



September 1, 2022

To Federal Railroad Administration Grant Reviewers,

I am writing to support Pelham, Alabama's grant application to the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program (RCEP). We understand the goal of the RCEP is to improve safety and eliminate lengthy delays at railroad crossings in communities across the country. We cannot imagine a location more in need of your support to eliminate delays and improve public safety.

Pelham has been plagued with lengthy delays for years, specifically on Hwy 52 West, where there are two railroad crossings. Stalled or stopped trains have delayed public safety response times in dozens of instances. In an emergency, every minute matters, and Pelham is committed to public safety and the well-being of its residents and visitors.

Additionally, there have been several train-versus-vehicle collisions at each of the two crossings involved in this grant request.

Finally, these delays impact the economic base of the community and location choices for companies that do not want to have such uncertainty in their workforce and logistics.

A decade or so ago, a project dubbed the Hwy 52 Flyover was proposed. Much of the front-end work was completed; however, the price tag was very steep. As a result, the project stalled.

Please select the Pelham project to improve the local infrastructure and public safety. The benefit of the resulting flyover project will extend to Helena and the western parts of unincorporated Shelby County, in suburban Birmingham.

Thank you in advance for assisting the cities of Pelham and Helena, Alabama in this endeavor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sturdivant

Amy Sturdivant
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58 INC | Shelby County Economic Development Corporation