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ICC Approves Highway-Rail Crossing Improvements near Hagerstown

Springfield, IL – As a matter of public safety, the Illinois Commerce Commission recently granted approval of Stipulated Agreements to install new automatic flashing light signals, gates and reconstruction of the existing highway approach grades at the Elam Road crossing (AAR/DOT #546500H, Rail milepost 174.85.QS) near Hagerstown in Fayette County.

The total estimated cost for the new automatic warning devices is \$640,796. ICC Staff recommends that the Grade Crossing Protection Fund be used to pay 95% of the signal design and installation costs, not to exceed \$608,756. CSX Transportation will pay all remaining signal design and installation costs, and all future operating and maintenance costs related to the new automatic warning device.

In addition, the staff recommends that the GCPF be used to pay 100% (\$61,000) of the costs to reconstruct the existing highway approach grades at the Elam Road crossing. The Bear Grove Township Road District will be required to pay 100% of the costs to maintain the reconstructed roadway approaches.

All work is to be completed by within twelve (12) months of the Order date.

"The allocation of Grade Crossing Protection funds enables this rail safety project to move forward, and that is good news for the community and all those traversing the crossing," said ICC Commissioner Michael T. Carrigan.

To read Stipulated Agreement 2071 in Docket No. T21-0087 click here.

ABOUT THE STATE OF ILLINOIS GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION FUND (GCPF)

In 1955, the State of Illinois passed legislation creating the GCPF. Since then, Illinois has strengthened its commitment to public highway-rail safety by increasing funding towards project such as the closure and consolidation of existing public crossings, installation of new warning systems, highway approach improvements, upgrades to existing warning devices and interconnection to nearby traffic signals, construction/reconstruction of grade separation structures and the construction of pedestrian grade separations. The Commission administers the GCPF, which is funded by motor fuel tax money designated for rail safety improvements. The General Assembly appropriates \$42 million annually for the GCPF. For more information and to see the ICC's annual Crossing Safety Improvement Program, click here.

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