

This is the official newsletter of **Utah Operation Lifesaver (Utah OL)**, a nonprofit public safety education and awareness organization dedicated to reducing collisions, fatalities and injuries at highway-rail crossings and trespassing on railroad tracks.

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State Coordinator's Message – 2019 Utah Rail Safety Week Report

The third Utah Rail Safety Week, September 22-28, 2019 was very successful. This state and nationally recognized week aimed to empower people to keep themselves safe around railroad tracks. Utah Operation Lifesaver hosted a week full of educational, enforcement and outreach activities. The goal of Utah Rail Safety Week was to raise awareness for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists on keeping themselves safe around railroad tracks and at highway-rail grade crossings. "We are grateful for the positive response from the media and our safety partners across Utah as many activities for Utah Rail Safety Week were carried out," said Utah OL State Coordinator Vern Keeslar." This year safety partners from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) participated in press conference on Monday, September 23, 2019 at UTA's Salt Lake Central Station to start Utah Rail Safety Week. This event kicked off a full week of education, outreach and enforcement activities to heed, "Stop. Trains Can't.", and encourage safe, attentive movement when crossing any type of rail line.

We were particularly grateful to have NHTSA Region 8 Regional Administrator Gina Mia Espinosa-Salcedo and FTA Region 8 Regional Administrator Cindy Terwilliger in Utah to address the media at the press conference. They both gave excellent remarks!



Utah Rail Safety Week press conference on September 23, 2019.

Utah Rail Safety Activities

The following list includes the events for Utah Rail Safety Week.

Sunday, September 22, 2019

Vern Keeslar gave an interview to FOX 13 News to promote Utah Rail Safety Week and no photos on railroad tracks.

Monday, September 23, 2019

Combined press conference at Salt Lake City Central Station 340 South 600 West in Salt Lake City featuring the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), Utah Highway Patrol (UHP), Utah Highway Safety Office (UHSO), Utah Transit Authority (UTA), and Utah Operation Lifesaver.

Message Monday on UDOT Variable Message Signs on Utah's Interstate Highway System stating, "Protect Your Caboose Watch for Trains" "Rail Safety Week".

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Utah Operation Lifesaver participated with Amtrak and local and state law enforcement officers for "Operation Clear Track," a one-day, two-hour surge to raise awareness and enforce railroad grade crossing laws

and trespassing laws in states across the U.S.

Operation Clear Track Law Enforcement coordinated effort with the Utah Highway Patrol, Utah Transit Authority Police Department, and Union Pacific Special Agents from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the 300 North in Salt Lake City and 2100 South in South Salt Lake City railroad crossings. Other law enforcement agencies participating included Pleasant Grove PD, Price PD, Roy PD, University of Utah PD, Utah Highway Patrol, and the Utah Transit Authority PD.



Message Monday on UDOT's variable message boards on September 23, 2019.

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Rail Safety Booth at the Layton Safety Fair from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. located at 530 North 2200 West (Ellison Park), Layton, Utah (shown right).

Walt Webster gave rail safety presentations to Bountiful High School Driver Education classes.

Thursday, September 26, 2019

Transit safety day giving out "See Tracks? Think Train!" water bottles, key chains, and ink pens, at the Orem FrontRunner station during the morning and the North Temple FrontRunner and TRAX stations in the afternoon.



UTA's Lamont Worthy educating the public about rail safety at the Layton Safety Fair on September 25, 2019.

Rail safety booth at the Move Utah Bike Summit from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. held at Little America Hotel, located at 500 Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101.

Walt Webster gave rail safety presentations to Bountiful High School Driver Education classes.



Terri Fontaine handing out rail safety information at UDOT's Move Utah Summit on September 26, 2019.

Friday, September 27, 2019
Social media posts about rail safety on Utah's Operation Lifesaver Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages.

September 22-28, 2019
Radio public service announcements in September along the Wasatch Front on 1280 The Zone Radio Station by Governor Gary Herbert, Lt. Governor Spencer Cox, University of Utah Head Football Coach Kyle Whittingham, Brigham Young University Head Football Coach Kalani

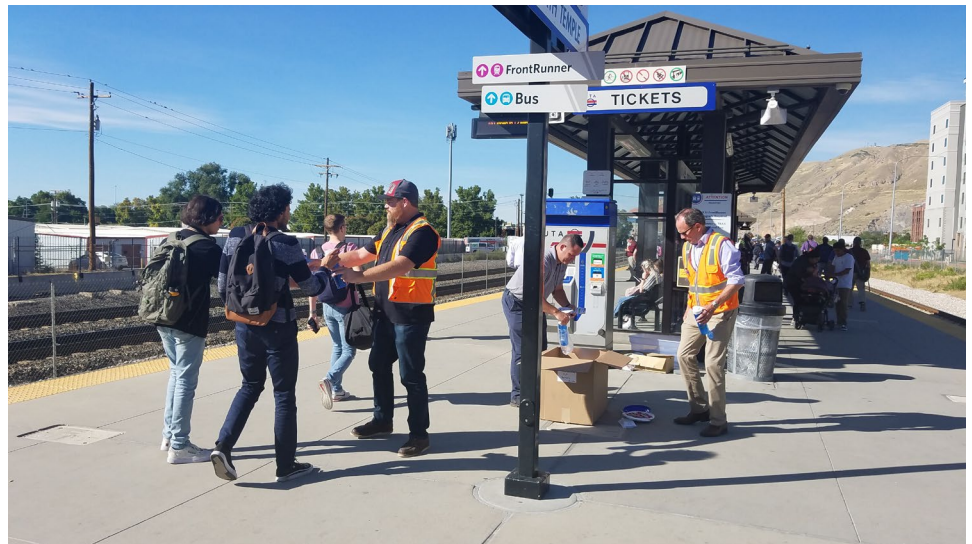
Sitake, Utah State Head Football Coach Gary Andersen, and Broadcaster Craig Bolerjack.

Movie theater public service announcements video produced by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Federal Railroad Administration titled "Stop. Train Can't." at movie theaters in Ogden, Salt Lake City, Sandy, West Valley, and Vineyard. The .30 second video will run in five movie theaters in Utah on 72 different screens for two weeks for a total of 5,040 times!

Utah OL Booth Update

Thanks for all those who participate in the booths sharing the Utah Operation Lifesaver safety messages. Utah Operation Lifesaver attended the following events during the third quarter of 2019.

- West Bountiful Safety Fair in West Bountiful on July 3, 2019.
- NMRA National Train Show in Sandy on July 12, 13, and 14, 2019.
- South Jordan Safety Fair in South Jordan on August 3, 2019.
- Bluffdale Safety Fair in Bluffdale on August 5, 2019.
- Orem Safety Fair in Orem on August 6, 2019.
- Provo Safety Fair in Provo on August 6, 2019.
- Lehi Safety Fair in Lehi on August 6, 2019.
- Davis Hospital Get Ready Fair in Layton on September 21, 2019.
- Layton Safety Fair in Layton on September 25, 2019.



UTA personnel (Travis Singleton and Martin Cocker) handing out rail safety reminders during Rail Safety Week at the North Temple FrontRunner Station on September 26, 2019.

