



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
DIRECTOR

Dear Local Road Authority Partner:

ANNUAL LOCAL GRADE CROSSING SURFACE PROGRAM CALL FOR PROJECTS

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Rail is now soliciting competitive applications from local road agencies who wish to partner with railroads to improve the condition of railroad crossing surfaces within their communities.

Please note that this year's program is moving to a new on-line application tool called OneSpan. The OneSpan platform complies with the State's requirement for collecting and certifying electronic signatures. Applicants will be required to accept the Agreement to Electronically Sign State of Michigan Documents prior to completing the 2071 application form. Details and instructions are on our web site (link provided below).

As always, there is no cost or obligation for local road agencies to participate in this program. If selected, projects are covered by 60% state funding with a 40% railroad match.

This program is specifically for the repair or reconstruction of railroad crossing surfaces and only covers work items that are to be performed by the railroad company. By law, roadway approach repairs remain the responsibility of the road agency and the establishing legislation specifically excludes roadway approach work from participation in crossing surface project awards.

Guidance for the 2024 Program follows below:

- Applications may only be submitted by local road authorities, in cooperation with a participating railroad.
- **Applications must include detailed railroad estimates, proof of 40% railroad match, and updated traffic counts.**
- Eligible project costs include materials, labor and equipment for railroad work items: engineering costs and roadway approach work are not eligible.
- **Applications will be accepted if received via OneSpan by September 29, 2023.**
- Project selection will be in compliance with the criteria established by law.
- **Applications will be evaluated and projects selected/announced by late November.**

It is incumbent upon railroads and road agencies to work together to assure that applications are complete and accurate. It should also be noted there are significant public advantages if a proposed project includes coordinated adjacent road work. Therefore, road agencies are encouraged to seek opportunities to combine adjacent roadway surface improvement projects with any pending railroad crossing surface applications, as this project category will receive priority consideration in the 2024 Program.

This program is administered in compliance with enabling legislation, details of which can be found in Act 51, MCL 247.661(1)(d). Application materials and instructions are available on-line at www.michigan.gov/mdotrail, and a list of railroad contact information is attached for your reference. Please feel free to contact the Local Grade Crossing office directly at 517-897-2103 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kristian N. Foondle, Rail Safety Manager
Rail Safety & Administration Section
www.michigan.gov/mdotrail

Enclosure: Railroad Crossing Contact List

RAILROAD CROSSING SURFACE PROGRAM CONTACT LIST

Adrian & Blissfield Railroad (ADBF)	Chris Bagwell (989) 251-7220
AMTRAK	Troy Mason (312) 296-3819
Ann Arbor Railroad (AA)	Steve Ayala (419) 206-8172
Charlotte Southern Railroad (CHS)	Chris Bagwell (989) 251-7220
Canadian National (CN)	Thomas Brasseur (248) 452-4854
Conrail (CR)	Larry Henshaw (856) 231-2182
Coopersville & Marne Railway (CM)	Jerry Ricard (616) 997-7000
CSX Transportation (CSX)	Brad Armstrong (513) 853-1221
Delray Connecting Railroad (DC)	Daniel Bolton (313) 749-5202
Detroit Connecting Railroad (DCON)	Chris Bagwell (989) 251-7220
Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad (ELS)	Bob Anderson (906) 280-2513
Grand Elk Railroad (GDLK)	Chadd Thimesch (205) 480-9281
Grand Rapids Eastern Railroad (GRE)	Scott Knight (616) 293-0564
Great Lakes Central Railroad (GLC)	Mike Livermore (989) 725-6644
Huron & Eastern Railway (HE)	Luke Ziesemer (989) 797-5129
Indiana Northeastern Railroad (IN)	Troy Strane (517) 617-1908
Indiana & Ohio Railway (IO)	Michael McGraw (513) 222-5301
Jackson & Lansing Railroad	Chris Bagwell (989) 251-7220
Lapeer Industrial Railroad (LIRR)	Chris Bagwell (989) 251-7220
Lake State Railway (LSRC)	Mark Pennell (989) 529-6640
Lake Superior & Ishpeming (LSI)	Kendall Vanlandschoot (906) 475-5166
Marquette Rail (MQT)	Dan Niesen (231) 349-9517
Michigan Shore Railroad (MS)	Scott Knight (616) 293-0564
Michigan Southern Railroad (MSO)	Shane Cullen (309) 369-4143
Mid-Michigan Railroad (MM)	Luke Ziesemer (989) 797-5129
Mineral Range Railroad (MR)	Christopher Jones (608) 745-8009
Norfolk Southern Railway (NS)	Rick Meredith (404) 782-1805
West Michigan Railroad (WMI)	Mike Hnatiuk (989) 615-1037

SPECIAL NOTE: in compliance with MCL 462.309(4), any change in elevation of a grade crossing greater than 1 inch requires advance mutual agreement between the railroad and road agency. Please be sure to review all proposed work and coordinate with the railroad accordingly.