



Illinois Department of Transportation

2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764

June 30, 2016

CIRCULAR LETTER 2016-13

FY 2017 AND FY 2018 LOCAL RAIL / HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING SAFETY PROGRAMS (SECTION 130 FUNDS)

COUNTY ENGINEERS / SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS / DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS / MAYORS
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS – DIRECTORS
TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

The Department is accepting applications for the Fiscal Year 2017 and 2018 Local Rail / Highway Grade Crossing Safety Programs (Section 130 Funds). Attached is the application Worksheet 04100 (formally form BLR 04100) for the program. You are requested to submit this worksheet electronically; information on submittal is provided in the instructions.

This year there are some changes to the procedures and the worksheet, the major changes are:

- Besides a location map, a detailed map showing certain landmarks is required.
- A description of proposed improvements is required to be broken into the following types:
 - Railroad Warning Devices for the roadway.
 - Railroad Circuitry.
 - Railroad Crossing Surface Renewal. *This will be allowed only if the warning devices and / or circuitry are improved. Pictures of the existing crossing will need to be submitted.*
 - Roadway Approaches. *This will be allowed only if the warning devices and / or circuitry are improved and the existing profile grade does not meet IDOT / ICC requirements. A drawing of the existing profile and proposed profile will need to be submitted.*
 - Other.
- A breakdown of the estimated program cost for all phases of the project and for each of the proposed improvement types.
- A co-applicant is required with concurrence on the proposed scope of work and the estimated program cost. If the applicant is the local public agency (LPA), then the co-applicant is the railroad. If the applicant is the railroad, then the co-applicant is the LPA. Discussions are required, so all necessary improvements and realistic estimated program costs are submitted.

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A completed application, along with required attachments should be submitted to IDOT for each location where safety improvements are proposed. Applications with considerable missing information or no co-applicant will be returned to be completed. Please note that IDOT may independently select projects jointly with the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) or by review of locations having a documented history of crashes.

IDOT continues to place a stronger emphasis on crossing closures, warning devices, and circuitry related projects as opposed to crossing surface projects.

The maximum federal share is 90 percent for railroad warning devices and circuitry; the 10 percent match will be assigned to the railroad. Railroad crossing surface renewals will be funded at 50 percent federal share; the 50 percent match will be assigned to the railroad. Roadway approaches, IDOT will first work with the ICC to fund these with Grade Crossing Protect Funds (GCPF); if GCPF are not available; the roadway approaches will be funded at 90 percent federal share and the 10 percent match will be assigned to the LPA.

We request county engineers work with the individual township highway commissioners to identify at-grade crossings that may need safety improvements.

Please submit applications to IDOT by September 15, 2016. Following receipt of the applications, on-site inspections at the candidate locations may be performed. After prioritization and selection of candidate projects, recipients will be notified by this office of the selected projects for the FY 2017 and 2018 programs.

Please contact Terry Fountain, at Terrence.Fountain@illinois.gov or (217) 785-8542 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Salmon O. Danmole, P.E.
Acting Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

TF/tw

Attachment

cc: Mike Staggs, Federal Highway Administration – Illinois Division
Eric Seibring, Illinois Association of County Engineers
Joe Schatteman, Illinois Municipal League
Bryan Smith, Township Officials of Illinois
Christine Filbert, Township Highway Commissioners of Illinois