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Office
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SAMPLE LETTER OF SUPPORT

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October 7, 2022

Note to whom the letter should be addressed

Mr. Amit Bose
Administrator
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Explain how you are referencing your application

Re: Letter of Support for the 2022 Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program
City of Eau Claire-Galloway Street Railroad Overpass

Dear Administrator Bose:

I am writing in support of the City of Eau Claire's application for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program (RCE) funding to eliminate two at-grade crossings: Galloway Street and the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR): one vehicular crossing (183949E). The existing crossing is a grade separated overpass and would complete connections to the Pedestrian/Bicycle Trail over the UPRR. The grade separated overpass is an unsafe pedestrian/bike and a vehicular rail crossing that causes delays for commuters and pedestrians and bicyclists, eliminates emissions, eliminates vehicular traffic bottlenecks, reduces noise, provides accommodations for expected future demand for Amtrak passenger rail service. The project will provide well as pedestrian and bicycle access from an adjacent residential neighborhood into other residential neighborhoods.

Provide the narrative. Include:

- Goal of the grant
- Where is it located
- Benefits to community
- Helpful statistics
- Total cost of project
- What dollar amount is being asked for
- Who is providing match funds if required and what is that amount

The railroad reports eight trains per day at 25 mph, with Galloway Street crosses the UP railroad at a 35-degree angle oncoming trains for the traveling public. The railroad has received complaints, in addition to unsafe pedestrian and motorist hits, also has reported several equipment hits due to motorist hits, including damage to the flashing light and gates.

The City of Eau Claire's application for RCE funding represents a strong partnership between the Federal government, City of Eau Claire, and the UPRR to improve the safety of freight rail, motor vehicle, and pedestrian traffic in the region. We ask the U.S. Department of Transportation to carefully consider this project and the benefits it will provide to Northwestern Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Craig Thompson
Secretary