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MEDIA ADVISORY
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UPDATED
RAILROAD WORK MAY AFFECT STREET TRAFFIC IN GASTONIA

WHAT:

Norfolk Southern Railroad Train Unloading to begin preliminary work for a large track replacement project. The train will be traveling in a northern direction into and through Gastonia on Tuesday, February 28 and Wednesday, March 1. Estimated timeframe is all day. This YouTube video shows how unloading a rail train is done: <https://youtu.be/-y-oDlxVNgo>

DETAILS:

The Railroad will be laying the new rails on either side of the existing track in preparation for track replacement from October to December. When they get to the intersections where the track crosses a street, they will have to cover the new rail up (temporarily for up to eight months) with stone and asphalt. This will create a patch in the road where the railroad crosses the streets.

The crossings on several of the larger roads will not be affected on Tuesday and Wednesday are: Hudson Blvd., Broad Street, Main Ave., Franklin Blvd.

***Streets that will be affected on Tuesday and Wednesday are:**

Second Ave., Third Ave., Fifth Ave., Garrison Blvd., Marietta Street, Ruby Ave., Clyde Street

WORK DURATION:

The train will be traveling in a northern direction. The work at each intersection is expected to take approximately 30 minutes, with the understanding that due to the length of the train performing this work is 1,900 feet long (1/3 of a mile), and even though the work at a particular intersection may be complete, the train could remain across that intersection while working on the next intersection ahead. No detours will be placed for this work.

WHY:

The track that currently runs through Gastonia was installed in 1889, and needs to be replaced. The existing track is made with 39-foot joints that are bolted together. The new rails will be 1,440-feet in length and welded together in place so there won't be any joints. In the Fall, the main project will take place where the old rails will be removed and the new rails installed.

MORE INFORMATION:

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[Gastonia, N.C.](#), just minutes west of Charlotte, is one of the area's best places to live and work with an ideal combination of location, size and livability. Gastonia is the largest of Gaston County's 13 municipalities and one of the largest cities in the Charlotte metropolitan area. Selected as an All-America City three times, Gastonia's desirable quality of life is the result of its beautiful natural surroundings, friendly neighborhoods, responsive government and vibrant business environment.