



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

BRADLEY C. WIEFERICH, P.E.
DIRECTOR

Dear Railroad Partner:

2025 Local Grade Crossing Surface Program & Call for Projects

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is pleased to announce the 2025 Local Grade Crossing Surface Program. The Program is administered in compliance with enabling legislation, details of which can be found in Act 51, MCL 247.661(1)(d). As a reminder, the Program provides 60% state funding and requires a 40% railroad match. Guidance for the 2025 Program follows below:

- **Applications must be submitted by road agencies, in cooperation with the railroad.**
- Applications must include detailed railroad estimates and updated vehicle traffic counts.
- **Applications will be accepted if received by September 30, 2024.**
- Eligible project costs include materials, labor and equipment: engineering costs are not eligible.
- **Applications will be evaluated with projects selected/announced by late November.**
- Project selection will be in compliance with criteria established by law.
- Project funding is expected to be authorized by March 2025.
- **Projects should be completed and final-billed within 12 months of authorization.**

All prospective projects require proof of 40% railroad participation and documentation that relevant MMUTCD-compliant traffic control plans have been approved by the affected road agency, so it is incumbent upon railroads and road agencies to work together to assure that applications are complete and accurate. Railroad work that will be performed by subcontractors needs to be identified as such; documentation of bids, subcontracts, or continuing contracts will be requested only after project selection. A suggested cover letter to assure compliance with these guidelines is attached for railroad use.

Application materials for road agency use are now available on-line at www.michigan.gov/mdotrail. Please feel free to contact the Local Grade Crossing Program 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: sample RR cover letter to Road Agency

INSERT DATE

Road Agency Contact
Road Agency Name
Road Agency Address
Road Agency City, MI, ZIP

Dear Road Agency Partner:

2025 Local Grade Crossing Surface Program

Per the requirements of the local highway-railroad grade crossing surface program, it is our understanding that you are eligible to complete an application to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for access to these annual program funds. Selected projects are to be funded with 60% state crossing funds, and 40% railroad funds – there is no expectation of any road agency financial participation. Application materials and instructions are now available on-line at the MDOT Office of Rail’s web page, located at www.michigan.gov/mdotrail.

As part of the program, railroads are required to provide detailed estimates and a commitment by the railroad to provide 40% of the funding for any project selected as part of the program. Consequently, this transmittal is to validate that INSERT RAILROAD NAME has voluntarily submitted the attached detailed estimate for the work necessary to REBUILD or REPAIR the INSERT ROAD NAME crossing. The National Inventory number for this crossing is INSERT NI#. In the event the project is selected for funding, the INSERT RAILROAD NAME agrees to provide 40% of the necessary funding and coordinate traffic control/detours with the road agency. This project will will not be self-performed by the railroad. If not self-performed, a continuing contract or competitive bidding will be used to establish final pricing and compliance with conditions of the applicable MDOT-Railroad Master Agreement.

Please feel free to contact my office directly at INSERT RR PHONE if you have any questions about the railroad’s proposal. If you have questions about the new surface program, you may contact MDOT’s Local Grade Crossing Program Office at 517-897-2103.

Sincerely,

INSERT RR CONTACT NAME
INSERT RR CONTACT TITLE

Attachment:

- Detailed railroad estimate or quote based on relevant unit pricing for crossing components

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 road agency accordingly.