



Peter S. Valenti
Fire Chief

City of Helena – Fire & Rescue

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the Flyover project for the two railroad crossings located at Highway 52 West in order to provide safety for our citizens that travel this road to and from Pelham and Helena. This flyover will prove beneficial for our fire, EMS, and police officers who are responding to emergencies without being stopped or delayed by passing trains.

Helena; residents, as well as Helena FD, has been plagued with lengthy delays for years, specifically on Hwy 52 West, where there are two railroad crossings. Stalled or stopped trains have added several minutes to public safety response times in dozens of instances, when Helena FD is providing automatic aid. In an emergency, every minute matters, and we are committed to public safety and the well-being of our residents and visitors. Additionally, there have been a number of train vs vehicle collisions at each of the two crossings.

I am in strong support of this project and ask that the Federal Railroad Administration grant approval of this request through the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program.

Respectfully,

Peter S. Valenti, Fire Chief
Helena Fire Department
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