



# FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT MANUAL

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Chapter 17: Railroad Coordination

#### **Section 17-1 Overview**

- 17-1-1 ..... General
  - 1.1 ..... Originator
  - 1.2 ..... Introduction
  - 1.3 ..... Policy Interpretation
  - 1.4 ..... Goal of Railroad Coordination
- Attachment 1.1 ..... Terms and Abbreviations
- 17-1-5 ..... The WisDOT/Railroad Partnership
- 17-1-10 ..... The WisDOT/OCR Partnership
  - 10.1 ..... Introduction
  - 10.2 ..... OCR Powers

#### **Section 17-5 Background**

- 17-5-1 ..... Sources and Types of Railroad Projects
  - 1.1 ..... Improvement Projects
  - 1.2 ..... Other Projects
  - 1.3 ..... Railroad Status Report
- Attachment 1.1 ..... Railroad-Highway Projects, Status Report Flow Chart
- 17-5-5 ..... Relevant Statutes
  - 5.1 ..... Introduction
  - 5.2 ..... Legislation
  - 5.3 ..... OCR Regulatory Activities
- 17-5-10 ..... Negotiating Guidelines
- 17-5-15 ..... Manuals and Textbooks
  - 15.1 ..... Manuals
  - 15.2 ..... Textbooks
- 17-5-20 ..... Data Sources
  - 20.1 ..... Introduction
  - 20.2 ..... Background
  - 20.3 ..... WisDOT Railroad Data File

#### **Section 17-10 Agency Responsibilities**

- 17-10-1 ..... Role of the Region Railroad Coordinator
  - 1.1 ..... Position Summary
- 17-10-5 ..... Role of Project Managers
  - 5.1 ..... Overview
- 17-10-7 ..... Role of Local Program Management Consultant
  - 7.1 ..... Introduction
  - 7.2 ..... Pre-Design Contract Activities
  - 7.3 ..... Design Contract Activities
  - 7.4 ..... Post Design Activities
- 17-10-10 ..... WisDOT
  - 10.1 ..... Railroads and Harbors Section
  - 10.2 ..... Transportation Regions
  - 10.3 ..... Engineering Consultants
  - 10.4 ..... Local Officials
  - 10.5 ..... Summary Note
- Attachment 10.1 ..... Principal Offices Involved with Railroad-Highway Projects
- 17-10-15 ..... Office of the Commissioner of Railroads

- 15.1.....Background
  - 15.2.....Office of the Commissioner of Railroads (OCR)
  - 15.3.....WisDOT Role
  - 15.4.....OCR Hearings
  - Attachment 15.1....Preparation for Hearings
  - Attachment 15.2....Example Testimony
- 17-10-20 .....Railroads
  - 20.1.....Personnel
  - 20.2.....Maps
  - 20.3.....Background
  - 20.4.....Work Arrangements
  - 20.5.....Maintenance
  - Attachment 20.1....Legal Names of Railroad Companies Operating in Wisconsin
- 17-10-25 .....Federal Agencies
  - 25.1.....FHWA (Federal Highway Administration)
  - 25.2.....FRA (Federal Railroad Administration)
  - 25.3.....STB (Surface Transportation Board)
  - 25.4.....NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board)
- 17-10-30 .....Local Government
  - 30.1.....Introduction
  - 30.2.....Negotiations and Agreements
  - 30.3.....Local Costs

**Section 17-15 Types of Programs**

- 17-15-1 .....General Overview
  - 1.1.....Highway Improvement Program
  - 1.2.....WisDOT Safety Program
  - 1.3.....OCR Safety Program
  - 1.4.....STH Surface Repair
  - 1.5.....Signal Maintenance

**Section 17-20 Implementing Projects**

- 17-20-1 .....General
  - 1.1.....Early Notification
  - 1.2.....The 86:13 Letter/Notification
  - Attachment 1.1.....Process that is followed for a Highway Improvement Project with a Railroad Crossing but No Railroad Work is Anticipated
  - Attachment 1.2.....Sample 86.13 Letter
- 17-20-5 .....Project Scheduling
  - 5.1.....Introduction
  - 5.2.....The Master Contract Schedule
  - 5.3.....The Railroad Status Report
  - 5.4.....Scheduling Criteria
  - Attachment 5.1.....Estimated Minimum Lead Times for Railroad Projects
- 17-20-10 .....The Agreement
  - 10.1.....Introduction
  - 10.2.....Overview
  - 10.3.....Railroad Project Submittal Package
  - 10.4.....OCR Petition
  - 10.5.....The Proposal Letter
  - 10.6.....The Agreement
  - 10.7.....Contents of the Agreement
  - 10.8.....Distribution of the Agreement
- 17-20-15 .....Letter Agreements
  - Attachment 15.1....Sample of Letter Agreement with Railroad (Lump Sum)
  - Attachment 15.2....Sample of Letter Agreement with Railroad (Design Approval)
  - Attachment 15.3....Sample of Letter Seeking Railroad Approval of Contractor Work
  - Attachment 15.4....Sample of Letter Proposing WisDOT Work in Track Zone in Exchange for Railroad

Providing Flagging Protection

- Attachment 15.5.....Sample of Letter Proposing WisDOT Remove and Restore a Little-Used Track Crossing
- 17-20-20 .....Detours and Haul Roads
  - 20.1..... General
  - 20.2..... Detour Options
  - 20.3..... Isolated Crossings on Safety Projects
  - 20.4..... Highway Improvement Projects

**Section 17-25 Active Warning Device Projects**

- 17-25-1 ..... General
  - 1.1..... Background
  - 1.2..... General
  - 1.3..... Process
  - 1.4..... Lead Times
- Attachment 1.1..... Sample Agreement for Highway-Railroad Grade Crossing Warning Devices
- Attachment 1.2..... Railroad Crossing Report Form, DT 1589
- 17-25-5 ..... Highway Improvement Projects
  - 5.1..... Introduction
  - 5.2..... Lead Times
  - 5.3..... Process
- Attachment 5.1..... Process that is followed for a Highway Improvement Project with an At Grade Railroad Component
- 17-25-10 ..... WisDOT Safety Projects
  - 10.1..... Introduction
  - 10.2..... General
  - 10.3..... OCR Involvement
- Attachment 10.1..... Process that is followed for a WisDOT Railroad Safety Project (RR Force Work Component)
- 17-25-15 ..... OCR Safety Projects
  - 15.1..... Introduction
  - 15.2..... General
  - 15.3..... WisDOT Assistance
- Attachment 15.1..... Process that is followed for an OCR Railroad Safety Project (RR Force Work Component)

**Section 17-30 Crossing Surface Projects**

- 17-30-1 ..... General - Criteria
  - 1.1..... Background
  - 1.2..... Maintenance / Repair / Refurbishing
  - 1.3..... Replacement
  - 1.4..... Improvement or Upgrade
  - 1.5..... Alteration of a Crossing
  - 1.6..... Roadway Improvement (Reconstruction and 3R) Projects
  - 1.7..... Roadway Maintenance (SHRM and Federal Preventive Maintenance) Projects
  - 1.8..... Safety Projects
- 17-30-5 ..... Highway Improvement Programs
  - 5.1..... General
  - 5.2..... Unique Agreement Provisions
- Attachment 5.1..... Sample Agreement for Highway-Railroad Grade Crossing Surface - Highway Improvement Program
- 17-30-10 ..... WisDOT Safety Project
  - 10.1..... Background
- Attachment 10.1..... Sample Agreement for Highway-Railroad Grade Crossing Surface - WisDOT Safety Project
- 17-30-15 ..... STH Surface Repair Program
  - 15.1..... Introduction
  - 15.2..... Process
  - 15.3..... Limits of Cost Participation
  - 15.4..... Charging Costs
- Attachment 15.1..... Process for a Crossing Repair Fund Project (No Federal Funds)

Attachment 15.2.....Sample Agreement for a Railroad Crossing Repair Fund Project

**Section 17-35 Crossing Closure and Consolidation**

17-35-1 .....Overview

- 1.1.....Background
- 1.2.....Guidance
- 1.3.....Options
- 1.4.....Incentives
- 1.5.....Process
- 1.6.....Payment

Attachment 1.1.....Crossing Closure Incentive Payment Project Process

**Section 17-40 Separation Projects**

17-40-1 .....Overview

- 1.1.....General
- 1.2.....Lead Times
- 1.3.....Submittals for Railroad Coordination

Attachment 1.1.....Process When the Railroad is Willing to Sign the Stipulation

Attachment 1.2.....Process When the Railroad is Unwilling to Sign the Stipulation

Attachment 1.3.....Process For <23' Vertical Clearance

Attachment 1.4.....Separated Grade Railroad Project Submittal Package

17-40-5 .....Structure Criteria/Justification

- 5.1.....Options
- 5.2.....General Criteria
- 5.3.....Other Criteria
- 5.4.....Railroad Participation in Costs
- 5.5.....Analysis of Alternatives
- 5.6.....Selected Alternative.

17-40-10 .....Alternatives to Structures

- 10.1.....General
- 10.2.....Create an At-Grade Crossing
- 10.3.....Highway Relocation
- 10.4.....Railroad Relocation
- 10.5.....Crossing Closure

17-40-15 .....Bridge Replacement Program

17-40-20 .....Structure Agreements

- 20.1.....General
- 20.2.....Stipulation Process
- 20.3.....Agreement for Railroad Force Work
- 20.4.....Structures on The Local System

17-40-25 .....Costs/Cost Sharing

- 25.1.....Background
- 25.2.....Railroad Participation
- 25.3.....Projects on the Local System
- 25.4.....Current Practice in Cost Sharing
- 25.5.....5 – Options-Grade Separations
- 25.6.....Summary
- 25.7.....Conclusions

17-40-30 .....Structure on Local System

- 30.1.....General
- 30.2.....Interim Design Memo
- 30.3.....Alternative Selection

17-40-35 .....Underpass Structures

- 35.1.....General
- 35.2.....Underpass Structures
- 35.3.....Maintaining Railroad Traffic During Underpass Construction
- 35.4.....False Work Bridge

Attachment 35.1.....General Shoo-Fly Case

- 17-40-40 .....Miscellaneous Structure Provisions
  - 40.1.....Excessive Clearances
  - 40.2.....Additional Track Space
  - 40.3.....Crash Protection

**Section 17-45 Other Safety Funded Projects**

- 17-45-1 .....Railroad Stopping Lanes
- 17-45-5 .....Roadway Treatments at Closures
- 17-45-10 .....Humpback and Sag Crossings
- 17-45-15 .....Track Removals and Modifications
- 17-45-20 .....Enhancement Projects
  - 20.1.....Historical Preservation
  - 20.2.....Bike and Pedestrian Crossings
- 17-45-25 .....Exempt Crossings
  - 25.1.....Background
  - 25.2.....Criteria for Selection
  - 25.3.....Summary
  - 25.4.....Exempt Signing
- Attachment 25.1.....Exempt Railroad Crossing Process

**Section 17-50 Contract Administration**

- 17-50-1 .....General
  - 1.1.....Introduction
  - 1.2.....Cost Principles
- 17-50-5 .....Railroad Protective Liability Insurance
  - 5.1.....Background
  - 5.2.....When to Provide Insurance
  - 5.3.....Leased Lines
  - 5.4.....Operating Rights
  - 5.5.....Special Provisions

**Section 17-55 Property**

- 17-55-1 .....General
  - 1.1.....Background
  - 1.2.....Entering Railroad Lands
  - 1.3.....Indemnification
- 17-55-5 .....Acquisitions
  - 5.1.....Background
- 17-55-10 .....Responsibilities for Acquisitions
  - 10.1.....Acquisition
  - 10.2.....Responsibility for Property Negotiations
  - 10.3.....What's Needed
- 17-55-15 .....Determining Compensation
  - 15.1.....Classification of Railroad Right of Way and Lands
  - 15.2.....Procedure for Determining Compensation
  - 15.3.....Easement Valuation
  - 15.4.....Administrative Revisions

**Section 17-60 Design Considerations**

- 17-60-1 .....Locating New Highway - Railroad Grade Crossings
  - 1.1.....Introduction
  - 1.2.....Location Considerations
  - 1.3.....Roadways Paralleling Railroads
  - 1.4.....Roadways Near Railroads
- 17-60-5 .....Grade Crossing Design
  - 5.1.....Surveys and Plans
  - 5.2.....Visibility and Sight Distances
  - 5.3.....Profile
  - 5.4.....Track Raises
  - 5.5.....Approaches
  - 5.6.....Welded Rails
  - 5.7.....Drainage and Crossing Stability

- Attachment 5.1.....Examples of Allowable Roadway Grade Variation
- Attachment 5.2.....Runout Distance D on Approach to Track
- 17-60-10 .....Railroad Design Considerations
  - 10.1.....General
  - 10.2.....Clearance Considerations
  - 10.3.....Statutory Clearances
  - 10.4.....Clearances Desired by Railroad
  - 10.5.....Temporary Clearances
- 17-60-15 .....Signing at Crossings
  - 15.1.....Introduction
  - 15.2.....Railroad Crossing Signs
  - 15.3.....Pavement Markings
  - 15.4.....Stop Signs and Yield Signs
  - 15.5....."Tracks Out of Service" Signs
  - 15.6....."Exempt" Signs
- 17-60-20 .....Warning Devices and Systems
  - 20.1.....Introduction:
  - 20.2.....Train Activated Signals
  - 20.3.....Control Equipment
  - 20.4.....Placement of Signs and Signals
  - 20.5.....Protection of Signals
  - Attachment 20.1....Flashing Light Signals, Side of Road - Rural and Urban Roadway
- 17-60-25 .....Pre-emption/Interconnects
  - 25.1.....Preemption/Interconnection of Traffic Control Signals
- 17-60-30 .....Crossing Surface Types
  - 30.1.....General
  - 30.2.....Current Standard Crossing Surface
  - 30.3.....Selecting A Crossing Surface
- 17-60-35 .....Miscellaneous
  - 35.1.....Controlled Train Movements
  - 35.2.....Lighting Crossings
  - 35.3.....Other Safety Devices
- 17-60-40 .....High-Speed Passenger Rail
  - Attachment 40.1....Midwest Regional Rail Initiative, Wisconsin's Portion
- 17-60-45 .....Transverse Facility Crossings
  - 45.1.....General
  - 45.2.....Public Utilities vs. Highway Appurtenances
  - 45.3.....State vs Private Railroad Corridors
  - 45.4.....Installation
  - 45.5.....References
  - Attachment 45.1....Transverse Facility Decision Process Flow Chart
  - Attachment 45.2....Sample Railroad Notification Letter