

DATE: June 5, 2019

TO: City/County Engineers, RDCs, MPOs, Townships, MnDOT Districts

FROM: Amy L. Johnson
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SUBJECT: Grade Crossing Safety Program – Section 130 Funding

In our continuing efforts to involve local road authorities in improving railroad-highway grade crossing safety, MnDOT's Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations (OFCVO), Railroad Safety and Coordination Unit is requesting local participation in funding railroad crossing projects. Up to \$4,500,000 is available for state fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022) for railroad crossing projects.

Two categories of projects will be funded through this effort:

- Closures/Consolidations of Railroad crossings
 - This is top priority and up to \$3,000,000 will be available for this category.
- Railroad crossing safety projects at high risk locations
 - Up to \$1,500,000 will be available for this category. Additional money may be made available for this category depending on the number of closure/consolidation projects are received and funded.

Closures/Consolidations of Railroad Crossings

In order for a project to be eligible for the Closure/Consolidation category, it must meet the criteria laid out in Minnesota Rule 8830.2740 <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules?id=8830.2740> and be ready to construct in the year of funding available.

Eligible projects will be scored on the following criteria:

- Number of crossings closed
- Risk/Cost factor = {(Risk Factors/cost)} *1,000,000
- Deficient Geometry

Railroad Crossing Safety Projects at high Risk Locations

The locations of concern were identified using the following risk factors: roadway AADT, number of trains/day, volume cross product (# vehicles x # trains), train speed, skew, distance to nearby intersection, distance to nearest crossing, clearing sight distance, approaching sight distance. Taking into consideration these factors, each crossing was assigned a risk score from 0-9. In this solicitation, we are considering locations with a score of

7 (locations with risk rankings greater than 7 have been addressed in previous fiscal years). These locations with a score of 7 have been prescreened by the Engineers/Project Managers as a viable project. A list of potential locations can be found on page 4.

From the list of potential projects, please identify **your** top priority locations and send them to me by 07/31/2019. Once the solicitation period ends, each location will receive a score and ranked accordingly. The scoring for each candidate will be based on the following:

- LRA funding priority
- Magnitude of clearing sight distance restriction (4 points total, 1 for each quadrant)
- $(ADT * \# \text{ of trains}) / \text{cost} * 100$
- Non redundant crossing (no crossing within 5 miles)
- Cost participation over 10% (up to 2 points)

The road authority and RR will then be contacted and a diagnostic field review at the crossing will be scheduled with the Project Manager. Projects typically range between \$175,000 and \$350,000. Additional improvements may be required at the crossing (I.E. widening of the road, crossing surface extensions, sidewalk/pathway modifications, etc) that raise the cost above the typical range. These improvements would be identified and discussed during the diagnostic review.

The following information may be requested prior the diagnostic review:

- 1) The most recent traffic count (CSAH & MSAS recent counts are already available to OFCVO)
- 2) An evaluation of whether the crossing and/or adjacent crossings can be closed or consolidated (costs associated with closing and consolidating crossings are eligible for funding)
- 3) Plans for any future road work
- 4) Information and traffic projections for any development

The Excel spreadsheet (Rail Grade Crossing Safety Solicitation) contains all public, open railroad crossings in Minnesota. If you do not see a crossing in your jurisdiction listed as a potential project on page 4 to be funded in state fiscal year 2022, open the spreadsheet and sort by your county to find it. The risk factors present at each crossings are listed in columns R-CI, followed by the total risk score in column DC. If you have more current information for your crossing(s), such as AADT, please provide us with that information. The spreadsheet can be found here: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/ofrw/railroad/safety.html>

The timeline for this solicitation is as follows:

June - July 2019: Solicitation is open

July 31, 2019: Responses due

August - October 2019: Field diagnostics

November 2019: Project scoring

December 2019: Initial project recommendations made

January 2020: Metro Planning Organization comment period

February 2020: Final project selection to be funded for state fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022)

MnDOT was informed by Federal Highway Administration that the Section 130-Grade Crossing Safety Program is

no longer able to fund 100% of the project costs. Effective immediately, a 10% match from a non-federal source is required. The latest Federal Share for Selected Programs guidance Fact Sheet (www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/federalsharefs.cfm) was updated and vetted per FAST Act. It identifies the Rail-Highway Crossings Program federal share at 90% with no eligibility for 100% funding.

Please share this information with your smaller local agencies and submit all requests by **07/31/2019** to amy.l.johnson@state.mn.us or the address above. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

cc: District State Aid Engineers, MnDOT

Crossing Identification Information

Risk Factor Data Input

Passive Risk Factors

USDOT NUMBER	OPERATOR	CITY	COUNTY	CROSSING LOCATION	ROAD DESIGNATION	AADT	TOTAL TRAINS	MAX TIMETABLE SPEED	TRACK CROSSING ANGLE	VOLUME CROSS PRODUCT	ROADWAY SPEED	DISTANCE TO NEARBY INT	SKEW	NEAREST CROSSING	Roadway AADT	Total Trains per Day	Volume Cross Product	Max Timetable Speed	Skew	Distance to Nearby Int	Distance to Nearest Crossing	Clearing Sight Distance	Approaching Sight Distance	Risk Factor (of 9)
067557L	BNSF	Donnelly	Stevens County	3RD ST	M7	200	12	40	80	2400	30	75	10	0.1136586	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
067804B	BNSF		Meeker County	650TH AVE	T332	75	17	40	110	1275	55	110	20	1.0924089	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
067898E	BNSF		Swift County	100TH AVE SE	T145	50	16	40	115	800	55	45	25	0.7594325	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
067901K	BNSF		Swift County	80TH AVE SE	T165	50	16	40	125	800	55	77	35	1.279799	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
067907B	BNSF		Swift County	50TH AVE SE	T179	50	16	40	125	800	55	60	35	1.2542044	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
067911R	BNSF		Swift County	30TH AVE SE	T281	50	16	40	120	800	55	63	30	1.1311808	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
076206L	BNSF	Cromwell	Carlton County	MARKUSEN RD	M5	200	8	49	80	1600	30	55	10	0.8612506	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
076426G	BNSF	Bruno	Pine County	PINE ST	M12	200	14	50	90	2800	30	80	0	0.3424519	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
076443X	BNSF		Carlton County		CR145	70	14	50	60	980	55	138	30	1.1821569	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
082398U	BNSF		Lyon County	290TH AVE	CR73	60	13	49	45	780	55	145	45	0.4828704	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
082411F	BNSF		Rock County	241ST ST	T82	60	13	49	75	780	55	0	15	1.2388989	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7
082420E	BNSF		Rock County	201ST ST	T72	60	13	49	117	780	55	0	27	2.4932597	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7
097893C	BNSF	Holland	Pipestone County	WASHINGTON AVE	M2	200	13	49	40	2600	30	0	50	0.2890831	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	7
097904M	BNSF		Pipestone County	121ST ST	T270	60	13	49	130	780	55	60	40	0.4567588	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
185736B	UP	Worthington	Nobles County	ROBERTS AVE	M212	325	5	49	90	1625	30	64	0	1.3146542	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
193344V	DME	Janesville	Waseca County	S TEAL ST	CSAH43	579	4	40	90	2316	30	100	0	0.1995193	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
193348X	DME	Janesville	Waseca County	S CRAIG ST	M21	650	4	40	90	2600	30	42	0	0.1015645	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
193349E	DME	Janesville	Waseca County	S SKOOKUM ST	M28	650	4	40	90	2600	30	50	0	0.1015645	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
193400A	DME		Waseca County	145TH ST	CSAH5	749	4	40	80	2996	55	45	10	1.103288	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
193702C	DME		Lyon County	310TH AVE	CSAH14	154	4	40	75	616	55	0	15	1.7314841	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	7
193783E	DME		Lincoln County	CSAH 1	CSAH1	264	4	40	105	1056	55	0	15	1.3325346	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	7
260173F	DWP	Cook	Saint Louis County		M18	400	17	55	85	6800	30	50	5	0.3046284	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
312213X	CN		Roseau County	670TH AVE	CR140	50	17	60	120	850	55	86	30	1.218801	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
379645J	MNRR	Minneapolis	Hennepin County	E 37TH ST	MSAS252	519	14	10	75	7266	30	120	15	0.2193648	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	7
380367S	UP	Northfield	Rice County		M195	650	11	40	89	7150	30	131	1	1.3136246	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
689299C	SOO		Stearns County	378TH AVE	T854	75	24	60	110	1800	30	85	20	0.3211191	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
689304W	SOO		Stearns County	215TH ST	T719	75	24	60	35	1800	30	0	55	0.6727136	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7
689332A	SOO		Pope County	120TH AVE	T135	40	24	60	150	960	30	100	60	1.4418953	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
689346H	SOO		Pope County	185TH AVE	T159	40	24	60	135	960	30	100	45	0.7875224	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
876257F	UP		Freeborn County	170TH ST	T454	343	11	50	50	3773	20	74	40	0.2858341	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	7
876258M	UP		Freeborn County	770TH AVE	T302	101	11	50	130	1111	20	56	40	0.2858341	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7
876282N	UP		Freeborn County	245TH ST	T153	84	11	50	115	924	55	0	25	1.5573178	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7