

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING APPLICATION

ROAD NAME OR NUMBER	COUNTY/CITY NAME

A. IDENTIFICATION

Submitted By:

Applicant: _____

Office: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Application For:

Closing a public highway-rail grade crossing
by:
 roadway removal
 rail removal

Opening a public highway-rail grade crossing
by:
 new rail line construction
 new roadway construction
 conversion of private to public highway-rail
grade crossing

B. CROSSING LOCATION

FDOT/AAR Crossing Number: _____

Jurisdiction for Street or Roadway by Authority of: City County State

Local Popular Name of Street or Roadway: _____

Railroad Company: _____

Railroad Mile Post: _____

Submitted for the Applicant by: _____ DATE: _____
Name and Title

Application FDOT Review by: _____ DATE: _____
Central Rail Office

REFERENCES:
(Specific Legal Authority) 334.044 F.S., 120.57 F.S.
(Law Implemented) 335.141 F.S.
(Administrative Rule) 14-57.012 F.A.C.

CLOSING APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Maps, aerials, and supporting documentation must be provided with the application.

If all parties, Applicant, Railroad, and Department, fail to agree to the rail crossing closure through a Stipulation of Parties, the Applicant must establish the closure meets the criteria found in Rule 14-57.012, Florida Administrative Code. This questionnaire will assist the Department in evaluating the criteria and is not intended to be an exclusive list of factors. If the information is not available or unknown, please mark N/A.

Florida Administrative Code criteria:**A) Safety**

- a-1. How will the crossing closure affect safety to drivers, pedestrians, cyclists, and rail personnel?
- a-2. What, if any, safety measures are proposed for adjacent crossings?
- a-3. Identify all highway traffic control devices and highway traffic signals at adjacent crossings that may be improved or upgraded if the subject crossing is closed.
- a-4. What is the distance from the subject crossing to the nearest intersection? Identify the street.
- a-5. Are there structures, fences, or vegetation near the subject crossing that inhibits sight distance?
- a-6. Identify major traffic generators (i.e., businesses, shopping malls, recreational areas, special events, etc.) in this area. Specify type, location, and distance to subject crossing.
- a-7. Is the crossing located on a designated evacuation route?
- a-8. Provide a traffic operations and safety analysis, with traffic issues evaluated for the railroad crossing closure. This analysis should include all adjacent rail crossings and roadways in the immediate vicinity and the increase in traffic predicted on these roadways from rerouting.

B) Necessity for rail and vehicle traffic

- b-1. Is the crossing necessary to access property?
- b-2. Provide description of land use on each side of the rail crossing.
- b-3. Are there any churches, schools, or hospitals within a mile or less of the subject crossing? Please list by name and location.
- b-4. Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) at the crossing?
- b-5. Level of service at the crossing?
- b-6. Percentage of truck traffic?
- b-7. Do trucks carrying hazardous materials use the crossing? If so, approximately how many trips per day or week?
- b-8. How many school buses use the crossing daily?
- b-9. What is the estimated number of pedestrians and bike riders that use the subject crossing (daily/weekly)?
- b-10. Is the subject crossing on a local transit route?
- b-11. Please provide any corridor studies or other preliminary traffic engineering studies that pertain to this crossing.

C) Alternate Routes

- c-1. Are there access roads available to property owners if the crossing is closed?
- c-2. Name routes that can be used if the crossing is closed?
- c-3. Are there traffic signals on these routes?
- c-4. How does the proposed crossing closure impact the AADT at nearby public crossings? Provide estimated traffic count changes.
- c-5. By driving alternate routes, during peak times, calculate the additional travel time and distance between two points (nearest intersection or major access) on either side of the subject crossing. Provide calculated times, routes, and distances.

D) Effect on rail operations and expenses

- d-1. Provide current number and type of rail tracks at the subject crossing.
- d-2. Are there rail sidings or switches in the location of the subject crossing?
- d-3. Is there a nearby rail yard? If so, what is the distance of the yard to the subject crossing.
- d-4. Provide the current number of daily train movements (number of switching or thru trains; number of passenger or freight trains).
- d-5. Provide the approximate times during the day and evening that the crossing is blocked.
- d-6. Provide the approximate length of time (i.e., minutes) that the crossing is blocked.

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- d-7. Provide minimum and maximum train speeds at the subject crossing.
- d-8. What is the anticipated expansion of tracks and/or train movements?
- d-9. What is the distance from the subject crossing to adjacent public crossings? (Identify adjacent crossings by road name and crossing number.)

E) Excessive restriction to emergency type vehicles resulting from closure

- e-1. Provide response from the Sheriff/Police Chief and Fire Chief to the proposed crossing closure.
- e-2. Based on observation, the response from the City/County, or traffic studies, is this a route that emergency rescue would typically use?
- e-3. How many emergency rescue vehicles have used the crossing to respond to calls in the past 2-3 years?

F) Design of the grade crossing and road approaches

- f-1. Identify and describe the condition of: crossing surface, rail warning devices (including pavement markings, signs, and highway traffic signals), sidewalks, bike lanes, and approaches on each side of subject crossing.
- f-2. Is the crossing surface and track higher than either side of the road (i.e., hump crossing)?
- f-3. What is the vehicular design speed at the subject crossing?
- f-4. Number of lanes at the crossing?
- f-5. Width of crossing?
- f-6. Condition of roadway?

G) Presence of multiple tracks and their effect upon railroad and highway operations

- g-1. Please confirm the number of tracks at the location and identify each track.
- g-2. How many train movements occur on each track and the types of trains that run on each track (passenger, thru freight, or switching freight and the number of cars)?

OPENING APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Design plans, maps, aerials, and supporting documentation must be provided with the application.

If all parties, Applicant, Railroad, and Department, fail to agree to the rail crossing opening through a Stipulation of Parties, the Applicant must establish the crossing meets the criteria found in Rule 14-57.012, Florida Administrative Code. This questionnaire will assist the Department in evaluating the criteria and is not intended to be an exclusive list of factors. If the information is not available or unknown, please mark N/A.

Florida Administrative Code criteria:**A) Safety**

- a-1. How will the proposed crossing affect safety to drivers, pedestrians, cyclists, and rail personnel?
- a-2. Has grade separation been considered in planning the crossing? If not, why?
- a-3. What crossings will be submitted for closure to offset the safety impacts of a new crossing opening?
- a-4. What safety measures are designed for the proposed crossing?
- a-5. What is the distance from the proposed crossing to the nearest intersection? Identify the street.
- a-6. Are there plans for any structures to be built near the crossing intersection?
- a-7. Identify all major traffic generators (i.e., businesses, shopping malls, recreational areas, special events, etc.) in this area. Specify type, location, and distance to proposed crossing.
- a-8. Provide a traffic operations and safety analysis, with traffic issues evaluated for the railroad crossing, train traffic movements, and railroad preemption. This analysis should include all proposed developments in the immediate vicinity and the increase in traffic predicted from the developments.

B) Necessity for rail and vehicle traffic

- b-1. Why is the crossing necessary?
- b-2. Provide excerpts from the Comprehensive Plan or any other transportation plans relative to the proposed crossing.
- b-3. Provide description of land use on each side of the rail crossing.
- b-4. Provide predicted Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) at the crossing.
- b-5. Provide level of service at the crossing.
- b-6. Provide anticipated AADT and level of service in 5 years.
- b-7. Provide predicted percentage of truck traffic and anticipated truck traffic 5 years out.
- b-8. Will trucks carry hazardous materials? If so, approximately how many trips per day or week?
- b-9. Will school buses use the crossing? If so, how many school buses will use the crossing per day or week?
- b-10. Will emergency rescue vehicles use the crossing? If so, approximately how many trips per day or week?
- b-11. What is the predicted number of pedestrians and bike riders that will use the proposed crossing? What is the predicted number of users 5 years out?
- b-12. Please provide any corridor studies or other preliminary traffic engineering studies that pertain to this crossing.

C) Alternate Routes

- c-1. Are there access roads available to property owners if the crossing is not there?
- c-2. Name routes currently used or intended for use if the crossing is not approved?
- c-3. Are there traffic signals on these routes?
- c-4. How does the proposed crossing, if built, affect the AADT at nearby public crossings? Provide estimated traffic count changes, if any.

D) Effect on rail operations and expenses

- d-1. Provide current number and type of rail tracks.
- d-2. Are there rail sidings or switches in the location of the proposed crossing?
- d-3. Is there a nearby rail yard? If so, what is the distance of the yard to the proposed crossing.
- d-4. Provide the current number of daily train movements (number of switching or thru trains; number of passenger or freight trains).
- d-5. Provide the approximate times during the day and evening that the crossing will be blocked.
- d-6. Provide the approximate length of time (i.e., minutes) that the crossing is blocked.
- d-7. Provide minimum and maximum train speeds at the proposed crossing.
- d-8. What is the anticipated expansion of tracks and/or train movements?

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d-9. What is the distance from the proposed crossing to adjacent public crossings? (Identify adjacent crossings by road name and crossing number.)

d-10. What are the estimated costs of the crossing installation and annual maintenance? Who will be responsible for the costs of installation and maintenance?

E) Closure of one or more public crossings to offset opening a new crossing

e-1. Provide the names and crossing numbers of any crossing closure candidates that may offset the opening of the proposed crossing?

F) Design of the grade crossing and road approaches

f-1. Submit design plans, inclusive of location of sidewalks, bike lanes, and traffic control devices, including pavement markings, signs, and highway traffic signals.

f-2. What future changes are proposed (ex: phase one is a 2-lane roadway, left turn lane to be added in phase two)?

f-3. What is the vehicular design speed at the proposed crossing?

f-4. How many thru or turn lanes? Divided or undivided?

G) Presence of multiple tracks and their effect upon railroad and highway operations

g-1. Please confirm the number of tracks at the location and identify each track.

g-2. How many train movements occur on each track and the types of trains that run on each track (passenger, thru freight or switching freight, and the number of cars)?