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ICC Announces FY 2021-2025 Crossing Safety Improvement Program

Chicago, IL- The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) approved its annual 5-year plan for the Crossing Safety Improvement Program (CSIP) to begin implementing highway-rail safety capital projects across the state. For Fiscal Years 2021-2025, the ICC will spend over \$315 million from the Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) to help local communities and railroads pay for safety improvements at over 1,400 crossing locations.

"Rail crossing safety has always been a top priority of the Illinois Commerce Commission to prevent the loss of life due to train-related collisions," said ICC Chairman Carrie Zalewski. "The CSIP enables the ICC to identify and help provide funding for much-needed rail crossing safety projects on local roads and streets in communities throughout Illinois."

The five-year plan proposes aid from the GCPF on 23 highway-rail bridge projects, 4 pedestrian-rail bridge projects, over 330 new grade crossing projects, and low-cost improvements at over 1,000 crossing locations. The full list of projects can be found here: https://www.icc.illinois.gov/icc-reports/report/CrossingSafetyImprovementProgram.

New for the FY 2021-2025 CSIP, an interactive map that allows users to view all projects is available on the Commission's website (https://www.icc.illinois.gov/rail-safety/grade-crossing-map). The map allows users to search for and locate every railroad crossing safety project in the CSIP.

The Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) was created by state law to assist local jurisdictions (counties, townships and municipalities) in paying for safety improvements at highway-rail crossings on local roads and streets only.

Municipalities or other units of government that may have questions, or need additional information, please contact Brian Vercruysse, Rail Safety Program Administrator, at (312) 636-7760, or brian.vercruysse@illinois.gov

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About the Illinois Commerce Commission

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is a quasi-judicial body made up of five Commissioners. Through its Public Utility Program, the Commission oversees the provision of adequate, reliable, efficient and safe utility services at the least possible cost to Illinois citizens served by electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water and sewer public utility companies. Through its Transportation Regulatory Program, the Commission oversees public safety and consumer protection programs with regard to intrastate commercial motor carriers of general freight, household goods movers, relocation towers, safety towers, personal property warehouses and repossession agencies. The Commission's Rail Safety Program also inspects and regulates the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities and equipment in the state.

To learn more about the Commission, its offices and bureaus, click <u>here</u>. If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint <u>here</u>. For a complaint related to transportation, call 217-782-6448.

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