



NEW FUNDING INFORMATION FOR COUNTY ROAD AGENCIES

Local Railroad Grade Crossing Surface Funds

A new funding source, sought by Michigan railroads, is available beginning winter 2017 to county road agencies for improving rail grade crossing surfaces on roads under the jurisdiction of the county road agency/department, cities or villages. Projects utilizing the Local Grade Crossing Surface Account will be 60 percent covered by the account, with the remaining 40 percent being funded by the railroad company.

The legislative intent of this Act 51 carve-out is to provide financial assistance for railroads to improve crossings on active rail lines.

In 2017, \$3 million will be made available for local rail grade crossing projects.

Eligibility

Eligible projects are limited to crossing repair work that is normally the responsibility of the railroad in accordance with PA 354 of 1993.

How to prepare

Get an estimate for improving the crossing from the railroad company responsible for it. Be sure they agree to pay 40 percent of the overall project. Make sure ADTs (average daily traffic) are accurate and up to date.

How to submit

MDOT's new application will be available in December 2016. The form will look similar to the application used on the warning device safety improvement program. It will be a simple one-page form, and will be released with submission instructions.



Timeframe

Once the estimated one-month submission window closes, local road agencies can expect to hear about applications within a month. MDOT expects to authorize projects 4-8 weeks after project selections are made.

Projects are prioritized based on:

1. Validated vehicular traffic volume (ADT);
2. Relative surface condition (RSC);
3. Ability of local agency and railroad to coordinate repairs with adjacent road work; and
4. The availability of funding.

Projects will be ranked by ADT and RSC. After the top candidate in both categories within each MDOT Region has been selected, the next-in-line projects statewide will be funded until applications or annual budget is exhausted.

For more information, including a list of railroad contacts, visit: tinyurl.com/RailFunds

For more information contact:

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