

Safety Notice

Collision between a passenger train and a
motor scooter on a level crossing
Hoboken - 22/06/2026

REPORT VERSION TABLE

Version number	Subject of revision	Date
1.0	First version	09/07/2026
1.1	Clarification of the local traffic situation and the associated safety risks	28/07/2026

For ease of reading, the masculine form is used to refer to certain roles, but these terms apply to all persons.

Any use of this notice with a different aim than of accident prevention - for example in order to attribute liability - individual or collective blame in particular - would be a complete distortion of the aims of this notice, the methods used to assemble it, the selection of facts collected, the nature of questions posed and the ideas organising it, to which the notion of liability is unknown. The conclusions which could be deduced from this would therefore be abusive in the literal sense of the term.

In case of contradiction between certain words and terms, it is necessary to refer to the Dutch version.

1. Facts

On 22 June 2026, at around 4:34 p.m., an SNCB/NMBS passenger train was approaching level crossing 10 on track B of railway line 52, located on Kapelstraat in Hoboken. The train driver noticed the presence of a motor scooter and rider on the level crossing and performed an emergency braking. Despite the emergency braking, a collision could not be avoided. After the collision, the train came to a standstill approximately 275 metres in advance of the level crossing.

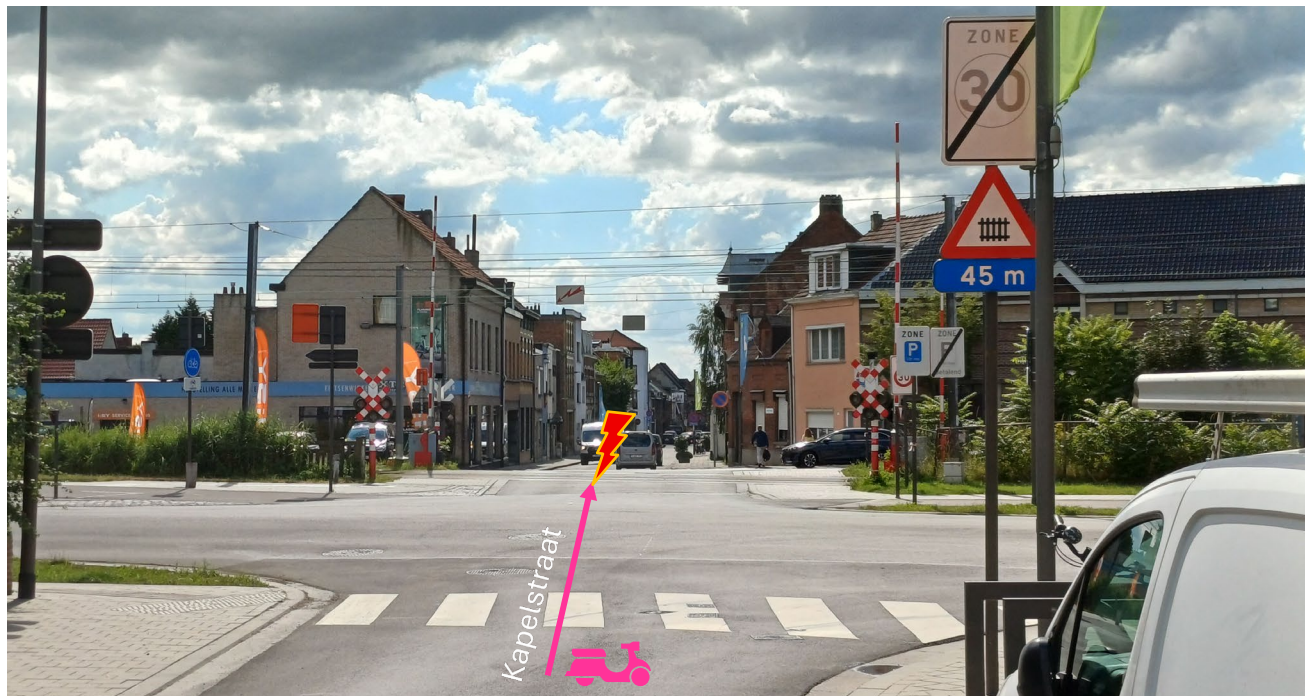


Illustration: the level crossing where the accident took place

2. Circumstances of the event

2.1. Geographical situation

Location: Kapelstraat in Hoboken (Antwerpen)

2.2. Weather conditions

At the moment of the accident, the weather was dry and visibility was over 200 metres.



3. Infrastructure involved

3.1. Railway infrastructure

The accident took place on railway line 52, track B. The reference speed is 90 km/h.

3.2. Road infrastructure

Kapelstraat is an urban access road in a densely built-up residential area in Hoboken. The road consists of one lane in each direction and is used by local traffic, public transport, cyclists and pedestrians.

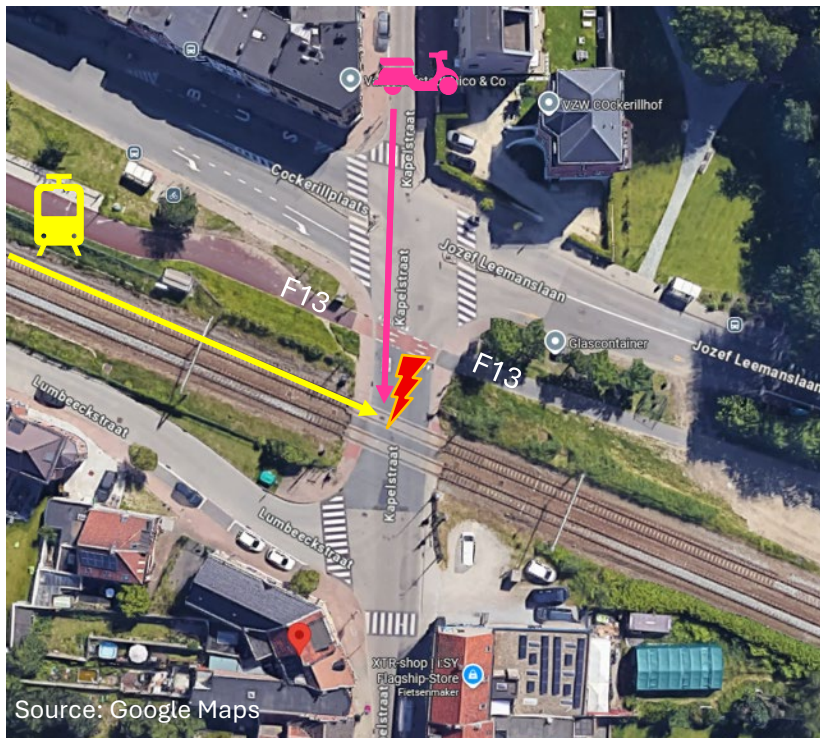
There are houses and shops along the road.

The level crossing on Kapelstraat is situated in the immediate vicinity of two junctions: on the one hand, the junction with Cockerillplaats and Jozef Leemanslaan, and on the other, the junction with Lumbeeckstraat.

Road users crossing the level crossing from Kapelstraat towards Lumbeeckstraat must yield to traffic coming from Lumbeeckstraat after the level crossing.

Road users crossing the level crossing from the opposite direction must yield to traffic coming from Jozef Leemanslaan after the level crossing.

The F13 cycle highway runs parallel to railway line 52. This cycle highway crosses Kapelstraat right next to the level crossing. Cyclists must give way to traffic crossing the level crossing there.



3.3. Level crossing

Level crossing 10 is a public level crossing with automatic active signalling with half-barriers and an additional barrier for pedestrians and cyclists.

On all five approach roads, there are A41 warning signs indicating the presence of a level crossing with barriers.

Over the past five years, level crossing barriers X and Y have been struck several times.



4. Train involved

SNCB/NMBS passenger train E2586 was running from Roosendaal to Puurs. The train consisted of two coupled type 75 railcars.

5. Damage and impact

5.1. Physical injuries

The motor scooter rider was seriously injured and later died in hospital as a result of his injuries.

5.2. Material damage

There is no damage to the infrastructure.

Following an inspection, train E2586 is declared in running order.

5.3. Impact on train traffic

Train traffic remained suspended in both directions until 7:38 p.m. This led to the following operational impact:

Train type	Cancelled	Delayed (minutes)
Passenger trains	7	25 (141)
Freight trains	-	-
International trains	9	2 (21)

6. Conclusions

During the inspection carried out following the accident, the Infrabel teams, in the presence of the police, confirmed that the equipment at level crossing 10 on line 52 was functioning correctly.

During the on-site investigation, the investigator from the Investigation Unit observed the presence of an A41 warning sign at every intersecting road to indicate the level crossing with barriers.

The level crossing is situated in a complex traffic environment, between two nearby junctions. Various types of road users come together in the immediate vicinity, with different traffic flows and right-of-way situations.

This situation entails the risk that road users must divide their attention between the level crossing, other road users, and right-of-way situations immediately before or immediately after the level crossing.

Traffic, right-of-way situations, or congestion beyond the level crossing pose a risk that a vehicle may come to a standstill on the tracks. Therefore, a level crossing may only be driven onto when sufficient clear space is available to leave it completely.

As a reminder: driving onto a level crossing while the level crossing signalling is in operation poses a very serious risk. A train cannot swerve and has a long braking distance, even in the event of an emergency braking.

7. Important points to note

- Always observe the level crossing signalling. Do not drive onto a level crossing once the red lights are flashing, the audible signal is sounding or the barriers are closing. If you are already on the level crossing, clear it immediately.
- Only drive onto a level crossing if you are certain you can clear it completely. Bear in mind the traffic, junctions, cycle paths and right-of-way situations just beyond the level crossing.

Rail Accident and Incident Investigation Unit

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