

Railroad Crossing Repair Program (Wis. Stats. 86.13(5))

Program Overview

- The Wisconsin Railroad Crossing Repair Program has \$234,700 annually through appropriation 269.
- Statute 85.13(5) allows any railroad company that receives notice from the department to repair an at-grade crossing surface to file a claim from reimbursement with the department for up to 85% of the eligible costs.
- Currently there have been 11 crossings submitted for the FY 2019 and 2020 programs. There is only enough funds to cover approximately 50% of one project in 2019 for a 6 lane STH highway in Kenosha county. 2020 projects have not yet been selected.

Program Funding

- The current budget request for 2019-2021 is to continue the \$234,700 annually.

Challenges

- There are 291 at-grade crossings on USH and/or STH in Wisconsin. The life of a well built at-grade crossing is 10 – 15 years, which would require approximately 20 crossings to be rebuilt annually.
- This does not include the approximately 3,700 local road crossings for which the railroad is 100% responsible for the costs to maintain.

Policy and Budget Opportunities

- A doubling of the annual budget to \$469,400 would, along with the highway improvement program, the state to meet the obligation under Wis. Statute 85.13 and reduce the rough crossing issues on the STH system.