### Safety

The Broadway Second Main Track Project will increase safety by facilitating the shift of freight shipments from highways to rail. History shows that rail transportation is safer than truck transportation. In fact, trucks transporting hazardous material have nearly 16 times more hazmat releases than railroads. This is a particular concern in the Houston area as industries along the HSC produce numerous petrochemical products and hazardous materials.

The shift from truck to rail transportation enabled by the project will also reduce highway collisions, injuries, and fatalities. The South Texas area has seen increases in truck related crashes since 2006. Based on data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System, Texas is one of the highest five states in the country in truck related accidents and fatalities. Furthermore, when compared to truck related accidents, improvements to track safety and crossing protection are expected to reduce rail accidents despite the increase in rail freight tons carried. Specifically, eliminating road crossings being blocked by delays caused by the single track will significantly decrease the probability of at grade crossing accidents.

The project will enhance environmental safety by increasing the efficiency of rail and truck transportation near the Port, reducing diesel fuel consumption by both rail and truck transportation providers, and reducing greenhouse gas and other emissions in the area.