Railroad Crossing Elimination Program Listening Session

Federal Railroad Administration
Listening Session Overview

- Railroad Crossing Elimination Program Overview
- Eligible Applicants
- Eligible Projects
- Program Conditions
- Discussion
Railroad Crossing Elimination – Program Overview

PROGRAM PURPOSE

• To fund highway-rail or pathway-rail grade crossing improvement projects that focus on improving the safety and mobility of people and goods.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Currently Available Funding (M)</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY22</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>NOFO Expected Late Spring 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BIL Authorization & Appropriations in millions (M)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Appropriations</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorized Funding</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Fully Authorized Levels)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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NOFO: Notice of Funding Opportunity
ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- States, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and other U.S. territories and possessions.
- Political subdivision of a State.
- Federally recognized Indian Tribe.
- A unit of local government or a group of local governments.
- A public port authority.
- A metropolitan planning organization.
- A group of the entities described above.
Railroad Crossing Elimination – Eligible Projects

ELIGIBLE PROJECT CRITERIA

• Grade separation or closure including through use of a bridge, embankment, tunnel or combination thereof.
• Track relocation.
• Improvement or installation of protective devices, signals, signs, or other measures to improve safety related to a separation, closure, or track relocation project.
• Other means to improve the safety if related to the mobility of people and goods at highway-rail grade crossings (including technological solutions).
• The planning, environmental review, and design of an eligible project type.
Rural and Tribal Set Aside

- Not less than 20% of total funding is reserved for projects located in rural areas or on Tribal lands
  - Not less than 5% of these funds are reserved for projects in counties with 20 or fewer residents per square mile

Grant Conditions
- Minimum 20% Non-Federal matching share
- No grant awarded shall be smaller than $1M, except for planning grants

State Limitation
- No more than 20% of total funding in any fiscal year may be selected for projects in a single State.

Crossing Safety Information and Education Program

- 0.25% of total funding shall be for highway-rail grade crossing safety information and education programs to help prevent and reduce pedestrian, motor vehicle, and other accidents, incidents, injuries, and fatalities; and to improve awareness along railroad rights-of-way and at highway-rail grade crossings.

Planning

- Not less than 3% of total funding is for planning projects
  - Not less than 25% of these funds is for planning projects in rural areas or on Tribal lands.

Rural and Tribal Set Aside

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  - Not less than 5% of these funds are reserved for projects in counties with 20 or fewer residents per square mile
• Blocked crossings pose potential safety risks, specifically in locations where trains routinely hinder roadway and pedestrian movement for extended periods.

• To address this potential safety risk, FRA established the Blocked Crossing Portal in 2019.

• Portal requests specific information from users reporting blocked crossings—including date, time, location and duration that crossing is blocked.

http://www.fra.dot.gov/blockedcrossings
Opportunity for Feedback

Metrics for Safety Improvement

Host Railroad/Infrastructure Owner Support

Program Funding Activities and Set-Asides
Metrics for Safety Improvement
Host Railroad/Infrastructure Owner Support
Program Funding Activities and Set Asides
Other Comments
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