



## **ICC Authorizes \$2.9 Million for Preliminary Engineering of North Grand Avenue Grade Separation Project in Springfield**

Springfield, IL - On May 12, 2022, the Illinois Commerce Commission authorized the use of \$2.9 million in Grade Crossing Protection Funds (GCPF) to assist the City of Springfield pay for preliminary engineering and land acquisition activities to improve public safety at the North Grand Avenue highway-rail crossing. The intent is to allow for the future construction of a grade separation structure at the crossing of Norfolk Southern Railway Company and the Illinois & Midland Railroad, Inc.

Under the agreement, the GCPF will be used to reimburse the City of Springfield for 100% of the actual Preliminary Engineering and Land Acquisition costs, in an amount not to exceed \$2,940,000. Springfield will be responsible for paying cost overruns, if any, with City funds and/or by seeking a Commission Supplemental Order.

“The ICC is committed to protecting pedestrians, motorists and rail employees at and around railroad tracks. Grade separation projects alleviate the risk of train collisions. I am pleased we were able to allocate GCPF monies to advance preliminary work on this very important public safety project,” said ICC Commissioner Michael T. Carrigan.

The City is required to complete the Preliminary Engineering and Land Acquisition activities on or before December 31, 2024.

To read the terms of Stipulated Agreement 2193, visit Docket No. T22-0054 [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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