

HIGHWAY-RAIL CROSSING SAFETY PROJECT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (Crossing Safety Project)

Program Background

The sixty first state legislature passed Senate Bill 2338 which amends and reenacts section 57-43.2-19 of the North Dakota Century Code. The amendment allocates \$1,600,000 of highway tax distribution funds and \$900,000 in federal highway traffic safety funds to be used for highway-rail grade crossing safety projects.

Effective 1 July 2009, political subdivisions may apply for grants to establish quiet zones or make individual crossing safety improvements. To obtain a grant, the political subdivision must meet the following requirements:

1. A political subdivision must file an application with the department of transportation for a grant.
2. A political subdivision grant applicant must provide ten percent matching funds for the project costs but no local matching funds are required for a highway-rail grade crossing on a state highway.
3. Grant funds may be allocated for development of railroad quiet zones, installation or upgrading of active warning devices, resurfacing crossings, building of grade separations, and other costs associated with these improvements.
4. An applicant for grant approval for development of a railroad quiet zone shall provide the department of transportation a copy of the notice of intent filed with the federal railroad administration regarding establishment of a proposed quiet zone and copies of any subsequent filings with or orders from the federal railroad administration relating to the notice of intent.
5. Grants for a single crossing may not exceed \$75,000 and grants for all crossings within a city may not exceed a cumulative amount of \$225,000.

Application Instructions (Quiet Zone)

Items listed below correspond to the respective sections in the Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety Project Application (Crossing Safety) - (SFN59141)

- 1a-o.** Fill in all contact information.
- 2a.** The operating rail road will provide the applicant with a cost estimate for the crossing safety project.
- 2b.** A copy of the governing body's meeting minutes authorizing use of funds ensures the applicant has the necessary funding to complete all portions of the project.
- 2c.** A contract agreement must be established with North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) prior to start of construction.
- 2d.** Applicants have until **December 1, 2009** to submit there application and supporting documentation. After that timeframe applications will be ranked based on their respective score from FRAs Accident Prediction System.
- 3a.** Indicate what type of project you are applying for grant funding for

3b.The overview map must encompass the entire project

3c. Fill in blocks 1 and 2 for the crossing. Dollar amounts will automatically populate in blocks titled: *Match Funds, Remaining Installation Cost, and Total Cost to the Applicant* based on the information the applicant provides in blocks 1 & 2.

4. The correct type and name of the political subdivision will automatically populate in the blanks provided in this section if the correct information was input in Section 1a.

Checklist

All items identified on the checklist must be submitted prior to or with the completed application before the application can be processed.

Questions

Any questions regarding the program, application, or submission process should be directed to the North Dakota Department of Transportation-Rail Planning representative (provided below).

Jim Styron
NDDOT Planning & Programming Division- Rail Section
Phone: (701)328-4409
Fax: (701)328-1404
Email: jstyron@nd.gov

Application Submission

Mail the completed application and all required supporting documentation to the address provided on the last page of the application. This address is also provided below.

North Department of Transportation
Planning & Programming Division
Attn: Rail Section
608 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0700

Application Processing

Completed applications will be processed and prioritized based on their respective score from FRAs Accident Prediction System. An application must be completely filled out. It must be accompanied by all the required supporting documentation (see checklist).

Selection Process

Crossing Safety Project applicants must submit their application and supporting documentation no later than **December 1, 2009**. After this suspense, applications will be prioritized based on their respective score from FRAs Accident Prediction System. These applicants will be awarded grants in the order of their prioritization as fund availability permits. Applications received after December 1, 2009 will be processed in the order of receipt.

Examples of Crossing Safety Project Funding

*Funding for Match and Remaining Costs are the responsibility of the applicant.

EXAMPLE #1 (Multiple Projects)

	Crossing #1 (Upgrade Active Warning Device)	Crossing #2 (Resurface Crossing) (State Hwy)	Crossing #3 (Grade Separation)	<u>Total</u>
Estimate Cost	\$165,000	\$61,000	\$4,500,000	\$4,726,000
Match	\$16,500	\$0	\$450,000	\$466,500
Grant Funding	\$75,000	\$61,000	\$75,000	\$211,000
Remaining Cost	\$73,500	\$0	\$3,975,000	\$4,048,500

Example #1 Notes:

- Crossing #1 & #3 are not on a state highway- 10% Match of the project cost is required.
- Crossing #2 is on a state highway- No local match is required.

EXAMPLE #2 (Upgrade Active warning Device) (State Hwy)

	<u>Crossing #1</u>
Estimate Cost	\$155,000
Match	\$0
Grant Funding	\$75,000
Remaining Cost	\$80,000

Example #2 Note:

- Crossing is on a state highway- No local match is required