

NEWS

OHIO RAIL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dangerous Crossings in Clinton & Champaign Counties Get Major Safety Upgrade

(Columbus) – Two grade crossings, both the sites of fatal car-train crashes late last year, will get state-of-the-art warning lights and gates. Both crossings are currently protected only by passive “crossbuck” warning signs.

The Ohio Rail Development Commission has approved plans and notified the Indiana & Ohio Railroad that it can begin construction at both crossings:

- Dialton Road (Champaign County)
- Starbuck Road (Clinton County)

The Dialton Road crossing was the scene of a car-train collision on November 27, 2006 that left the driver of the car dead and a passenger paralyzed. Police reports stated the van involved in the crash failed to stop at the crossing.

The grade crossing at Starbuck Road was the scene of a motor vehicle-train crash on November 14, 2006, which resulted in the death of the driver. Police reports indicated the heavy fog may have been a factor in reducing visibility.

(The Ohio Rail Development Commission is an independent agency operating within the Ohio Department of Transportation. ORDC is responsible for economic development through the improvement and expansion of passenger and freight rail service, railroad grade crossing safety and rail travel & tourism issues. For more information about what ORDC does for Ohio, visit our website at <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/ohiorail/>)

