



MONICA CEPERO, County Administrator

115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 409 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-7354 • FAX 954-357-7360

October 7, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program: Safety Improvements in Broward County

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Broward County is pleased to participate with the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the application being submitted to the *Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program (RCEP)*. The application is directed at an important project in our county -- supporting the final design and construction of safety measures needed to reduce risks associated with rail traffic on the Florida East Coast rail corridor. Local match investments for the project will be provided in partnership with Broward County and the municipalities along the corridor. Brightline Trains Florida, LLC (Brightline) will lead the project design and construction.

Broward County is planning to contribute approximately \$2,366,000 from currently budgeted resources toward the local match requirement for the project pending approval by our Board of Commissioners and the County's Transportation Surtax Oversight Board. For the safety improvements undertaken at crossings where the County has maintenance agreements with Florida East Coast Railway (FECR), future maintenance of the improvements will be covered under these same agreements, ensuring sustainability of the safety measures that are implemented.

The project is part of a comprehensive approach to improve safety along the entire shared corridor with the goal of reducing accidents to zero, saving lives, and improving the public perception of rail and public transportation. The Broward MPO, Brightline, FECR, and the local public authorities have been working closely with FRA on recommended crossing enhancements to improve safety. This project is a critical component of this public safety initiative, and we are committed to being a partner and supporting this initiative as much as possible.

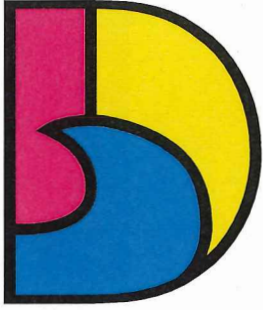
I appreciate your consideration and respectfully request that you consider this vital project for funding. Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MC", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Monica Cepero
County Administrator

cc: Greg Stuart, Executive Director, Broward MPO



SEA IT. LIVE IT. LOVE IT.

September 20, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

The City of Dania Beach strongly supports the Broward Metropolitan planning Organization's application to the *Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program (RCEP)* for Broward County, located in southeast Florida. The RCEP grant funding would support the final design and construction of approximately 40 exit gates and 10 medians at 27 highway-railroad grade crossings, to further enhance public safety and "seal" the rail corridor. This project is a \$23.7 million safety investment by Broward County, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and several local municipalities, wherein Brightline Trains Florida, LLC (Brightline) will lead the project design and construction. The City of Dania Beach acknowledges a 20% non-Federal match (approximately \$584,494.00) will be required upon approval of the improvements that will be installed at the grade crossings within our City. At this time we are reserving any financial commitments until the appropriate workshops and public hearings are held with the stakeholders detailing all of the financial commitments and improvements for the region. Once the stakeholder meetings are held, and the commitment from all affected parties is determined, then the City will acknowledge that the relevant maintenance agreements with the Florida East Coast Railway for each of the impacted crossings will need to be modified to include these additional improvements.

The crossings proposed to be enhanced through this project run along the existing Florida East Coast railroad corridor. The railway currently accommodates freight service and intercity passenger rail service with both expected to expand over the next couple of years. The safety and efficiency of the rail corridor impacts the residents, businesses, and visitors of our City. This project is part of a comprehensive approach to improve safety along the entire shared corridor with goal of reducing accidents to zero. FDOT, Brightline, FECR, and the local public authorities have been working closely with FRA on recommended crossing enhancements to improve safety. This project is a critical component of this public safety initiative and we are committed to being a partner.

Thank you for your consideration and respectfully request that you consider this vital project for funding.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ana M. Garcia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ana M. Garcia
City Manager

CC: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioners
Eve Boutsis, City Attorney
Candido Sosa-Cruz, Deputy City Manager
Fernando Rodriguez, Director, Public Services
Dincer Ozaydin, Deputy Director, Public Services



October 4, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization's application to the *Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program (RCEP)* for Broward County, located in southeast Florida. The RCEP grant funding would support the final design and construction of approximately 40 exit gates and ten medians at 27 highway-railroad grade crossings, to further enhance public safety and "seal" the rail corridor. This project is a \$23.7 million safety investment by Broward County, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and several local municipalities, wherein Brightline Trains Florida, LLC (Brightline) will lead the project design and construction. **The City of Fort Lauderdale is committed to improving safety at the six locally controlled crossings. The associated cost of the proposed safety improvements are estimated at \$5,012,000 and, if awarded, and in conjunction with City Commission approval, the City of Fort Lauderdale would provide a 20% non-Federal match of approximately \$1,002,400 for the improvements that will be installed at the six grade crossings under City of Fort Lauderdale authority.** The City acknowledges that the relevant maintenance agreements with the Florida East Coast Railway (FECR) for each of the impacted crossings will need to be modified to include these additional improvements.

The crossings proposed to be enhanced through this project run along the existing Florida East Coast railroad corridor. The railway currently accommodates freight service and intercity passenger rail service with both expected to expand over the next couple of years. The safety and efficiency of the rail corridor impacts the residents, businesses, and visitors of our City. This project is part of a comprehensive approach to improve safety along the entire shared corridor with the goal of reducing accidents to zero. FDOT, Brightline, FECR, and the local public authorities have been working closely with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) on recommended crossing enhancements to improve safety. This project is a critical component of this public safety initiative, and we are committed to being a partner.

I appreciate your consideration and respectfully request that you consider this vital project for funding. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Chavarria
City Manager

c: Susan Grant, Assistant City Manager
Anthony G. Fajardo, Assistant City Manager
Ben Rogers, Director of Transportation and Mobility
Laura Reece, Director of Office of Management and Budget

Office of the City Manager

100 North Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Telephone (954) 828-5013, Fax (954) 828-5599

www.fortlauderdale.gov



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RESOLUTION NO. 2022 - 116

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HALLANDALE BEACH, FLORIDA ENDORSING APPLICATION AND PARTICIPATION IN THE RAILROAD CROSSING ELIMINATION GRANT PROGRAM AND COMMITMENT TO PAY TWENTY PERCENT MUNICIPAL SHARE OF APPROXIMATELY THREE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE DOLLARS (\$336,539) AND IMPLEMENT IF AWARDED; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is threatening to eliminate the Quiet Zone along the FEC railroad unless municipalities provide an action plan to improve safety measures at their crossings; and

WHEREAS, the Broward Metropolitan planning Organization is submitting an application to the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program (RCEP) for Broward County, to fund physical barriers or highway-rail grade crossing improvement projects that focus on improving the safety and mobility of people and goods within the Quiet Zone; and

WHEREAS, RCEP grant funding would support the final design and construction of approximately 40 exit gates and 10 medians at 27 highway-railroad grade crossings, to further enhance public safety and “seal” the rail corridor; and

WHEREAS, this project is a \$23.7 million investment in safety by Broward County, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and several local municipalities, wherein Brightline Trains Florida, LLC (Brightline) will lead the project design and construction; and

WHEREAS, the Federal share of total costs for RCEP projects funded through this grant shall not exceed 80 percent and a minimum 20 percent non-Federal share may be comprised of public sector funding (e.g., state, or local) or private sector funding; and

68 SPONSORED BY: CITY ADMINISTRATION

69 ATTEST:

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JENORGEN GUILLEN, CMC
CITY CLERK

78 APPROVED AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY
79 AND FORM

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JENNIFER MERINO
CITY ATTORNEY

FINAL VOTE ON ADOPTION

Mayor Cooper	<u>yes</u>
Vice Mayor Butler	<u>yes</u>
Commissioner Javellana	<u>yes</u>
Commissioner Lazarow	<u>yes</u>
Commissioner Lima-Taub	<u>yes</u>

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September 20, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization's application to the *Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program (RCEP)* for Broward County, located in southeast Florida. The RCEP grant funding would support the final design and construction of approximately 40 exit gates and 10 medians at 27 highway-railroad grade crossings, to further enhance public safety and "seal" the rail corridor. This project is a \$23.7 million safety investment by Broward County, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and several local municipalities, wherein Brightline Trains Florida, LLC (Brightline) will lead the project design and construction. The City of Hollywood acknowledges a 20% non-Federal match (approximately \$584,494.00) will be required upon approval of the improvements that will be installed at the grade crossings within our City. The City acknowledges that the relevant maintenance agreements with the Florida East Coast Railway for each of the impacted crossings will need to be modified to include these additional improvements.

The crossings proposed to be enhanced through this project run along the existing Florida East Coast railroad corridor. The railway currently accommodates freight service and intercity passenger rail service with both expected to expand over the next couple of years. The safety and efficiency of the rail corridor impacts the residents, businesses, and visitors of our City. This project is part of a comprehensive approach to improve safety along the entire shared corridor with goal of reducing accidents to zero. FDOT, Brightline, FECR, and the local public authorities have been working closely with FRA on recommended crossing enhancements to improve safety. This project is a critical component of this public safety initiative and we are committed to being a partner.

2600 Hollywood Boulevard
P.O. Box 229045
Hollywood, Florida
33022-9045

hollywoodfl.org

September 20, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg

U.S. Department of Transportation

Page 2

I appreciate your consideration and respectfully request that you consider this vital project for funding. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Dr. Wazir A. Ishmael
City Manager

C: Mayor, Vice Mayor, and City Commissioners
George R. Keller, Jr. Deputy City Manager
Gus Zambrano, Assistant City Manager for Sustainable Development
Shiv Newaldass, Director, Department of Development Services
Laurette Jean, Director, Office of Budget and Performance Management
Gregory Stuart, Executive Director, Broward MPO



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Rex Hardin, Mayor

E: rex.hardin@copbfl.com | P: 954.786.4623 | F: 954.786.4504

September 28, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Pompano Beach City Commission, I am writing to express my strong support for the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization’s application to the *Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program (RCEP)* for Broward County, located in southeast Florida. The RCEP grant funding would support the final design and construction of approximately 40 exit gates and 10 medians at 27 highway-railroad grade crossings, to further enhance public safety and “seal” the rail corridor. This project is a \$23.7 million safety investment by Broward County, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and several local municipalities, wherein Brightline Trains Florida, LLC (Brightline) will lead the project design and construction. The City of Pompano Beach is committed to providing a 20% non-Federal match (approximately \$542,478) for the improvements that will be installed at the grade crossings under our authority. The City acknowledges that the relevant maintenance agreements with the Florida East Coast Railway for each of the impacted crossings will need to be modified to include these additional improvements.

The crossings proposed to be enhanced through this project run along the existing Florida East Coast railroad corridor. The railway currently accommodates freight service and intercity passenger rail service with both expected to expand over the next couple of years. The safety and efficiency of the rail corridor impacts the residents, businesses, and visitors of our City. This project is part of a comprehensive approach to improve safety along the entire shared corridor with goal of reducing accidents to zero. FDOT, Brightline, FECR, and the local public authorities have been working closely with FRA on recommended crossing enhancements to improve safety. This project is a critical component of this public safety initiative and we are committed to being a partner.

We appreciate your consideration and respectfully request that you consider this vital project for funding. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rex Hardin

City of Wilton Manors

2020 Wilton Drive • Wilton Manors, Florida 33305 • (954) 390-2120 • FAX (954) 390-2199

October 7, 2022



Celebrating is Just Better Here

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Broward Metropolitan planning Organization's application to the *Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program (RCEP)* for Broward County, located in southeast Florida. The RCEP grant funding would support the final design and construction of approximately 40 exit gates and 10 medians at 27 highway-railroad grade crossings, to further enhance public safety and "seal" the rail corridor. This project is a \$23.7 million safety investment by Broward County, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and several local municipalities, wherein Brightline Trains Florida, LLC (Brightline) will lead the project design and construction. **The City of Wilton Manors is committed to providing a non-Federal match for the improvements that will be installed at the grade crossing under our authority.** The City acknowledges that the relevant maintenance agreements with the Florida East Coast Railway for each of the impacted crossings will need to be modified to include these additional improvements.

The crossings proposed to be enhanced through this project run along the existing Florida East Coast railroad corridor. The railway currently accommodates freight service and intercity passenger rail service with both expected to expand over the next couple of years. The safety and efficiency of the rail corridor impacts the residents, businesses, and visitors of our City. This project is part of a comprehensive approach to improve safety along the entire shared corridor with goal of reducing accidents to zero. FDOT, Brightline, FECR, and the local public authorities have been working closely with FRA on recommended crossing enhancements to improve safety. This project is a critical component of this public safety initiative and we are committed to being a partner.

I appreciate your consideration and respectfully request that you consider this vital project for funding. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Leigh Ann Henderson

Leigh Ann Henderson
City Manager

Wilton Manors is a Community Wildlife Habitat

Scott Newton
Mayor

Paul Rolli
Vice Mayor

Mike Bracchi
Commissioner

Chris Caputo
Commissioner

Gary Resnick
Commissioner

Leigh Ann Henderson
City Manager

Kerry Ezrol
City Attorney