SCOTT COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE

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TARA YOUNGERS
Senior Administrative Assistant

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MEMO

TO: Mahesh Sharma

County Administrator

FROM: Angie Kersten, P.E.

County Engineer

SUBJ: Federal Funding Application for Railroad Crossing Safety Improvement Project

DATE: June 14, 2022

The Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Company (DBA Canadian Pacific) contacted our department regarding a potential project to upgrade the train warning devices at the railroad crossing on 210th Street just west of the Highway 61 interchange. Canadian Pacific is planning to submit an application for federal funding through the Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Program that requires a 10% match. Canadian Pacific requested that Scott County commit to a 5% match and they will contribute the other 5% match.

The Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Program is a federally funded program managed by the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT). The intent of the program is to improve the safety of public highway-railroad grade crossings. These funds are used to install new crossing signal devices, upgrade existing signals, and other low-cost improvements. Both railroad companies and public road jurisdictions are eligible to apply for funding.

Canadian Pacific is seeking funding to install new railroad crossing safety equipment, including gates, at the above referenced crossing to improve safety at the crossing. The crossing does not presently have gates. The 2018 Average Annual Daily Traffic on 210th Street is 7,000 vehicles per day. With recent commercial development adjacent to this railroad track, there is potential for higher frequency and speed of train traffic at this crossing. Upgrading the crossing warning system and installing gates would greatly improve safety at this crossing.

Applications are due by July 1, 2022, for FY2024 funding. Applications not selected for funding, remain valid for five years. Priorities for funding are determined through a benefit cost analysis. This analysis takes into consideration the extent of vehicle and train traffic at the crossing, speed of trains, characteristics of the crossing, effectiveness of the proposed improvement, estimated cost of the improvement, and other factors.

The project is estimated to cost \$400,000. Scott County's share of the project cost is estimated to be \$20,000. Our department would be able to absorb this cost within our budget

in FY2024 through FY2029. If the project is not selected for funding by FY2029, the Iowa DOT will contact us for confirmation to continue consideration of our application for funding. I recommend sharing in the cost of this safety improvement project at a maximum of 5% of the total project cost.

THE COUNTY AUDITOR'S SIGNATURE CERTIFIES THAT THIS RESOLUTION HAS BEEN FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON	
	DATE
	DATE
SCOTT COUNTY AUDITOR	

RESOLUTION

SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

June 23, 2022

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A JOINT APPLICATION WITH DAKOTA, MINNESOTA & EASTERN RAILROAD COMPANY (DBA CANADIAN PACIFIC) FOR HIGHWAY-RAILROAD SAFETY PROGRAM FUNDING FOR TRAIN WARNING DEVICE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AT THE RAILROAD CROSSING ON 210TH STREET BETWEEN BRADY STREET AND HIGHWAY 61

BE IT RESOLVED by the Scott County Board of Supervisors as follows:

- Section 1. Canadian Pacific and Scott County are seeking federal funding to upgrade the train warning safety devices at the railroad crossing on 210th Street between Brady Street and Highway 61. The federal funding is for 90% of the total project cost of the improvements.
- Section 2. That the County Engineer be authorized to sign the joint application with Canadian Pacific for Highway-Railroad Safety Program federal funding managed by the Iowa Department of Transportation on behalf of the Board.

- Section 3. That Scott County will contribute funding of 5% of the total project cost of the improvements.
- Section 4. That the application for funding and commitment of 5% of the total project cost will be valid for FY2024 through FY2029.
- Section 5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.