



COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

CITY COUNCIL of SALT LAKE CITY

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Brian Fullmer
Policy Analyst

DATE: May 19, 2026

RE: Indefinite Closure of 200 South at Montgomery Street

Item Schedule:

Briefing: April 7, 2026

Set Date: April 7, 2026

Public Hearing: May 19, 2026

Potential Action: June 2, 2026

BRIEFING UPDATE

During the [April 7, 2026 briefing](#) the Council asked about retaining the crossing or adjusting the rails to meet other tracks. The Administration said retaining the crossing by making adjustments would be \$1-1.5 million. Adjusting the rails to meet other tracks would be in the tens of millions of dollars.

There was a discussion about creating an additional connection to Redwood Road. The major issue with this is the elevation change between the sets of tracks. A pedestrian island would be required and there would be signal timing issues. A pedestrian crossing was initially planned, but the Federal Railroad Administration recommended closing this section of 200 South.

The Council requested and the Administration agreed to increase neighborhood engagement beyond what is required by the State and let them know the closure is to create a quiet zone.

The following information was provided for the April 7, 2026 briefing. It is included again for background purposes.

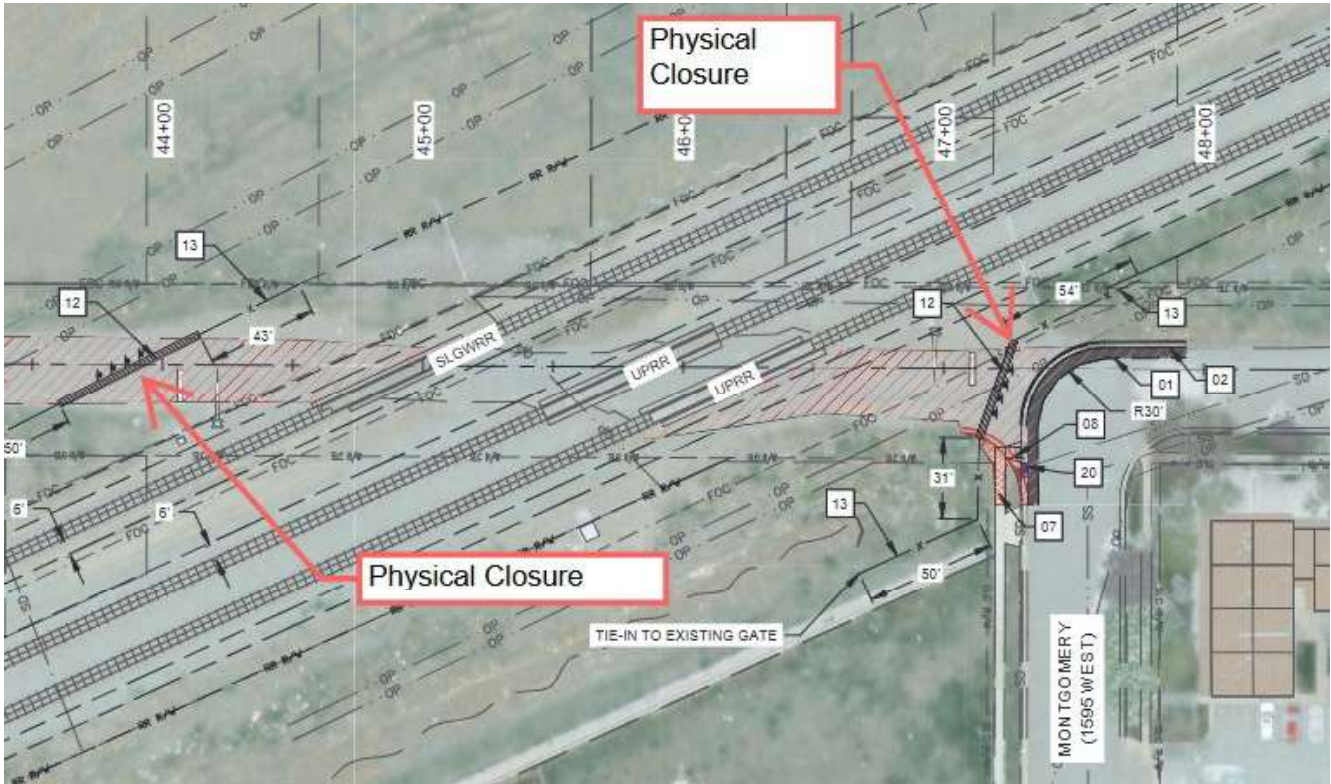
The Council will be briefed about a proposal to indefinitely close to public use a portion of 200 South between Montgomery Street (1595 West) and approximately 1640 West as shown in the image below. This proposed closure is part of an ongoing effort to create railroad quiet zones in the city. Other quiet zone crossings are located at 100 South Navajo Street, 1600 West 200 South, and 300 North Orange Street.

Under the proposal, the City would retain ownership of the street property because the street would merely be closed, and ownership would not be relinquished as it would be with a street vacation.



[Utah State Code 72-5-105 \(7\)](#) requires the City to hold a public hearing after mailing a notice to UDOT. Additionally, abutting property owners must be notified of the public hearing at least four weeks before the hearing date. It is worth noting that the Planning Commission is not required to forward a recommendation to the City Council. As such, the Commission did not review this proposal.

Goal of the briefing: Review the proposed street closure, determine if the Council supports moving forward with the proposal.



Aerial image showing location of proposed 200 South closure between Montgomery Street and approximately 1640 West. Location of new curb and gutter location at 200 South Montgomery Street is also shown.

Image courtesy of Salt Lake City Engineering

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

City staff is working with the Federal Railroad Authority to design needed safety improvements for a railroad quiet zone. The crossing at 200 South is complex due to track elevation, crossing angle relative to the street, and limited visibility. It was determined that closing the street would be significantly less costly than required safety improvements at the railroad crossing for a quiet zone if the street was to remain open to public use.

This section of 200 South has very low traffic volume and few properties are located along road. All abutting property owners, Rocky Mountain Power, Union Pacific Railroad, and Patriot Rail (Salt Lake Garfield & Western), have been notified of the proposed street closure and sent letters expressing support for the closure provided they will retain access to their properties. Under the proposal, no property owner would be denied access to their property.

The section of State code referenced above allows the City to close a street if the one of the following conditions is met:

- The street is not necessary for vehicular travel.

- The closure is necessary to correct or mitigate injury to private or public land resources on or near the street, or
- The closure is necessary to mitigate unsafe conditions.

Administrative staff found that this section of 200 South meets all three conditions.