



ICC Approves Rail Crossing Improvement near Bluff City

Springfield, IL – The Illinois Commerce Commission recently granted approval of a Stipulated Agreement to install new automatic flashing light signals, gates and reconstruction of the existing highway approach grades at the Bluff City Road crossing (AAR/DOT #546490E) in Fayette County.

The total estimated cost for the new automatic warning device is \$550,091. ICC Staff recommends that the Grade Crossing Protection Fund be used to pay 95% of the signal design and installation costs, not to exceed \$522,586. CSX Transportation, Inc. 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% (\$134,212) of the costs to reconstruct the existing highway approach grades at the Bluff City Road crossing. As part of the agreement, the Vandalia 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 2070 in Docket No. T21-0075 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](#).

###

