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## ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 12/08/2015

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### **Arizona Corporation Commission Approves Major Safety Upgrade to Busy Valley Railroad Crossing**

*U.S. 60 & Bell to undergo \$66.6 million project that would eliminate risk of accidents*

(Phoenix)--The Arizona Corporation Commission approved an upgrade to a public railroad crossing at the U.S. 60 & Bell in Surprise, Arizona. The application approves Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway to remove the existing "at-grade" crossing and the construction of a new "grade separated" crossing.

The "grade separated" crossing would take traffic over the rail lines, meaning traffic would not be driving over railroad tracks any more. Brian Lehman, the Commission's Railroad Safety manager said that is one of the highest traveled roadways in the Valley with approximately 50,000 vehicles each day. The upgrade would not only increase safety but would also improve the flow of traffic.

The crossing upgrade is a project by the Arizona Department of Transportation and will cost \$66.6 million dollars. It will take 18 months to complete. Work is expected to begin on the project in January but road closures are not anticipated until April 2016.