



## Award of Merit

### Railway Crossing Information System – RCIS



#### Consultant

PBX Engineering Ltd.

#### Owner/Client

BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

#### Category

Soft Engineering

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The Roberts Bank Rail Corridor is a critical east-west link for the movement of goods by rail — connecting ports and facilities to the North American rail network. The railway runs through the City of Surrey, City of Langley, and the Township of Langley. Within the project area, this includes four at-grade rail crossings, where major roads intersect with the rail line.

When trains transit through the rail corridor, the at-grade intersections may be blocked for extended periods of time. As a result, motorists in the area often experience significant delays while the crossings are blocked, as well as delays due to residual traffic congestion that can take many minutes to clear once the train has passed. Blocked crossings result in a number of other impacts for the general public — including reduced commerce, increased emergency response times, and increased pollution levels.

Rail traffic is predicted to increase both in frequency and in length. Recognizing the need to address this growing issue, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure initiated the Rail Crossing Information System (RCIS) project. The objective of the RCIS is to implement an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) to mitigate the impact of rail traffic and optimize the use of the road infrastructure by providing motorists with information that will enable them to make informed route choices, reducing traffic congestion and its associated environmental, economic, and social costs. Information regarding the status of the crossings will encourage drivers to divert to alternate routes. PBX was engaged to plan, design, and implement the system.