work but that in itself can be a additional 10-20 minutes sometimes do to the bridge construction and the back up on River St near Diamond Gold Connection. And normally the reason for that delay is, because so many of the other people are doing the same loop around knowing that the train is not going to be moving anytime soon. Again, thank you for allowing me this time to voice my opinion because this has been a thorn in my side for so many years. Thank goodness we've never had a 2, 3 or 4 alarm structure fire in town because those buildings would have burnt to the ground by the time the Agawam engines were able to arrived and assist us with having negotiate through and around the congestion of traffic do to the tracks being blocked. Or visa versa. Good day.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Robert Boido

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

Numerous times a day this intersection is blocked for well over 30 minutes. Years ago there was a fire at Southworth Paper and the intersection was blocked. The West Springfield Fire Department could not get to it.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Costas Anamisis

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

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I stop using that street because sometimes it will b over 30 minutes I understand if it's gonna b 5 to 15 minutes but anything over that is obsured and I'm happy to hear that there is an active investigation if something is gonna get done I'll most definitely use that road again

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Anne Henderson

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

People should not have to wait more then 5-10 minutes for the train to move. It is a big inconvenience to have to go around to River Rd to get to Agawam. Please be considerate to the people of West Springfield and do not block the roadway.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Mark Gianfelice

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

There is no reason CSX can not build a third of the train and store it in Mittineague Park. Then they can build the next third and push that into the first. Then the can build build the rest of the train and finish it off and go.

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Your Name (First and Last) *

James kerr

Where do you currently reside? *

- Agawam
- West Springfield
- Other: I lived in w spfld for 24yrs n recently moved to agawam

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

Since the double decker railroad changes happened when they changed the railroad line by Charles st to allow the double high rail cars to go under rt20...since that time it's gotten steadily worst to the point of my record 5 times in one day back in june 2020 I was delayed and had to go around this constant roadblock railway...they come about 930am, 1130am, 330pm and 530pm....count on having to drive around on river st thru w side to get to agawam or Visa versa...one other thing too..that early warning system gives as many false readings as it does real ones and is as useless as that crossing....each day its blocked for hours...and the rail company...no comment on the \$500. each violation....commonwealth of mass at it's best....

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Fay Ladeau

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I have been stuck at the crossing for OVER 45 MINUTES! So very frustrating! With the construction on Agawam bridge, I felt it would be easier to wait, not so! It has happened many times over the past 6 months alone. Please fix this!!

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Your Name (First and Last) *

Thomas Abare

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

I've lived on Hampden St in West Springfield for 38 YEARS as of yesterday... each and every year has had so much blockage, that in my 38 years on this earth, I've had NO IDEA it was even a thing they could be fined for!!! I was under the impression that they had the LEGAL RIGHT to interrupt my life, schedule, and job availability due to timely arrival! It's not right, they can resolve the issue for MANY people, but the funding somehow just isn't there? Well, I've traveled with AMTRAK... they get paid... along with CSX...

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The Department of Public Utilities ("Department") has regulatory authority over railroad grade crossings and a railroad corporation's use of a public way. The Department has opened a public investigation into whether CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSX") is in violation of G.L. c. 160, § 151, which prohibits a railroad corporation from willfully or negligently blocking a public way for more than five minutes. The Department will seek and review all information regarding CSX's operations related to the obstruction of public ways in Massachusetts.

On February 17, 2021, at approximately 1:12 PM, a Department Inspector observed via live stream camera, a CSX train blocking a public way at the Front/Bridge Street grade crossing in West Springfield, Massachusetts. The CSX train stopped blocking the public way at 1:50 PM, which means the CSX train obstructed a public way for roughly 38 minutes in an apparent violation of G.L. c. 160, § 151. The Department has opened a public investigation into whether CSX is in violation of G.L. c. 160, § 151.

As part of this process, the Town of West Springfield is seeking written comments from the public regarding the issue of CSX blocking the the Front/Bridge Street grade crossing in West Springfield, Massachusetts.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THESE COMMENTS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME A PUBLIC RECORD AND WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE PUBLICLY. PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT ANY INFORMATION YOU DO NOT WANT TO BECOME PUBLIC.

Your Name (First and Last) *

Jeff Lovejoy

Where do you currently reside? *

Agawam

West Springfield

Other: _____

Please submit any written comments that are relative to the Department of Public Utilities' investigation of CSX's blocking of the Front/Bridget Street crossing. *

The roadway crosses the rail line at an inconvenient location just west of a regional rail yard. To penalize CSX for poor transportation planning on the parts of both the city and the state are not the fault of the railroad. If MassDOT wanted to do something about this area they would develop a plan for an overpass/bridge. Rail transport is important to the movement of goods across the region, and takes semi-tractor trailer trucks off the roads. This is safer for all drivers and better for the environment. For the DOT to fine CSX is tantamount to saying that the department does not value the advantages rail provides to the economy.

This form was created inside of City of West Springfield, Massachusetts.

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