

Complaint - Inquiry Record

R13-0080

5/1/2014 7:55:09 AM

Illinois Commerce Commission - Transportation Division - Railroad Section

<u>Complaint#</u>	<u>Date Rec'd</u>	<u>How Rec'd</u>	<u>Staff Assigned</u>	<u>Date Closed</u>
R13-0080	9/11/2013	Letter	VonDeBur, Joe	
<u>Code</u>	<u>Complaint Type</u>			
01	Crossing Condition			

Complainant	Oregon/Nashua Township (Tim Leary)	Phone 1	815/378-6271
Title	Highway Commissioner	Phone 2	0
Organization	Oregon/Nashua Township	Fax	0
Street	2290 South Illinois Route #2	Email	
City/State/Zip	Oregon, IL 61061		

<u>AAR Code</u>	<u>Railroad Name</u>
IR	Illinois Railway

<u>DOT#</u>	<u>I/N</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Hwy</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>MP</u>	<u>Line</u>
070081T	N	OREGON	OREGON TRAIL RD	TR233	Ogle	101.75	G
070084N	N	OREGON	PINES RD	FAS85	Ogle	100.16	G
070085V	N	OREGON	DEVILS BACKBONE R	TR180A	Ogle	100.10	G

Complaint or Inquiry

Rough Xings: IR, Devil's Backbone/Oregon Trail/Pines Roads, near Oregon, Ogle Co

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Action</u>
9/11/2013	VonDeBur, Joe	Complaint received by MES via email. Jim Robinson, OmniTRAX Division General Roadmaster, notified via email. Per Mr. Robinson's response "We will address it, I will update you with a plan as soon as we line up the work."
10/16/2013	VonDeBur, Joe	Follow-up inquiry to Jim Robinson, OmniTRAX Division General Roadmaster. Per JR, it will probably be November before crews get to those crossings.
10/24/2013	VonDeBur, Joe	Status inquiry from complainant. Per Jim Robinson, Omnitrax Division General Roadmaster, "I have not forgot about it but it will probably be in early November."
12/3/2013	VonDeBur, Joe	Hi-rail tour of crossings w/Brian Vercruysse and IR personnel to inspect crossing surfaces.
12/10/2013	VonDeBur, Joe	Per Brian Vercruysse, temporary repairs will be made to Oregon trail road, Devil's Backbone and Pines Road. The IR plans to begin a surface rehabilitation program next construction season.
1/17/2014	VonDeBur, Joe	Per Mr. Severinsen, IR/OmniTRAX, Oregon Trail was patched this week.
1/21/2014	Vercruysse, Brian	Follow-up letter sent to IL Railway Severinsen (copy to RAILS complaint folder). Phone conversation with Tim Leary providing update and will forward hard copy tomorrow.
1/21/2014	VonDeBur, Joe	Letter to IR (copy to file) requesting repairs.
2/6/2014	VonDeBur, Joe	Response from IR (copy to file). Tentative list of repairs and rough schedule included.
4/17/2014	VonDeBur, Joe	Reinspection of crossings shows Oregon Trail Road has deteriorated to the point of needing attention before scheduled repairs. Pictures taken and saved to RAILS folder.

4/22/2014 VonDeBur, Joe

Email to Jim Robinson, IR/Omnitrax, requesting temporary repairs at Oregon Trail Road. No response received as of 4/30/14.

Complaint - Inquiry Record**R14-0033****Illinois Commerce Commission - Transportation Division - Railroad Section**

<u>Complaint#</u>	<u>Date Rec'd</u>	<u>How Rec'd</u>	<u>Staff Assigned</u>	<u>Date Closed</u>
R14-0033	3/27/2014	Voice	VonDeBur, Joe	
<u>Code</u>	<u>Complaint Type</u>			
01	Crossing Condition			

Complainant	COOK CURTIS	Phone 1
Title	COUNTY ENGINEER	Phone 2
Organization		Fax
Street	1989 IL RT. 2, SOUTH	Email
City/State/Zip	OREGON,	

<u>AAR Code</u>	<u>Railroad Name</u>
IR	Illinois Railway

<u>DOT#</u>	<u>I/N</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Hwy</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>MP</u>	<u>Line</u>
070054W	N	HOLCOMB		ILL64	Ogle	5.08	BNSFF

Complaint or Inquiry

Rough Xing: IR, IL64, Kings, Ogle County

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Action</u>
3/27/2014	VonDeBur, Joe	Complaint received personally by Chuck Broers.
4/10/2014	VonDeBur, Joe	Phone call from Gary Harlemen, White Rock Township HC. He will have Roger Ahlendorf, (master_technician_724@aol.com) send pictures.
4/17/2014	VonDeBur, Joe	Inspection of crossing shows surface has sunk 1-3 inches and both rails are loose.
4/22/2014	VonDeBur, Joe	Email to Jim Robinson, Omnitrax, requesting attention at the xing. No response as of 4/30/14. Crossing also inspected by Troy Fredericks, ICC Track Inspector. Per Mr. Fredericks, Bill Severinsen, IR Track Supervisor, was made aware of problems with crossing. IR track is "Excepted" Track.

Complaint - Inquiry Record**R13-0050****Illinois Commerce Commission - Transportation Division - Railroad Section**

<u>Complaint#</u>	<u>Date Rec'd</u>	<u>How Rec'd</u>	<u>Staff Assigned</u>	<u>Date Closed</u>
R13-0050	7/2/2013	online complaint	Vercruysse, Brian	
<u>Code</u>	<u>Complaint Type</u>			
01	Crossing Condition			

Complainant	Garcia Moe	Phone 1	0
Title		Phone 2	0
Organization		Fax	0
Street	10804 S. Avenue N	Email	mg2820@columbia.edu
City/State/Zip	Chicago, IL 60617		

<u>AAR Code</u>	<u>Railroad Name</u>
CRL	Chicago Rail Link

<u>DOT#</u>	<u>I/N</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Hwy</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>MP</u>	<u>Line</u>
608857W	I	CHICAGO	104TH ST	FAU1575	Cook	1.22	RI1A
608859K	I	CHICAGO	106TH ST	FAU1576	Cook	1.48	RI1A
864028C	I	CHICAGO	106TH ST	FAU1576	Cook	3.60	B
864032S	I	CHICAGO	104TH ST	FAU1575	Cook	0.25	B

Complaint or Inquiry

rough surface conditions: 104th Street and 106th Street highway-rail grade crossings in Chicago

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Action</u>
7/12/2013	Vercruysse, Brian	Sent introductory email to Mr. Garcia and emailed CRL and BRC. See "files"
7/16/2013	Vercruysse, Brian	Met with Mark Ferguson, BRC to discuss 106th Street. No BRC tracks at 104th.
7/23/2013	Vercruysse, Brian	Email and phone call follow-up with Jim Robinson, Division Roadmaster for CRL. See email in "files"
7/30/2013	Vercruysse, Brian	Field Review with BRC, CRL and IDOT. 106th Street warning device and track consolidation plan moving forward under IDOT's FY 14 safety program. See email in "files."
		CRL completed temp repair on broken panel EB.
		Sent email update to Mr. Garcia, complainant (see "files")
		CRL working with its contractor for panel and hot mix asphalt repairs at 104th Street.

Vercruysse, Brian

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2013 2:41 PM
To: Jim Robinson; Steve Ward
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia - 104th Street and 106th Street City of Chicago

Jim and Steve,

I have not heard from the CRL Division Roadmaster. Could you please provide the contact information along with the appropriate contact for sending a letter?

The 104th Street crossing needs immediate interim repairs, and plan for final repair.

Similar interim repairs are needed at 106th Street. Then the CRL should coordinate the removal of the unused eastern 2 tracks and western spur so that the Belt can relocate and upgrade the warning devices.

Please advise.

Thank you very much,
Brian

Brian Vercruysse

Illinois Commerce Commission - Senior Rail Safety Specialist
527 E. Capitol Avenue | Springfield, IL 62701
312-636-7760 | bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov

From: Ken Rose [<mailto:krose@omnitrax.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2013 1:31 PM
To: Vercruysse, Brian
Cc: 'Mark Ferguson'; Steve Ward; Jim Robinson
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia - 104th Street and 106th Street City of Chicago

Brian, I have received your email and attached information. The CRL Division Roadmaster or his designate will contact you.

Also, just so you know I have moved out of the OmniTRAX Engineering Dept. to Corporate Development Dept. So for future needs on the CRL or IR, please contact Jim Robinson or Steve Ward (both copied).

Sincerely, Ken Rose

Ken Rose, PE, PG
Director of Engineering & Environmental Services
OmniTRAX, Inc., 252 Clayton St., 3rd Floor, Denver, CO 80206
(303) 398-4549 office; (303) 437-2715 cell; (866) 418-7390 fax;

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From: Vercruysse, Brian [<mailto:bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2013 12:20 PM
To: Ken Rose
Cc: 'Mark Ferguson'
Subject: FW: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia - 104th Street and 106th Street City of Chicago

Hi Ken,

We have received a complaint regarding the crossing surfaces on the CRL at 104th and 106th. With the liquid asphalt plant, there are unused segments of track that need to be removed and other sections where repairs are currently needed. I have met with the Belt to initiate longer term improvements that include upgrading and relocating the warning devices. Next week we meet again to move forward with the planning.

Could you please provide your current Road Master or Track Mgr so that I can discuss and coordinate interim repairs . We'll keep you advised with these and coordinate the long term repairs.

Thanks,
Brian

Brian Vercruysse, P.E. | Senior Rail Safety Specialist | Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, IL 62701
312-636-7760 | bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2013 1:09 PM
To: moctezumagarcia@hotmail.com
Cc: Stead, Mike
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia - 104th Street and 106th Street City of Chicago

Mr. Garcia,

My name is Brian Vercruysse and I have been assigned to your on-line complaint regarding the 104th and 106th Streets highway-rail crossings. My contact information is included below; please feel free to contact me.

I am aware that long term improvements are needed. Late last year I met with representatives from the Belt Rail Company (BRC) at the crossings. Since that time, the BRC has been trying to secure the needed funding to update the warning devices and remove any unused rail. The last correspondence from April of this year is included for your information (pdf file at the end of the email). Also, I visited the crossings on Tuesday, and have noted that interim repairs are needed.

Next week I am meeting with the BRC to discuss the scope and schedule for implementing the work (interim and long term), which will also include the Chicago Rail Link (CRL/Omnitrax) which owns tracks through each of the crossings. After the meeting I will provide a follow-up letter.

Thank you,
Brian

Brian Vercruysse, P.E. | Senior Rail Safety Specialist | Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, IL 62701

Vercruysse, Brian

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2013 3:03 PM
To: 'Andy.Rabadi@illinois.gov'
Cc: Mark Ferguson
Subject: FW: FW: The Belt Railway of Chicago 106th Street Proposal (ID: 2012-013099)
Attachments: FW: The Belt Railway of Chicago 106th Street Proposal (ID: 2012-013099)

Hi Andy,

I believe you sent Mark Ferguson an application and other information, but could you please re-send to him?

We have received crossing surface complaints for 104th and 106th and the CRL is looking at interim repairs. Long term at 106th Street, however, we would like the CRL to remove the eastern tracks and have the BRC upgrade and relocate the warning devices.

Thanks,
Brian

Vercruysse, Brian

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2013 2:00 PM
To: 'Mark Ferguson'
Subject: RE: 104th & 106th Streets RE: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia

Thanks Mark.

Brian

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Ferguson [mailto:ferguson@beltrailway.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2013 1:21 PM
To: Vercruysse, Brian
Subject: RE: 104th & 106th Streets RE: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia

Brian,

I look forward to talking with you next week. I have a couple contacts with Rail Link listed below not sure if they are still there thou. We own the 3 tracks that are in service at 106th and at 104th we own the tracks that are gated as you know.

Ross 229-886-0596
Jay 773-842-1095

Thanks
Mark

Mark A. Ferguson
Manager Signal & Communication
The Belt Railway Company of Chicago
6900 South Central Avenue
Bedford Park, IL 60638
Email: ferguson@beltrailway.com
Office: (708) 496-4139
Cell: (708) 372-8947
Fax: (708) 496-8011

-----Original Message-----

From: Vercruysse, Brian [mailto:bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2013 12:45 PM
To: 'Mark Ferguson'
Subject: 104th & 106th Streets RE: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia

Hi Mark,

Sorry we have been playing phone tag. We can meet and discuss next week during the FLIR final, but I do need to send a note to the citizen regarding the status of the complaint.

For 104th & 106th Street do you have a good contact at CRL/Omnitrax to coordinate removal of the old track segments with any signal work? The Omnitrax reps I know are in Denver (Ken Rose and Jason Scott).

From what I could tell, the BRC owned surfaces were in ok shape. Do you have the track ownership information at the crossings?

Thanks,
Brian

Brian Vercruysse, P.E. | Senior Rail Safety Specialist | Illinois
Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, IL 62701
312-636-7760 | bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Ferguson [mailto:ferguson@beltrailway.com]
Sent: Monday, July 08, 2013 6:37 AM
To: Vercruysse, Brian
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia

Brian,

I hope you had a great holiday. When you have some time today can you please call me so we can discuss this issue.

Thanks
Mark

Mark A. Ferguson
Manager Signal & Communication
The Belt Railway Company of Chicago
6900 South Central Avenue
Bedford Park, IL 60638
Email: ferguson@beltrailway.com
Office: (708) 496-4139
Cell: (708) 372-8947
Fax: (708) 496-8011

-----Original Message-----

From: Vercruysse, Brian [mailto:bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 02, 2013 2:54 PM
To: 'Mark Ferguson'
Subject: FW: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia

Hi Mark,

Hope all is well. Have you had any further discussions with Andy Rabadi, IDOT regarding the 104th Street Project? We just received the complaint below regarding the surface condition at 104th and 106th.

Have a good 4th!

Thanks,

Brian

-----Original Message-----

From: Shanle, Sheri
Sent: Tuesday, July 02, 2013 1:21 PM
To: Vercruysse, Brian
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia

New complaint R13-0050 assigned to you has been added in RAILS concerning this complaint. I listed both crossings shown for 104th & 106th Streets.
Please correct or delete the numbers if it is the wrong crossing.

-----Original Message-----

From: Stead, Mike On Behalf Of railsafety@mail
Sent: Tuesday, July 02, 2013 11:18 AM
To: moctezumagarcia@hotmail.com
Cc: Vercruysse, Brian; Shanle, Sheri
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia

Mr. Garcia - Thank you for submitting online complaints regarding rough surface conditions at the 104th Street and 106th Street highway-rail grade crossings in Chicago. I appreciate your concern for public safety.

A representative of this office will be assigned to investigate your concerns. If existing conditions at the crossings do not meet the Commission's minimum requirements, the railroad(s) will be directed to schedule reapers' as soon as possible.

I trust this information will be helpful. Please contact me if you have any questions, or need additional information.

Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue
Springfield, IL 62701
(217) 557-1285
mstead@icc.illinois.gov

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-----Original Message-----

From: moctezumagarcia@hotmail.com [mailto:moctezumagarcia@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 01, 2013 11:58 PM
To: railsafety@mail

Subject: On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia

[TO]
railsafety@icc.illinois.gov
[FROM]
moctezumagarcia@hotmail.com
[SUBJECT]
On-Line Complaint from Moe Garcia
[MESSAGE]
Date: 7/1/2013 11:57:42 PM
Full Name: Moe Garcia
Street Address: 10804 S. Ave N
City: Chicago
State: IL
Zip Code: 60617
Represents: private citizen
Home Phone Number:
Day-Time Phone Number:
E-Mail Address: moctezumagarcia@hotmail.com Name of Street or Road that crosses the RR Track: E 106th St Crossing
In or Near: 2801 E 106th St between Torrence and Muskegon Crossing City: Chicago Crossing County: Cook Railroad
Name:
Rough Crossing Surface: Yes
Excessive Gate or Flashing Lights Operation: No Weeds or Brush Overgrown: No
Blockage: No
Other: No
Other: All of the train tracks need to be repaired for a smoother crossing surface.
IP Address: 50.141.173.185
Browser: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.0; rv:21.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/21.0 [END]

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2013 9:09 AM
To: 'Jim Robinson'
Cc: Milewski, Stanley; 'Klein, Steven P'
Subject: FW: IR crossing surface complaint in Oswego area

Importance: High

Jim,

It has been brought to my attention that our office has another complaint relating to the CRL. The Archer crossing (AAR/DOT #843 806F) east of Cicero needs reconstruction. Our inspection found patching was completed, but will was a temporary band aid.

List of Recent Complaints

City of Chicago

104th at CRL

106th at CRL

Archer at CRL

Oswego

Jackson at IR

US 34 at IR

Ped Crossing at IR

We have limited funding through our Grade Crossing Protection Fund to assist with the materials at the Jackson Street crossing (others are State Routes). But, I believe Steve Klein at IDOT may also have funding for the US 34 crossing. We would like to work this out and get a plan for reconstruction of the crossings next year and enter into agreements. Please provide a cost estimate for Jackson Street at US 34, and provide a schedule for all of the crossings. Please provide this within 2 weeks so that we may avoid a Citation.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Vercruysse

-

Illinois Commerce Commission - Senior Rail Safety Specialist
527 E. Capitol Avenue | Springfield, IL 62701
312-636-7760 | bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov

From: Broers, Charles
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2013 3:25 PM
To: Vercruysse, Brian
Subject: RE: IR crossing surface complaint in Oswego area

For FY 2014, IR is allotted about \$32K and it could go over some. They did only 1 crossing so far under this program. It was in Kings, IL DOT # 070 052H under docket T12-0065.

Complaint - Inquiry Record**R13-0067****Illinois Commerce Commission - Transportation Division - Railroad Section**

<u>Complaint#</u>	<u>Date Rec'd</u>	<u>How Rec'd</u>	<u>Staff Assigned</u>	<u>Date Closed</u>
R13-0067	8/5/2013	online complaint	Vercruysse, Brian	
<u>Code</u>	<u>Complaint Type</u>			
01	Crossing Condition			

Complainant	Village of Oswego (Xander SobECKi)	Phone 1	0
Title		Phone 2	0
Organization		Fax	0
Street	100 Parkers Mill	Email	asobecki@oswegoil.org
City/State/Zip	Oswego, IL 60543		

<u>AAR Code</u>	<u>Railroad Name</u>
IR	Illinois Railway

<u>DOT#</u>	<u>I/N</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>Hwy</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>MP</u>	<u>Line</u>
065004H	I	OSWEGO	JACKSON ST	MUN1550	Kendall	43.50	BNSFC

Complaint or Inquiry

rough surface conditions: Jackson Street highway-rail grade crossing of the Illinois Railway's track in Oswego, Kendall County

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Action</u>
9/11/2013	Vercruysse, Brian	Field Review of crossing. Unused siding needs to be removed and metal channel crossing should be reconstructed.
9/13/2013	Vercruysse, Brian	Email sent to Jim Robinson at Illinois Railway/Omnitrac. See files.
9/13/2013	Vercruysse, Brian	Called Village Administrator, Steve Jones at 630-554-3287 to let him know of review and contact to Illinois Railway.
12/3/2013	Vercruysse, Brian	Field review with Bill Sevinson, IL Railway and IDOT. Follow-up letter then sent on 1/21/13; see "files".

Vercruysse, Brian

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Friday, September 13, 2013 11:45 AM
To: 'Jim Robinson'
Subject: Jackson Street in Oswego - - FW: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

Hi Jim,

We received the complaint below from the Village. I was just able to visit the crossing on Wednesday and it appears that asphalt patch was installed as a temporary fix. I would like to discuss the need to remove the siding track and then additional asphalt and surface work.

The US 34 crossing looks like it should be on the horizon also.

Finally, the path/bicycle crossing should be addressed.

Letter to follow next week.

Thanks,
Brian

Brian Vercruysse, P.E. | Senior Rail Safety Specialist | Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, IL 62701
312-636-7760 | bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Stead, Mike On Behalf Of railsafetymail
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 3:32 PM
To: Alexander Sobecki
Cc: Vercruysse, Brian; Shanle, Sheri
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

Thank you for the photos.

Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue
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(217) 557-1285
mstead@icc.illinois.gov

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-----Original Message-----

From: Alexander Sobecki [mailto:ASobecki@oswegoil.org]
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 3:22 PM
To: railsafetymail
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

Mr. Stead,

Attached are photos of the crossing in question. The Village Administrator has attempted to contact Omnitrax throughout the last year regarding these issues, they are currently not answering phone calls nor are they responding to emails. They are being notified of the complaint being filed, the Village is bordering on legal action if they do not respond. Thank you for your time.

-----Original Message-----

From: Stead, Mike [mailto:mstead@icc.illinois.gov] On Behalf Of railsafetymail
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 2:46 PM
To: Alexander Sobecki
Cc: Vercruysse, Brian; Shanle, Sheri
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

Mr. Sobecki - Thank you for submitting an online complaint regarding rough surface conditions at the Jackson street highway-rail grade crossing of the Illinois Railway's track in Oswego, Kendall County. I appreciate your concern for public safety.

A representative of this office will be assigned to investigate your concerns. If existing conditions do not meet the Commission's minimum requirements, the railroad will be directed to schedule repairs as soon as possible. In the meantime, I would appreciate it if you could send me digital photos of existing conditions at the crossing.

Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue
Springfield, IL 62701
(217) 557-1285
mstead@icc.illinois.gov

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-----Original Message-----

From: asobecki@oswegoil.org [mailto:asobecki@oswegoil.org]

Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 2:38 PM

To: railsafety@mail

Subject: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

[TO]

railsafety@icc.illinois.gov

[FROM]

asobecki@oswegoil.org

[SUBJECT]

On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

[MESSAGE]

Date: 8/5/2013 2:38:29 PM

Full Name: Xander Sobecki

Street Address: 100 Parkers Mill

City: Oswego

State: Illinois

Zip Code: 60543

Represents: Village of Oswego

Home Phone Number:

Day-Time Phone Number:

E-Mail Address: asobecki@oswegoil.org

Name of Street or Road that crosses the RR Track: Jackson Crossing In or Near: In Crossing City: Oswego Crossing County:

Kendall Railroad Name: Illinois Railway, owned by Omnitrac Rough Crossing Surface: Yes Excessive Gate or Flashing Lights

Operation: Yes Weeds or Brush Overgrown: No

Blockage: No

Other: No

Other:

IP Address: 107.0.236.227

Browser: Mozilla/5.0 (compatible; MSIE 9.0; Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; Trident/5.0) [END]

Vercruysse, Brian

Subject: IL Railway Follow-up Letter from December 2013 Field Meeting
Start: Tue 1/21/2014 12:00 PM
End: Tue 1/21/2014 1:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Organizer: Vercruysse, Brian

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2014 12:56 PM
To: Bill Severinson (wseverinsen@omnitrax.com)
Cc: Steve Klein (Steven.Klein@illinois.gov); Alexander Sobecki
Subject: IL Railway Follow-up Letter from December 2013 Field Meeting
Attachments: 012114_IL Railway Letter_Crossing Surface and Sidewalk Deficiencies.pdf

Bill,

Please see the attached letter. From our discussion last week, your crew provided temporary patch for the Oregon Trail Road crossing. Thank you for completing; if you could please provide a picture for my files it would be appreciated.

I look forward to your response, and working with you now that you are with Omnitrax.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Vercruysse, P.E. | Senior Rail Safety Specialist | Illinois Commerce Commission

527 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, IL 62701

312-636-7760 | bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2013 3:21 PM
To: Broers, Charles
Subject: RE: IR crossing surface complaint in Oswego area

Hi Chuck,

Still awaiting a call back from their track manager. It is Jackson Street and it needs to have a siding (unused) taken out and the "main" renewed.

What sort of funding amount could be available to IR/Omnitrax?

Thanks,
Brian

From: Broers, Charles
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2013 3:05 PM
To: Vercruysse, Brian
Subject: IR crossing surface complaint in Oswego area

Brian,

You mentioned a bad surface issue in the Oswego area and asked if they could apply for GCPF toward fixing the crossing.

What is the situation today with that crossing?

Chuck

Vercruysse, Brian

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Friday, September 13, 2013 11:45 AM
To: 'Jim Robinson'
Subject: Jackson Street in Oswego - - FW: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

Hi Jim,

We received the complaint below from the Village. I was just able to visit the crossing on Wednesday and it appears that asphalt patch was installed as a temporary fix. I would like to discuss the need to remove the siding track and then additional asphalt and surface work.

The US 34 crossing looks like it should be on the horizon also.

Finally, the path/bicycle crossing should be addressed.

Letter to follow next week.

Thanks,
Brian

Brian Vercruysse, P.E. | Senior Rail Safety Specialist | Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, IL 62701
312-636-7760 | bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Stead, Mike On Behalf Of railsafetymail
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 3:32 PM
To: Alexander Sobecki
Cc: Vercruysse, Brian; Shanle, Sheri
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

Thank you for the photos.

Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue
Springfield, IL 62701
(217) 557-1285
mstead@icc.illinois.gov

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-----Original Message-----

From: Alexander Sobecki [mailto:ASobecki@oswegoil.org]
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 3:22 PM
To: railsafetymail
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

Mr. Stead,

Attached are photos of the crossing in question. The Village Administrator has attempted to contact Omnitrax throughout the last year regarding these issues, they are currently not answering phone calls nor are they responding to emails. They are being notified of the complaint being filed, the Village is bordering on legal action if they do not respond. Thank you for your time.

-----Original Message-----

From: Stead, Mike [mailto:mstead@icc.illinois.gov] On Behalf Of railsafetymail
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 2:46 PM
To: Alexander Sobecki
Cc: Vercruyse, Brian; Shanle, Sheri
Subject: RE: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

Mr. Sobecki - Thank you for submitting an online complaint regarding rough surface conditions at the Jackson street highway-rail grade crossing of the Illinois Railway's track in Oswego, Kendall County. I appreciate your concern for public safety.

A representative of this office will be assigned to investigate your concerns. If existing conditions do not meet the Commission's minimum requirements, the railroad will be directed to schedule repairs as soon as possible. In the meantime, I would appreciate it if you could send me digital photos of existing conditions at the crossing.

Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue
Springfield, IL 62701
(217) 557-1285
mstead@icc.illinois.gov

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-----Original Message-----

From: asobecki@oswegoil.org [mailto:asobecki@oswegoil.org]

Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 2:38 PM

To: railsafety@mail

Subject: On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

[TO]

railsafety@icc.illinois.gov

[FROM]

asobecki@oswegoil.org

[SUBJECT]

On-Line Complaint from Xander Sobecki

[MESSAGE]

Date: 8/5/2013 2:38:29 PM

Full Name: Xander Sobecki

Street Address: 100 Parkers Mill

City: Oswego

State: Illinois

Zip Code: 60543

Represents: Village of Oswego

Home Phone Number:

Day-Time Phone Number:

E-Mail Address: asobecki@oswegoil.org

Name of Street or Road that crosses the RR Track: Jackson Crossing In or Near: In Crossing City: Oswego Crossing County:

Kendall Railroad Name: Illinois Railway, owned by Omnitrac Rough Crossing Surface: Yes Excessive Gate or Flashing Lights

Operation: Yes Weeds or Brush Overgrown: No

Blockage: No

Other: No

Other:

IP Address: 107.0.236.227

Browser: Mozilla/5.0 (compatible; MSIE 9.0; Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; Trident/5.0) [END]

Vercruysse, Brian

Subject: IL Railway Follow-up Letter from December 2013 Field Meeting
Start: Tue 1/21/2014 12:00 PM
End: Tue 1/21/2014 1:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Organizer: Vercruysse, Brian

From: Vercruysse, Brian
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2014 12:56 PM
To: Bill Severinson (wseverinsen@omnitrax.com)
Cc: Steve Klein (Steven.Klein@illinois.gov); Alexander Sobecki
Subject: IL Railway Follow-up Letter from December 2013 Field Meeting
Attachments: 012114_IL Railway Letter_Crossing Surface and Sidewalk Deficiencies.pdf

Bill,

Please see the attached letter. From our discussion last week, your crew provided temporary patch for the Oregon Trail Road crossing. Thank you for completing; if you could please provide a picture for my files it would be appreciated.

I look forward to your response, and working with you now that you are with Omnitrax.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Vercruysse, P.E. | Senior Rail Safety Specialist | Illinois Commerce Commission

527 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield, IL 62701

312-636-7760 | bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov

STATE OF ILLINOIS



ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION TRANSPORTATION DIVISION / RAIL SAFETY SECTION

Michael E. Stead

Rail Safety Program Administrator

January 21, 2014

Mr. Bill Severinsen
Road Master
Illinois Railway Company
430 W. Madison
Ottawa, IL 61350

Dear Mr. Severinsen:

This is in follow-up to field reviews conducted by Illinois Railway, Commission Staff, and IDOT District 3 in December 2013. The meeting was held to address the deteriorated condition of various crossing surfaces, and the complaints this office has received. A table identifying the crossings and the anticipated improvements for next year is enclosed for your information.

In summary, it was found that existing conditions at the crossings (track settlement; damaged crossing panels) do not meet the minimum requirements of 92 Ill. Adm. Code (IAC) 1535.203. According to 92 IAC 1535.203: *“Every grade crossing shall be constructed and maintained in such manner that it will not interfere with the reasonably safe use of the roadway when traveled in the usual and ordinary manner,”* and *“At crossings where there are sidewalks, either the crossing proper shall include the sidewalk areas or separate sidewalk crossings of a width consistent with that of the sidewalk approaches shall be provided conforming with provisions of this Section as to surface.”*

In addition to the crossing surfaces, sight lines at all crossings must be kept clear in accordance with 92 IAC 1535.205: *“Every railroad shall keep its right-of-way adjacent to its tracks reasonably clear of brush, shrubbery, trees, weeds, crops and all unnecessary permanent obstructions such as unauthorized signs and billboards for a distance of at least five hundred feet each way from every grade crossing where such things would materially obscure the view of approaching trains to travelers on the highway.”*

Within the next 30 days, please confirm the schedule included in the enclosed table, and advise of your company's plans to ensure that the crossing surfaces are properly repaired or reconstructed and meet the requirements of 92 IAC 1535. Also included with this letter are the guidelines for seeking assistance from the Grade Crossing Protection Fund to reconstruct highway-rail crossing surfaces.

Mr. Bill Severinson
January 21, 2014
Page Two

Thank you for your attention to these matters. If you have any questions, please contact Brian Vercruysse, Senior Rail Safety Specialist, at (312) 636-7760 or bvercruy@icc.illinois.gov, or me at (217) 557-1285 or mstead@icc.illinois.gov.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Stead". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator

cc: Steve Klein, IDOT-D3
Tim Leary, Oregon/Nashua Township Highway Commissioner
Alexander Sobecki, Village of Oswego

Illinois Railway Field Review: Crossing Table with Proposed Work

December 3, 2013

Bill Severinsen – IL Railway | Steve Klein – IDOT District 3 | Brian Vercruysse – ICC

AAR/DOT	Milepost	Crossing Name	City/Village	Proposed Work/Schedule
064 998Y	42.85	Water Street	Oswego	Trim vegetation in accordance with 92 IAC 1535. Summer 2014.
920 728M	43.35	Pedestrian Crossing	Oswego	Reconstruct crossing surface by the end of July 2014
065 004H	43.50	Jackson Street	Oswego	Reconstruct crossing surface by the end of July 2014
065 005P	43.57	US 34 (Washington St.)	Oswego	IDOT project to install gates and new CWT. Spring 2014. IDOT would be willing to fund pavement repair job and panel removal in conjunction with this project. The crossing cannot be reconstructed until the IL 47 project is complete (Summer 2015).
065 106B	80.45	US 6 (Norris Dr.)	Ottawa	The crossing panels have settled have deteriorated in the eastbound travel lanes. Asphalt patching was completed on the field side of the crossing, but the panels need to be repaired. May 2014.
070 081T	101.75	Oregon Trail Road/Gale	Oregon	Sections of the timber crossing are missing and require patching. ASAP
070 084N	100.16	Pines Road	Oregon	Meets 92 IAC 1535
070 085V	100.10	Devil's Backbone Road	Oregon	Crossing timbers are deteriorated, settlement. IL Railway to schedule reconstruction. Repairs May 2014. Recon schedule needed.

STATE OF ILLINOIS



ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION TRANSPORTATION DIVISION / RAIL SAFETY SECTION

Michael E. Stead

Rail Safety Program Administrator

November 30, 2009

Dear Madam or Sir:

On July 1, 2009, Public Act 96-0034 was enacted. The legislation, among other things, increases the amount transferred to the Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) from \$2,250,000 per month (\$27 million/year) to \$3,500,000 per month (\$42 million/year). The legislation also permits the Illinois Commerce Commission to authorize up to \$2,000,000 per year from the GCPF for the renewal of highway-rail grade crossing surfaces located on local roads and streets.

GCPF assistance will be utilized to reimburse a railroad for the cost of materials associated with the renewal of a highway-rail grade crossing surface(s). All other costs, including labor costs, associated with the renewal shall be the responsibility of the railroad. Eligible material costs will include contractual services for asphalt paving and work zone traffic control.

Enclosed is a copy of the guidelines prepared by this office to be used by all railroads interested in submitting potential crossing surface renewal projects. Please read and follow the guidelines carefully. As noted in the enclosed guidelines, GCPF assistance for crossing renewals will be apportioned based on the number of public grade crossings of local roads and streets attributable to each railroad that operates in Illinois. GCPF assistance for crossing surface renewal projects in the amount of \$1,500,000 is available to all Class I railroads; \$100,000 to Regional railroads; and \$400,000 to Shortline railroads. The amount of GCPF assistance for each railroad that operates in Illinois is based on the number of public highway-rail grade crossings of local roads and streets attributable to each railroad within each class, according the ICC's railroad crossing database.

Railroads interested in participating in the crossing surface renewal program must submit a **Letter of Request** to this office no later than January 15, 2010. The document should include no more than twenty-five (25) crossing locations where the railroad desires to renew the surface(s) utilizing GCPF assistance.

Grade Crossing Surface Renewals

November 30, 2009

Page Two

The Letter of Request must include the following information for each crossing location:

- Name of Railroad Company that controls the operation of trains through the crossing(s);
- Roadway name and location of the public highway-rail grade crossing(s);
- Average daily highway vehicular traffic (AADT) and average number of trains per day (tpd) over the crossing(s);
- Identification that the public highway-rail grade crossings are located on a designated truck route;
- US DOT Crossing Inventory Number and Railroad Milepost for the crossing(s);
- Description of existing crossing surface type (i.e., asphalt/rubber flangeway; asphalt/timber flangeway; full-depth timber; concrete; rubber; etc.);
- Approximate age of existing crossing surface(s);
- Detailed cost estimate for the proposed crossing surface renewal.

[NOTE: Crossing data, including updated AADT and truck route information, is enclosed for your use.]

This office looks forward to working with your company to renew public highway-rail grade crossing surfaces in local roads and streets. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact me at (217) 557-1285 or mstead@icc.illinois.gov.

Very truly yours,



Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator

Enclosures

**Guidelines for Railroads
Applying for GCPF Assistance to Renew
Public Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Surfaces
(Local Roads and Streets ONLY)**

Below are guidelines for the renewal of highway-rail grade crossing surfaces located on the local roads and streets system where assistance from the Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) is requested.

1. When granted, GCPF assistance shall be utilized to reimburse a railroad for the cost of materials associated with the renewal of a highway-rail grade crossing surface(s). All other costs, including labor costs, associated with the renewal shall be the responsibility of the railroad. Eligible material costs will include contractual services for asphalt paving and work zone traffic control.
2. Crossings submitted for consideration should not be located along segments of track that are scheduled for major track rehabilitation improvements within 12 months from the date of submittal. If a crossing selected for renewal is located within an area where a major track rehabilitation project is programmed and crossing surfaces will be replaced as part of the project, the railroad should notify the ICC so that another location can be identified. If a Commission Order has been issued for a surface renewal at a particular crossing, and a railroad's engineering department learns that the crossing is located within an area where a major track rehabilitation project is programmed and crossing surfaces will be replaced as part of the project, the railroad will be required to submit a Supplemental Petition requesting that a surface renewal project be approved for another crossing location.
3. Crossings submitted for consideration shall continue to be maintained to meet the minimum requirement of 92 IL Adm. Code 1535. Railroads shall not ignore maintenance responsibilities at a crossing that has been identified for a surface renewal with assistance from the GCPF.
4. Railroads seeking assistance from the GCPF for crossing renewals shall be required to meet the following criteria:
 - a. **For grade crossings with annual average daily traffic (AADT) volumes less than 500 vehicles/day** full-depth timber crossing surface construction shall be used. For grade crossings on designated truck routes¹, a hot-mix bituminous underlayment placed directly on undisturbed hardpan or compacted CA-6 material shall be required. In no case shall the underlayment be placed when standing water is present. The hot-mix bituminous underlayment shall be a minimum 6 inches (6") in depth and 12 feet (12') in width and shall extend a minimum distance of 25 feet (25') beyond each end of the crossing. The bituminous material shall be produced from a State-approved plant and utilize a current State-approved mix design for either binder or surface material.

[¹Note: *The ICC shall provide railroads with current AADT information, as well as information that identifies which crossings are located on designated truck routes.*]

The bituminous material shall be placed in a minimum of 2 layers and the top layer must be a minimum of 2 inches (2") thick. Each layer must be compacted with a mechanical tamper, vibrating tamper or self-propelled roller with a minimum of 3 passes. The railroad's standard track construction specifications may be used to complete the reconstruction of the crossing surface from the top of the hot-mix bituminous underlayment to the top of rail. However, in no case shall the depth of the compacted ballast from the top of the hot-mix bituminous underlayment to the bottom of the ties be less than 8 inches (8"), nor more than 15 inches (15"). Nine foot (9') ties will be required at all crossings in this category. Exceptions to the above requirements may be granted upon review and approval of the ICC Rail Safety Section.

- b. **For grade crossings with annual average daily traffic (AADT) volumes between 500 and 5,000 vehicles/day** full-depth timber, rubber or concrete crossing surface construction shall be used. For grade crossings on designated truck routes¹, a hot-mix bituminous underlayment placed directly on undisturbed hardpan or compacted CA-6 material shall be required. In no case shall the underlayment be placed when standing water is present. The hot-mix bituminous underlayment shall be a minimum 6 inches (6") in depth and 12 feet (12') in width and shall extend a minimum distance of 25 feet (25') beyond each end of the crossing. The bituminous material shall be produced from a State-approved plant and utilize a current State-approved mix design for either binder or surface material. The bituminous material shall be placed in a minimum of 2 layers and the top layer must be a minimum of 2 inches (2") thick. Each layer must be compacted with a mechanical tamper, vibrating tamper or self-propelled roller with a minimum of 3 passes. The railroad's standard track construction specifications may be used to complete the reconstruction of the crossing surface from the top of the hot-mix bituminous underlayment to the top of rail. However, in no case shall the depth of the compacted ballast from the top of the hot-mix bituminous underlayment to the bottom of the ties be less than 8 inches (8"), nor more than 15 inches (15"). Ten foot (10') ties will be required at all crossings in this category. Exceptions to the above requirements may be granted upon review and approval of the ICC Rail Safety Section.

[¹Note: *The ICC shall provide railroads with current AADT information, as well as information that identifies which crossings are located on designated truck routes.*]

- c. **For grade crossings with annual average daily traffic (AADT) volumes greater than 5,000 vehicles/day** full-depth rubber, or concrete crossing surface construction shall be used. In addition, a hot-mix bituminous underlayment placed directly on undisturbed hardpan or compacted CA-6 material shall be required. In no case shall the underlayment be placed when standing water is present. The hot-mix bituminous underlayment shall be a minimum 6 inches (6") in depth and 12 feet (12') in width and shall extend a minimum distance of 25 feet (25') beyond each end of the crossing. The bituminous material shall be produced from a State-approved plant and utilize a current State-approved mix design for either binder or surface material. The bituminous material shall be placed in a minimum of 2 layers and the top layer must be a minimum of 2 inches (2") thick. Each layer must be compacted with a mechanical tamper, vibrating

tamper or self-propelled roller with a minimum of 3 passes. The railroad's standard track construction specifications may be used to complete the reconstruction of the crossing surface from the top of the hot-mix bituminous underlayment to the top of rail. However, in no case shall the depth of the compacted ballast from the top of the hot-mix bituminous underlayment to the bottom of the ties be less than 8 inches (8"), nor more than 15 inches (15"). Ten foot (10') ties will be required at all crossings in this category. Exceptions to the above requirements may be granted upon review and approval of the ICC Rail Safety Section.

5. In general, all crossing surface renewals shall be completed between 180-270 days from date the Commission Order authorizing the improvements is issued, depending on when the Order is issued.

[NOTE: For state fiscal year 2010 (ending June 30, 2010), the ICC will notify all railroads by letter to submit potential crossing surface renewal locations. The letters will be mailed no later than November 30, 2009. Railroads will be required to submit a list of potential crossing locations, including cost information for each location, no later than January 15, 2010. Following receipt of the crossing lists, the ICC will identify the crossing surface renewal locations for each railroad and prepare Stipulated Agreements; one agreement will be prepared for each railroad. It is Staff's intention to submit all Orders authorizing GCPF assistance for crossing surface renewal projects during state fiscal year 2010 no later than May 19, 2010, which is the final authorized submission date for Orders that will be considered for Approval by the Commission at its June 2, 2010 Bench Session.

For all future state fiscal years (FY 2011 and beyond), the ICC will solicit potential crossing surface renewal locations at the beginning of each state fiscal year (after July 1 of each calendar year). Railroads will be given 60 days to submit a list of potential crossing locations, as well as cost information for each location. Following receipt of the crossing lists, the ICC will identify the crossing surface renewal locations for each railroad and prepare Stipulated Agreements; one agreement will be prepared for each railroad. All Orders authorizing GCPF assistance for crossing surface renewal projects will be issued no later than the end of the 3rd quarter of each state fiscal year (end of March of each calendar year).]

6. GCPF assistance will be apportioned based on the following ratios:

Class I Railroads:	75%
Regional Railroads:	5%
Shortline Railroads:	20%

[NOTE: percentages based on the number of public grade crossings of local roads & streets attributable to each railroad within each class, per the Illinois Commerce Commission's railroad crossing database.]

CLASS I Railroads

AAR	Local Rd Xings	% of Total	GCPF
BNSF	1052	19.0	285,000
CN	1247	22.6	340,000
CP	177	3.2	48,000
CSX	587	10.7	160,000
KCS	109	2.0	30,000
NS	870	15.8	237,000
UP	1464	26.6	400,000
Class I Subtotal:			\$1,500,000

Regional Railroads

AAR	Local Rd Xings	% of Total	GCPF
IAIS	136	61.8	61,800
INRD	72	32.7	32,727
WSOR	12	5.45	5,473
Regional Subtotal:			\$100,000

Shortline Railroads

AAR	Local Rd Xings	% of Total	GCPF
BJRY	6	0.47	1,862
BLOL	78	6.05	24,205
BRC	35	2.7	10,860
CCUO	4	0.3	1,241
CGGZ	12	0.9	3,724
CIRY	63	4.9	19,550
COER	52	4.0	16,135
CRL	15	1.1	4,655
CSSSB	2	0.15	620
CTM	33	2.5	10,240
DRI	1	0.08	310
DT	46	3.5	14,275
EIRC	64	5.0	19,860
EVWR	119	9.2	36,928
FFGZ	13	1.0	4,035
IHB	34	2.6	10,550
IMRR	100	7.8	31,032
IR	117	9.1	36,307
JERX	3	0.23	930
KBSR	96	7.4	29,790
KJRY	109	8.5	33,825
KKRX	9	0.7	2,793
MJ	1	0.08	310
MRMZ	16	1.2	4,965
RRCO	4	0.3	1,241
RVPR	2	0.15	620
STR	4	0.3	1,241
SVIZ	1	0.08	310
TPW	148	11.5	45,927
TRRA	34	2.6	10,550
TZPR	59	4.6	18,309
VRRC	5	0.4	1,552
WCRY	3	0.2	931
ZMQE	1	0.08	310

Shortline Subtotal: \$400,000

Note: Railroads interested in utilizing GCPF assistance to renew highway-rail grade crossing surfaces located on the local roads and streets system should submit requests that exceed the amount noted above. In case one railroad does not utilize all of its annual allotment, funds set aside for that railroad may be redirected for use by another railroad. Railroads **not interested** in participating should notify this office in writing (letter or email), so the funding allocations can be redistributed.

Outlined below are instructions for railroads interested in applying for assistance from the Grade Crossing Protection Fund for the renewal of existing highway-rail grade crossing surfaces located on the local roads and streets system. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact the Illinois Commerce Commission's Rail Safety Section Office. Contact information is noted below.

1. Submit a **Letter of Request** to the following address:

Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue
Springfield, IL 62701
PHONE: (217) 557-1285
FAX: (217) 524-4637
mstead@icc.illinois.gov

[NOTE: Letters of Request may be submitted by regular mail, electronic mail, or FAX.]

2. The **Letter of Request** should include no more than twenty-five (25) crossing locations where the railroad desires to renew the surface(s) utilizing GCPF assistance. The **Letter of Request** should include the following information for each crossing location:
 - Name of Railroad Company that controls the operation of trains through the crossing(s);
 - Name and location of the public highway-rail grade crossing(s);
 - Average daily highway vehicular traffic (AADT) and average number of trains per day (tpd) over the crossing(s);
 - Identification that the public highway-rail grade crossings are located on a designated truck route;
 - US DOT Crossing Inventory Number and Railroad Milepost for the crossing(s);
 - Description of existing crossing surface type (i.e., asphalt/rubber flangeway; asphalt/timber flangeway; full-depth timber; concrete; rubber; etc.);
 - Approximate age of existing crossing surface(s)
 - Detailed cost estimate for the proposed crossing surface renewal.
3. Upon receipt of a **Letter of Request** the Rail Safety Section will review the information. If a crossing(s) is selected for improvement, the Rail Section will prepare a Stipulated Agreement for the renewal of the surface(s). The Stipulated Agreement will be forwarded to the railroad, the road authority¹ and the Illinois Department of Transportation for execution. The Stipulated Agreement will outline the scope of work, minimum technical specifications and a division of costs for the required work.
[¹Local agency with jurisdiction of the roadway involved in the Agreement.]
4. Following receipt of fully executed agreements from all the parties the Rail Safety Section will prepare and submit an Order to the Commission recommending assistance from the Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) for the crossing surface improvement project.
5. Following entry of the Order by the Commission, the railroad shall renew the subject crossing surface(s) within the time specified in the Commission Order. The railroad company shall pay all future maintenance costs for the new crossing surface(s).
6. Attached as information is a **SAMPLE LETTER OF REQUEST**.

- S A M P L E -

LETTER OF REQUEST (Use LETTERHEAD of Railroad Company Making the Request)

Current Date

Mr. Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Mr. Stead:

The **NAME OF RAILROAD COMPANY** requests consideration for assistance from the Grade Crossing Protection Fund for the renewal of the surface(s) at the **STREET NAME(S)** highway-rail grade crossing(s) of the **NAME OF RAILROAD COMPANY's** track.

- Name of Railroad Company that controls the operation of trains through the crossing(s);
- Name and location of the public highway-rail grade crossing(s) ;
- Average daily highway vehicular traffic (AADT) and average number of trains per day (tpd) over the crossing(s);
- US DOT Crossing Inventory Number and Railroad Milepost for the crossing(s);
- Description of existing crossing surface type (i.e., asphalt/rubber flangeway; asphalt/timber flangeway; full-depth timber; concrete; rubber; etc.);
- Approximate age of existing crossing surface(s)
- Detailed cost estimate for the proposed crossing surface renewal.

The **NAME OF RAILROAD COMPANY** acknowledges that any approved GCPF assistance will be for the cost of eligible construction materials only. The following pertinent information for the/each crossing is enclosed:

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, or desire further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

NAME OF RAILROAD OFFICIAL
TITLE OF RAILROAD OFFICIAL

Enclosures