June 19, 2014

CIRCULAR LETTER 2014-09

FY 2015 LOCAL RAIL/HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING SAFETY PROGRAM

COUNTY ENGINEERS/ SUPERINTENDENTS OF HIGHWAYS
MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS/ DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Department is requesting submittal of applications for the Fiscal Year 2015 Local Rail / Highway Grade Crossing Safety Program. An application form for the project funding through this program is attached. Also, an electronic version of this form is available on our website at www.dot.il.gov/blr/blrforms.html. (Click on Form BLR 04100 in the table of forms.)

A completed application providing as much information as possible, along with a location map showing the crossing should be submitted to the Department for each location where safety improvements are proposed. Please note that we may independently select some projects jointly with the Illinois Commerce Commission or by review of locations having a documented history of crashes.

The Department is continuing to place a stronger emphasis on signal and circuitry related projects as opposed to crossing surface projects. Additional emphasis is being placed on locations with an increased number of trains or vehicles, and at locations having a crash history. Signal related projects are eligible for 100 percent federal funding.

The Department also requests that county engineers work with their individual township highway commissioners to identify at-grade crossings that may need safety improvements.

If possible, please submit applications to the Department by August 15, 2014. Following receipt of the applications, we intend to perform on-site inspections at the candidate locations. After prioritization and selection of candidate projects by the Department, you will be notified of selected projects for this program.

If you have questions, please contact Jason L. Johnson at (217) 557-1399.

Sincerely,

James K. Klein, P.E., S.E.
Acting Engineer of Local Roads and Streets

JJ/tw

Attachment
Project Application for Local Rail-Highway Crossing Safety Program

Local Agency: ___________________ Street or Route: ___________________ County: ___________________

RR: ___________________ Mile Post: ___________________ Crossing Inventory #: ___________________

Crossing Characteristics

Crossing Surface Type: ___________________ Road Surface Type: ___________________

Roadway Width: _______________ Crossing Width: _______________ Angle of Crossing: _______________

Shoulder Type (if applicable): _______________ Shoulder Width: _______________

ADT: _______________ Speed Limit: _______________ Posted: □ Yes □ No

Intersecting Roads: 100’ _______________ 200’ _______________ No. of School Buses: _______________

Hazardous Materials: □ Yes □ No Emergency Vehicles: □ Yes □ No

Traffic Control Devices Present within 200’ of Crossing: _______________

Train Characteristics

Existing Warning Devices: _______________

No. of Tracks: Main: _____ Industrial: _____ Switching: _____ Other: _____

Trains per Day: Passenger: _____ Freight: _____ Switch: _____ Other: _____

Train Speed: Passenger: _____ Freight: _____ Switch: _____ Other: _____

Simultaneous Movements: □ Yes □ No

Expected Crash Frequency (ECF) = 0.0000013 X ADT X Trains/Day X “B” (see table below for “B” Factors)

\[ \text{ECF} = 0.0000013 \times 0 \times 0 \times 0.00 = 0.00000000 \]

B Factors – Basic Values for Railroad Protection Devices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components (Currently in Place)</th>
<th>Basic Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crossbucks, traffic volume less than 500 vehicles per day</td>
<td>3.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossbucks, urban</td>
<td>3.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossbucks, rural</td>
<td>3.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wigwags</td>
<td>0.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flashing lights, urban</td>
<td>0.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flashing lights, rural</td>
<td>0.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gates, urban</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gates, rural</td>
<td>0.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description of Project: _______________

Estimated Cost: _______________
Project Applicant:

Railroad Company ☐ Local Agency ☐ IDOT District ☐

This application was prepared by: ________________________________
(Name and Title)

This application was prepared on: ________________________________
(Date)

Applicant’s contact information: ________________________________
(Telephone number)

______________________________
(E-mail address)

Note: A location map must be included with completed application.

For additional information, please contact Jason Johnson at (217) 557-1399.

Please return application to: Rail Safety and Project Engineer
Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Local Roads and Streets, Room 205
2300 South Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, Illinois 62764

Or, submit complete application, in Word document or .pdf form, via email to: Jason.Johnson@illinois.gov.