



---

## ICC's crossing safety plan outlines rail infrastructure improvements

Chicago, IL – The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) approved its annual five-year [Crossing Safety Improvement Program \(FY 2026-2030\)](#) to implement life-saving safety upgrades at highway-rail crossings across Illinois. Over **\$400 million from the Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) and Rebuild Illinois (RBI)** will help local communities pay for much-needed improvements at over **900 crossing locations**.

"Illinois' rail system is made up of more than 10,000 public crossings. The ICC's Crossing Safety Improvement Plan is an essential tool for improving our state's rail infrastructure and reducing the risk of collisions," said **ICC Commissioner Michael T. Carrigan**.

In 2024, preliminary Federal Railroad Administration data indicates there were 80 collisions at public crossings in Illinois, down from 89 in 2023.

State funding from the GCPF and RBI provide Illinois communities the ability to address longstanding safety concerns and increasing project costs. The five-year plan proposes GCPF dollars to help cover 26 highway bridges, eight pedestrian projects, 358 warning device upgrades, and 571 low-cost improvements at 963 crossing locations. Among the projects are upgrades to lighting, gates, and automatic warning devices; grade separation construction and reconstruction; pedestrian gate installation; and the separation of pedestrian crossings from rail tracks.

"Track tragedies are preventable tragedies. Knowing how to make safe decisions around train tracks can be lifesaving information. In an emergency, always get off the tracks, then look for the blue and white sign," said **ICC Rail Safety Specialist Aisha Jackson**.

The ICC prioritizes projects based on several factors including, safety of the existing crossing, collision history, traffic volume, engineering requirements, and geographical location. The ICC also promotes **"The Three E's" of railroad safety: Education** through Operation Lifesaver Illinois; **Enforcement** of existing laws to ensure motorists and pedestrians obey rail safety laws; and **Engineering** necessary to make crossings as physically and operationally safe as possible.

View the full list of [CSIP projects](#), along with an [interactive map of projects](#) included in the current five-year plan.

###

### About the Illinois Commerce Commission

The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is a quasi-judicial body made up of five Commissioners. Through its Public Utility Program, the Commission oversees the provision of adequate, reliable, efficient, and safe utility services at the least possible cost to Illinois citizens served by electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water, and sewer public utility companies. Through its Transportation Regulatory Program, the Commission oversees public safety and consumer protection programs with

regard to intrastate commercial motor carriers of general freight, household goods movers, relocation towers, safety towers, personal property warehouses, and repossession agencies. The Commission's Rail Safety Program also inspects and regulates the general safety of railroad tracks, facilities, and equipment in the state.

To learn more about the Commission, its offices, and bureaus, click [here](#). If you are a consumer who needs help resolving a utility dispute call 800-524-0795 or file an online complaint [here](#). For transportation complaints, call 847-294-4326.

Follow the Illinois Commerce Commission on social media [@ILCommerceComm](#).

