

-----Original Message-----

From: John Barton [mailto:[John.Barton@txdot.gov](mailto:John.Barton@txdot.gov)]

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2013 1:03 PM

To: Wilson, Joyce A.

Cc: Bob Bielek

Subject: RE: Train Derailment at Cotton Bridge

Good afternoon Joyce,

The basics are:

The derailment damaged one of the columns holding up the bridge.

We installed temporary repairs over the weekend and opened the bridge to limited traffic on Saturday.

We have designed the permanent repairs and will receive bids from five contractors tomorrow for this work.

We expect the work to install the permanent repairs to begin as early as Saturday.

This work is estimated to take 3 weeks or so, and the two lanes still closed will remain closed until those repairs are completed.

The city is not involved in this at all.

We are installing column protection devices as part of the permanent repairs so that any future derailment should not cause this type of damage again.

Please let me know if this answers her questions sufficiently.

Thank you,

John A. Barton, P.E.

Deputy Executive Director  
Texas Department of Transportation  
125 E. 11th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701  
Tel: (512) 305-9504  
Email: [john.barton@txdot.gov](mailto:john.barton@txdot.gov)

-----Original Message-----

From: Wilson, Joyce A. [<mailto:WilsonJA@elpasotexas.gov>]  
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2013 1:47 PM  
To: John Barton  
Subject: FW: Train Derailment at Cotton Bridge  
Importance: High

John, can I get an updated on this? Bob is apparently traveling and not available by email except sporadically until end of week. Thx.

-----Original Message-----

From: Blanca Del Valle [<mailto:Blanca.DelValle@txdot.gov>]  
Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2013 3:16 PM  
To: Beto O'Rourke; Joe Moody; Joe Pickett; Jose Rodriguez; Marisa Marquez; Mary Gonzalez; Naomi Gonzalez; Pete Gallego; District #1; District #4; District #8; District #6; District #3; District #2; District #7; District #5; Mayor; Carlos Leon; Mayela Mejia; Patrick Abeln; Sergio Lewis; Veronica Escobar; Vince Perez  
Cc: Bob Bielek; Eddie Valtier; James Stevenson; Ken Barnett; Edgar Fino  
Subject: Train Derailment at Cotton Bridge

Good afternoon,

Last night a Union Pacific train derailed and hit one of the Cotton Bridge columns. It was necessary for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to close the westbound lanes of I-10 at Cotton. This is a safety measure for the traveling public.

This bridge will remain closed until the damages are analyzed. We did have a structural engineer come out from Austin to evaluate the damages.

Presently, concrete barriers are being placed on I-10. Once the work is safely completed, TxDOT will open the three left lanes while the two right lanes will remain closed for approximately two to three weeks.

*Thank you,*

*Blanca M. Del Valle  
Public Information Officer  
Texas Department of Transportation  
Drunk drivers wreck cars. And lives.*

*[Faces of Drunk Driving]<<http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/media-room/news/statewide/028-2013.html>>*

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