



RAIL

MOVING AMERICA FORWARD

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Overview/ FRA USDOT Grant Programs

Brittany Lavender, Office of Regional Outreach and Program Delivery

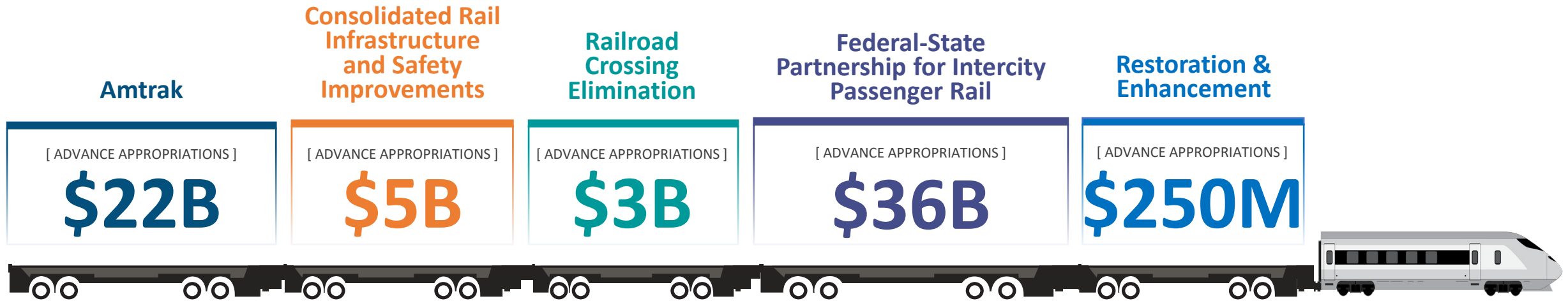
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Legislation Update

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Rail Funding Overview

[ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS]

From FY22-FY26

\$66B in total funding



Introduction to FRA

INTEGRITY • SAFETY • EXCELLENCE
TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY • INNOVATION • ENGAGEMENT



GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Safety

Ensure the safety of FRA employees, the public and the rail industry.



Integrity

Highest standards of ethical conduct – stewards of the public's trust and resources.



Engagement

Seek ongoing development and engagement with stakeholders to improve the impact that rail has in and around their communities.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Meaningful Impact



Reconnecting Communities

- Improving safety and mobility of people and goods at grade crossings.



Improving Passenger Equipment and Stations

- Ensure equitable access to passenger stations and cars for all Americans, including those with disabilities.
- Provide a safe, convenient and enjoyable travel experience across the Amtrak network.



Providing National Travel Options

Build/improve rail services in 100-500-mile corridors:

- Convenient, reliable, and affordable alternatives to highway and air.
- Serve economically/ racially disadvantaged communities.
- Improve connections between large and small communities.



Alleviating Passenger-Freight Congestion

- Add targeted capacity on shared passenger-freight infrastructure to:
- Relieve congestion and improve speeds.

FRA Grant Programs - Proposed Changes (FY23 Approps)

[CRISI]



\$535M

Set-Asides (*not less than*)



\$25M

Measures that prevent trespassing



\$5M

Preconstruction planning activities



\$5M

Workforce Development & Training Activities

BY THE NUMBERS

[Fed-State]



\$100M

National/NEC Breakdown
(not less than)



\$45M

National Network



\$45M

Northeast Corridor

FRA Grant Programs - Proposed Changes (FY24 Approps) *Not Enacted Yet*

Railroad Crossing Elimination

- Federal Match
 - Recommended reducing the Federal share match from 80 percent to 90 percent
- State Limitation
 - Recommended removing State limitation to award not more than 20 percent to a single state

CRISI

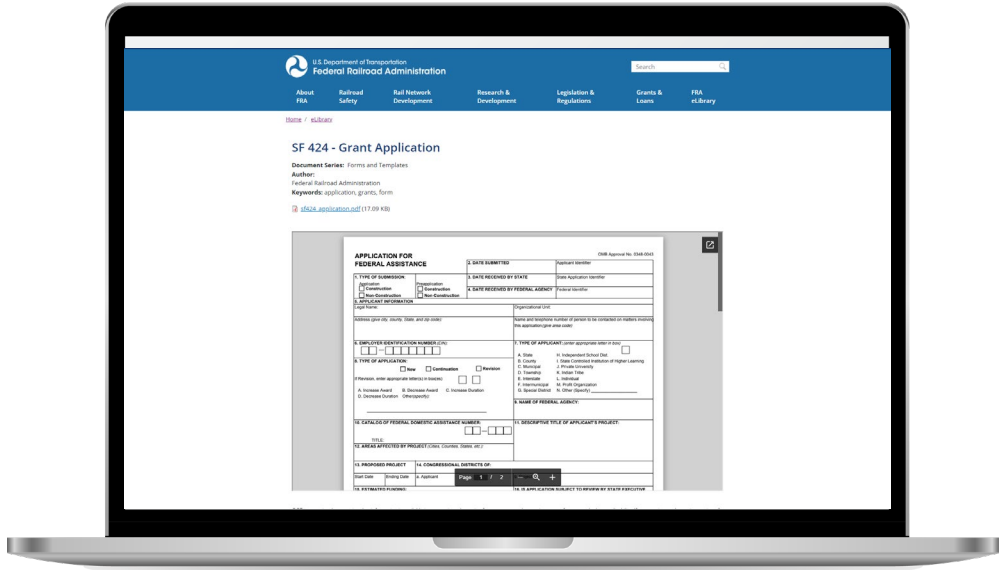
- Federal Match
 - Recommended reducing the Federal share match from 80 percent to 90 percent
- National Railroad Institute
 - **Up to \$5M** to establish a National Railroad Institute to develop and conduct training and education programs for industry employees

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Top Takeaways

Reporting Funding Levels



SF-424 Form



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Top Takeaways

Host Railroad Engagement



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Top Takeaways

Safety Data

Explore FRA Safety Data

RESEARCH RECORD EXPLORE

Quick Links

- Vehicle Run 22 Reporting System
- Rail Security Incident Reporting System
- Rail Safety Compliance Inventory System
- Rail 2023 Research
- Rail Decision 20
- Vehicle Run 22 Reporting System
- Rail Security Incident Reporting System
- Rail Safety Compliance Inventory System
- Rail 2023 Research
- Rail Decision 20

Forms Guides and Publication Download Search

Search forms, guides, publications, and downloads

Title	Type	Apply
FRA Safety Data Reporting System	Form	Apply
FRA Safety Data Reporting System	Form	Apply
FRA Safety Data Reporting System	Form	Apply



Crossing Inventory Dashboards & Data Downloads

Use the navigation on the left to access interactive Railroad Safety Data dashboards and search for specific crossings, or access full datasets from the links below.

- Crossing Inventory Data
- Crossing Inventory Data
- Crossing Inventory Data

Accident/Incident Dashboards & Data Downloads

Use the navigation on the left to access interactive Railroad Safety Data dashboards, or access full datasets from the links below.

Accident/Incident Overview

Year	Number of Incidents
2017	10
2018	10
2019	10
2020	10
2021	10
2022	10

FRA and USDOT Grant Programs

Railroad Crossing Elimination – Overview

PROGRAM PURPOSE

To fund highway-rail or pathway-rail grade crossing improvement projects that focus on **improving the safety and mobility of people and goods.**

APPLICATION PERIOD

NOFO Published in the Federal Register on July 6, 2022

- **\$573,264,000 available;** applications due October 11, 2022
- FRA conducted 5 webinars between July and September
- Submissions: 153 eligible applications requesting \$2.36 billion

FY22 SELECTIONS

- FRA reviewed 153 eligible applications from 41 states, requesting a total of \$2,257,111,098
- On June 5, 2023, announced \$570,982,420 in FY22 funding to 63 projects in 32 states.



Railroad Crossing Elimination FY22 Selections: Alabama

- Alabama – City of Calera State Road 25 Railway-Highway Grade Separation Project
(Up To \$11,742,184)
 - City of Calera
- Alabama – Railroad Crossing Elimination on Shelby County Road 52
(Up To \$41,766,038)
 - City of Pelham

Consolidated Railroad Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI)

CRISI Purpose and FY22 Selection Highlights

Program Purpose

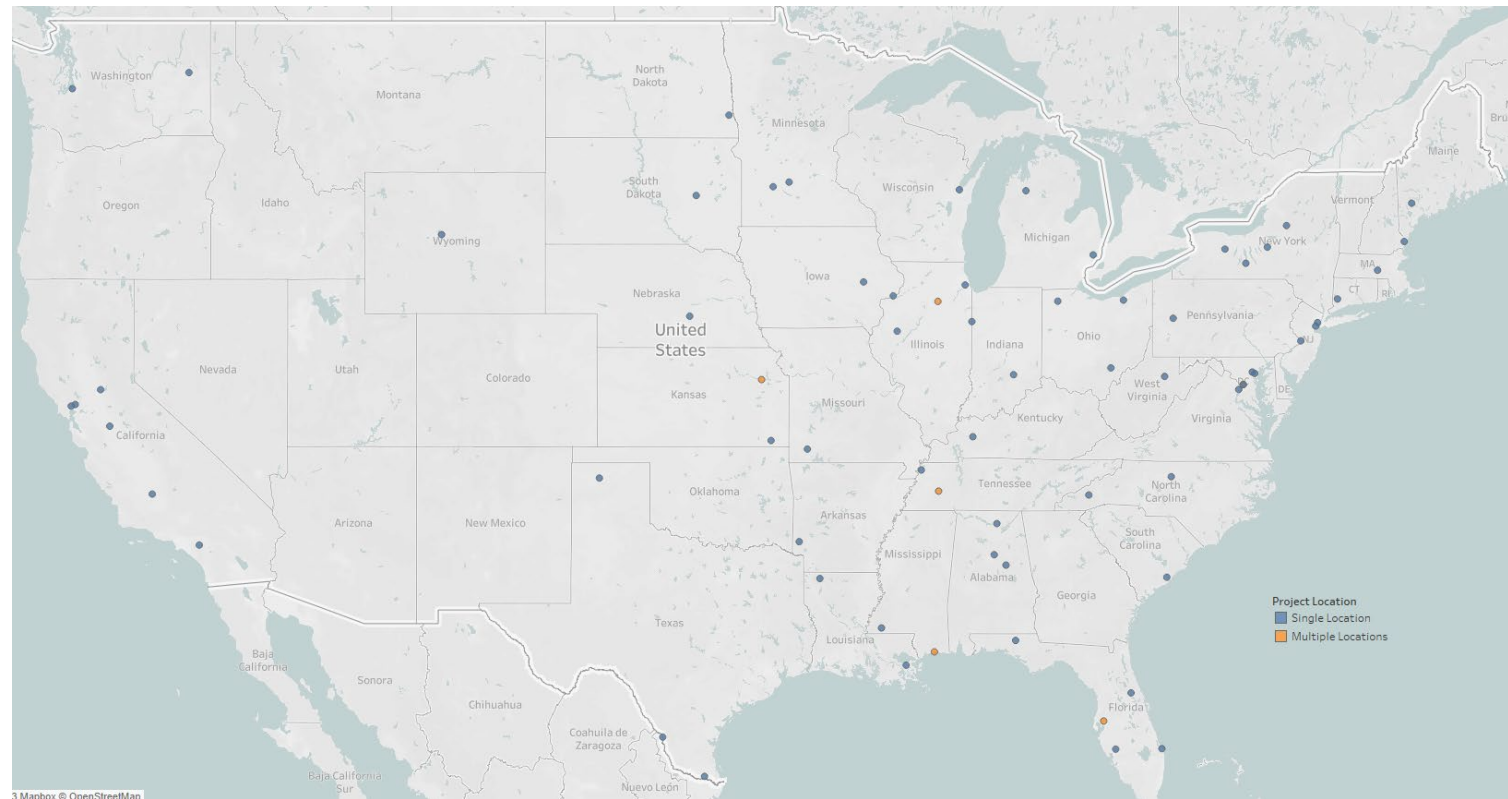
To fund projects that improve the safety, efficiency, and/or reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail systems

Funding Level

- **\$1.4 B**
- **234 eligible applications**
- **\$6,087,960,189 requested**

Geographic Highlights

- National Coverage:
 - **70 Projects Selected in 35 States (plus the District of Columbia)**
- Freight: **41 projects (\$627 M)**
- New Intercity Passenger Rail service: **7 projects (\$657 M)**
- Trespassing/Grade Crossing:
 - **10 projects (\$34 M)**





CRISI FY22 Selections: Alabama

- Blackbelt and Central Alabama Freight Rail Improvement Project (Up to \$15,870,960)
 - Alabama Department of Transportation
- Reduce Extended Delays; Enhance Safety; and Invest in Growing Neighborhoods (R.E.D.E.S.I.G.N.) Project (Up to \$8,000,000)
 - City of Birmingham
- Safety, Efficiency, Capacity Improvement and Service Restoration Project (Up to \$3,476,110)
 - Huntsville & Madison County Railroad Authority (HMCR)
- Transportation Investments for Employment and Safety (TIES) Project (Up to \$37,364,504)
 - OmniTRAX Holdings Combined, Inc.



FY22 CRISI – Program Overview

Eligible Applicants

- A State (including the District of Columbia) or group of States.
- An Interstate Compact.
- Public agencies or publicly chartered authorities established by 1 or more States.
- Political subdivision of a State.
- Amtrak or other intercity passenger rail carrier.
- Class II or III railroads and associations that represent a Class II or III railroad.
- Any rail carrier or equipment manufacturer in partnership with at least one state entity, public agency, and/or local government.
- Federally recognized Indian Tribe.
- The Transportation Research Board (TRB) together with any entity with which it contracts in the development of rail-related research, including cooperative research programs.
- A university transportation center engaged in rail-related research.
- A non-profit labor organization representing a class or craft of employees of rail carriers or rail carrier contractors.

FY22 CRISI – Program Overview

ELIGIBLE PROJECT CRITERIA

- Wide Range of Rail Capital Projects
 - Congestion mitigation
 - Ridership growth facilitation
 - Enhancements to multimodal connections
 - Improvements to short-line or regional railroad infrastructure
- Railroad Safety Technology
- Track, Station, and Equipment Improvements for Intercity Passenger Rail
- **Grade Crossing Improvements**
- **Rail Line Relocation and Improvement**
- Regional and Corridor Service Planning and corresponding Environmental Analyses
- Safety Programs and Institutes
- Research
- Workforce Development and Training
- **New in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law:**
 - **Measures that prevent trespassing**
 - Preparation of emergency plans for hazardous materials that are transported by rail
 - Rehab or procurement of locomotives, provided that such activities result in a significant reduction of emissions

Other USDOT Programs

FY 2023 RAISE – Overview

Program Purpose

- Multimodal, merit-based, competitive grant program for surface transportation infrastructure
- Improve safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, mobility and community connectivity, economic competitiveness, state of good repair, partnership and innovation.

Program Funding

- \$2.3 billion available
 - \$1.5 billion Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
 - \$800 million FY 2023 Appropriation Act
- Min Award Size for Capital Projects - \$1 million Rural/\$5 million Urban
- Max Award Size
 - \$25 million BIL
 - \$45 million FY 2023 Appropriation Act

TIGER/BUILD/RAISE – FRA SUCCESS

Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)

- 2009 – 2017
- 55 projects - \$660,007,045

Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Economic Development (BUILD)

- 2018-2020
- 12 projects - \$154,128,710

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)

- 2021-2023
- 21 projects - \$284,668,423



FY 2023 RAISE – Eligible Applicants

States
DC

Territories or
Possession of the
United States

Unit of Local
Government

Public agency or
publicly chartered
authority established
by 1+ states

Federally recognized
Tribe or consortium of
Tribes

Special purpose district
or public authority with
a transportation
function, such as a port
authority

Transit Agency

A multi-State or
multijurisdictional
group of entities that
are separately eligible

FY 2023 RAISE – Eligible Projects



Highway, Bridge, or Road



Public Transportation



Passenger and Freight Rail



Intermodal Projects

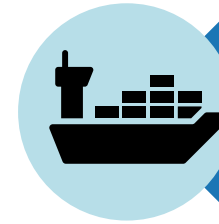


Transportation Projects on Tribal Lands



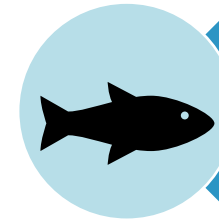
Surface Transportation Components of an Airport

Eligible under part B of subtitle VII of title 49 USC



Port Infrastructure

Including Inland Ports and Land Points of Entry



Culvert Replacement and Rehabilitation

to Prevent Stormwater Runoff to Improve the Habitat for Aquatic Species



Planning and Pre-Construction Activities

Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Program (FY 2023 – 2024)

Program Purpose

\$5.575 billion for projects of regional national significance that involve surface transportation projects designed to strengthen supply chains, spur economic development, and improve safety and daily life.

Application Overview

- Three programs solicited together using one Notice of Funding Opportunity
 - INFRA – approximately \$3.1 billion
 - MEGA - \$1.8 billion
 - Rural - \$675 million

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/mpdg-program>

Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant Program

Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Program

- **\$1 billion** in grant funding is available through the RCP Program for FY 2022-26.
- Funds for restoring community connectivity through the removal, retrofit, mitigation or replacement highways, roadways, or other infrastructure facilities that create barriers to mobility, access, or economic development.

Neighborhood Access & Equity (NAE) Program

- **\$3.155 billion** in grant funding is available through the NAE Program for FY 2022-26.
- Funds for:
 - Context-sensitive projects that improve walkability, safety, and affordable access
 - Mitigating or remediating negative impacts on the human or natural environment in disadvantaged communities from a surface transportation facility;
 - Planning and capacity building activities in disadvantaged or undeserved communities.

Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods Grant Program

- For FY 2023, USDOT combined the NOFO for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) and Neighborhood Access & Equity (NAE) grant programs
- While they remain separate programs for the purposes of award, the programs share many common characteristics, including:
 - ✓ Aiming to improve access to daily needs such as jobs, education, healthcare, food, and recreation;
 - ✓ Fostering equitable development and restoration;
 - ✓ Reconnecting communities by removing, retrofitting, or mitigating highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity, including to mobility, access, or economic development.


<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/rcnprogram>



Department Resources

- Check the new DOT Navigator!
- The DOT Navigator is a new resource to help communities understand the best ways to apply for grants, and to plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects
 - [Understanding Cost Share](#)
 - [How to Navigate Grants.gov](#)
 - [Checklist for a Strong Workforce and Labor Plan](#)
- <https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?



- Apply for DOT Grants**
Resources to help understand the federal grant-making process and key federal requirements
- Find Technical Assistance Resources**
Resources available to public agencies and other transportation stakeholders
- Learn About the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**
Information to help access BIL funding programs

Quiet Zone Application Process

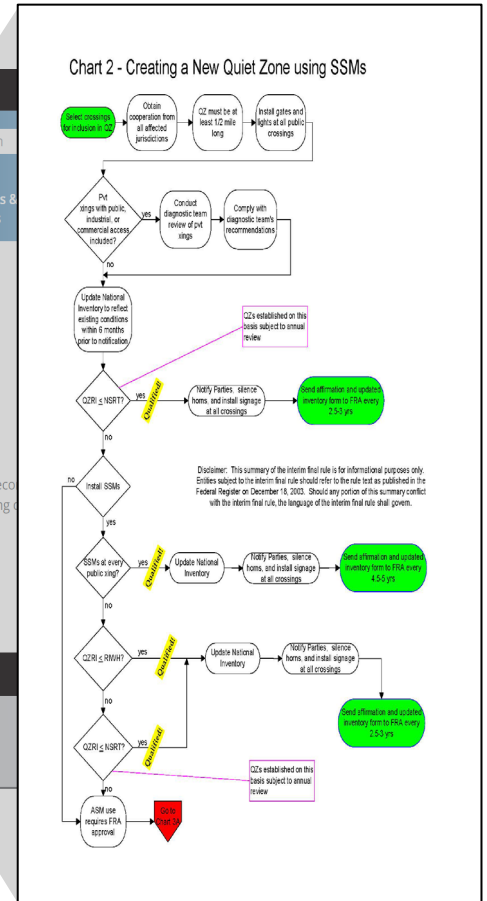
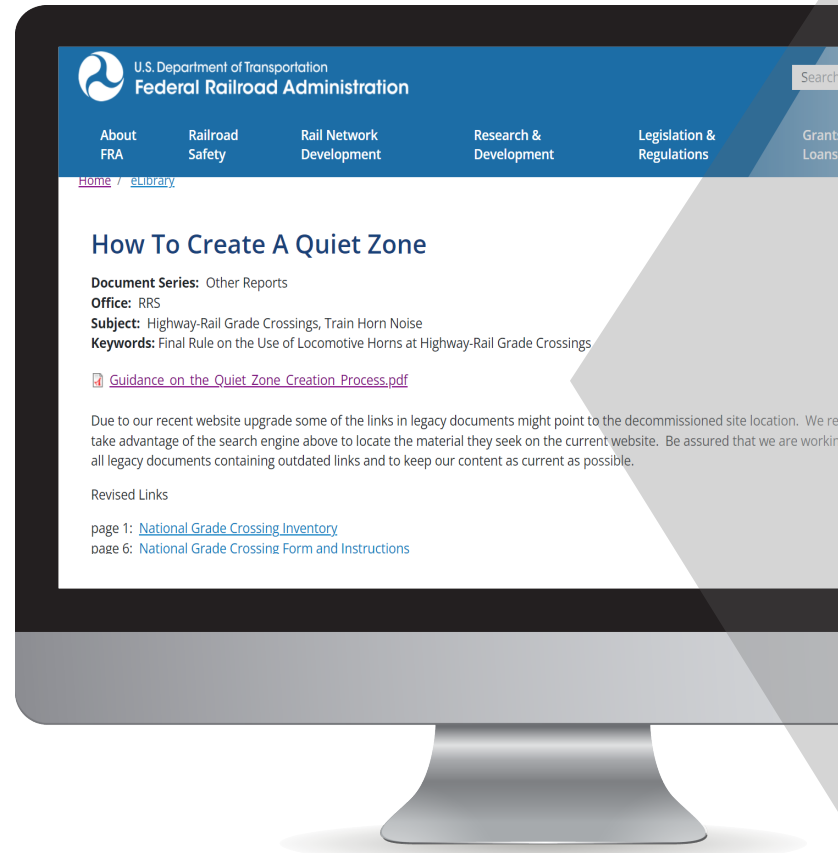
Quiet Zone Application Process

How To Obtain A Quiet Zone

- The establishment of Quiet Zones are not eligible projects covered within any existing FRA grant program.
- The best path to obtaining a Quiet Zone is through improving the safety of a grade crossing.

More information about the establishment of Quiet Zones can be found on the FRA site:

<https://railroads.dot.gov/elibrary/how-create-quiet-zone>



Contact Us

Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590



Connect with us [USDOTFRA](#)

Brittany Lavender

Email: Brittany.Lavender@dot.gov

Project Manager, South Central Region
Office of Regional Outreach and Project Delivery



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration