

MICHIGAN RAIL ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

The Michigan Rail Enhancement Grant Program (M-REP) provides grants to improve, expand and rehabilitate freight rail corridors and facilities that will immediately result in quantifiable and non-speculative public benefits. Grants can cover up to seventy percent of eligible project costs. Eligible applicants include freight railroads and owners of multi-user transload facilities.

Eligible project costs include fixed assets such as track, ties, bridges, crossings, rail scales on mainline corridors and at rail yards, intermodal facilities and transload facilities. Movable equipment and/or rolling stock may be considered if plans are submitted that adequately address Michigan-specific use. Ineligible work items include design, engineering, permit fees and right-of-way acquisition.

Applicants must contribute at least thirty percent (30%) of the eligible project costs. Match commitments from private, local or federal sources that exceed the minimum will be viewed favorably. Applicants may submit multiple applications, but total awards cannot exceed \$5 million total per applicant per project solicitation and/or MDOT fiscal year.

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis to projects that best meet program goals. How the applicant proposes to report the project's public benefits will be part of that evaluation. Past performance under M-REP and other MDOT programs will be taken into consideration, particularly as it relates to achieving projected public benefits. The proposed project's inclusion in the State's Rail Plan enhances its competitiveness. Additional consideration is also given to applications that exceed the minimum match requirement.

Applicants are required to specify at least one measure to report public benefits after the project's completion. Proposed measures should meaningfully quantify how the project will improve public safety, operational efficiency, system accessibility, system capacity and/or system condition to better serve customers, communities and/or the State of Michigan. Additional measures that meaningfully capture additional public benefits will be viewed favorably. For example, a project that has public benefits related to system capacity may measure an increase in maximum car weights, documented by timetable revisions, or a project with public safety benefits may measure an area covered by wayside detection, documented by the FRA's Initial Equipment Accident/Incident Records (or the lack of such recorded incidents) over a given period of time.

MDOT will typically reimburse eligible costs at the completion of the selected project. As needed, MDOT may provide up to twenty-five percent (25%) of its grant payment to applicants if payment is required in advance of project completion if/when sufficient collateral can be provided, as approved by MDOT. Under "project funding" applicants should indicate if a portion of the grant payment would be needed in advance of project completion.

Freight railroads and owners of multi-use transload facilities are welcome to apply. Applicants must own or otherwise control the property on which the improvements are proposed. If the applicant is not a freight railroad, a Letter of Support from the serving railroad must be included with the application.

Grant recipients will be responsible for following all state and federal laws/regulations, including [railroad clearance requirements](#), [crossing surface maintenance requirements](#), and environmental laws/regulations enforced by Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. Communication with communities that may be impacted by projects is always encouraged, and may be required, depending on the nature of the project.

Project selections will be made within 90 days of the application deadline. It will take at least 6 weeks to award a contract after projects are selected. Costs typically cannot be incurred prior to the award of the contract. Projects must be completed within 3 years of the contract award.

For more information or assistance with the application, refer to the M-REP FAQ's on MDOT's website or contact Nikkie Johnson at Johnsonn15@Michigan.gov or (517) 243-6937.

Applications must be submitted by November 22, 2024, via e-mail to: Alex Nikoloff, NikoloffA@Michigan.gov.

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Complete this form to request funding through the Michigan Rail Enhancement Grant Program. Please complete all fields and attach additional information, as necessary. All attached materials will be considered part of the application. Please note that all information provided for the purposes of this application and potential project is subject to public disclosure, in accordance with MCL 15.233 (Freedom of Information Act).

APPLICANT INFORMATION		
APPLICANT/COMPANY FULL LEGAL NAME		CONTACT PERSON, TITLE
PRINCIPAL OFFICE ADDRESS		CONTACT PERSON'S E-MAIL ADDRESS
FEDERAL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER		CONTACT PERSON'S PHONE NUMBER
AUTHORIZED CONTRACT SIGNATORY NAME	TITLE	AUTHORIZED CONTRACT SIGNATORY E-MAIL ADDRESS
AUTHORIZED CONTRACT SIGNATORY OFFICE ADDRESS <i>(If different than above)</i>		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	
PROJECT NAME	
PROJECT LOCATION <i>(Please specify below applicable city (or cities), township(s) and county (or counties), and attach map to depict project location and, as appropriate, project limits.)</i>	
DOES THE APPLICANT OWN THE PROPERTY? YES NO <i>(If no, please explain the means in which the applicant controls the property.)</i>	
DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED PROJECT <i>(For example, the proposed project will construct X, Y, Z for the purposes of.... Attach plans/drawings, as applicable to depict project, and a detailed estimate.)</i>	
DOES THE PROPOSED PROJECT INCLUDE MOVABLE EQUIPMENT AND/OR ROLLING STOCK? NO YES <i>(If yes, please propose a plan to document its use in Michigan.)</i>	
NUMBER OF EXISTING RAIL CUSTOMERS UTILIZING INFRASTRUCTURE TO BE IMPROVED	
TYPES OF EXISTING COMMODITIES HANDLED BY INFRASTRUCTURE TO BE IMPROVED	
EXISTING RAIL TONNAGE UTILIZING INFRASTRUCTURE TO BE IMPROVED <i>(Please indicate if that is actual or average and the year(s) of the data.)</i>	
EXISTING CARLOAD VOLUME UTILIZING INFRASTRUCTURE TO BE IMPROVED <i>(Please indicate if that is actual or average and the year(s) of the data.)</i>	
WILL THE PROPOSED PROJECT IMPACT ANY EXISTING CROSSINGS AND/OR NECESSITATE THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW CROSSING? NO YES <i>(If yes, please submit MDOT Form 1425 and provide a copy with this application.)</i>	
WILL THE PROPOSED PROJECT MAINTAIN REQUIRED CLEARANCES NEAR RAILROAD TRACKS? NO YES <i>(If no, exemptions should be requested through MDOT Form 1401 and a copy included with this application.)</i>	

IS THE PROJECT IDENTIFIED IN MICHIGAN MOBILITY 2045? NO YES <i>(If yes, please specify the project name as it was included in the Rail Service Investment Plan, Table 12.)</i>	
IDENTIFY OPERATING RAILROAD(S) IMPACTED <i>(If the applicant is not a railroad, a letter of support from the serving railroad is required as a part of the application.)</i>	PLANNED CONSTRUCTION START - END DATES
IS THE PROJECT EXPECTED TO PARTICULARLY IMPACT CERTAIN COMMUNITY/COMMUNITIES? NO YES <i>(If yes, please describe planned outreach efforts and/or measures that will be undertaken to minimize any adverse impacts.)</i>	

PROJECT BENEFITS
DESCRIBE THE BENEFITS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT TO PUBLIC SAFETY, EFFICIENCY, ACCESSIBILITY, CAPACITY AND/OR CONDITION. <i>(Please reference the program description provided as a part of this application and include how the project would impact rail customers, communities and/or the state. Make sure to identify those other parties that would benefit from the project, including the primary types of customers that would benefit, and if they are existing or prospective, and the types of commodities that would be impacted. Attach additional pages, as necessary.)</i>
WILL THE PROPOSED PROJECT INCREASE TONNAGE AND/OR CARLOAD VOLUME? NO YES <i>(If yes, please provide the projected rail tonnage and carload volume that is anticipated to result from the project and when that would be expected to be achieved.)</i>
WILL THE PROPOSED PROJECT ADD CUSTOMER(S) AND/OR TYPES OF COMMODITIES? PLEASE EXPLAIN.
PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE PROPOSED PUBLIC BENEFIT MEASURE AND WHEN IT COULD BE REPORTED. <i>(Projects will be evaluated in part on the proposed measures. Please reference the program description provided as a part of this application and include at least one performance measure that will quantify the impact to public safety, operational efficiency, system accessibility, system capacity and/or system condition.)</i>

PROJECT FUNDING			
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS		GRANT REQUEST <i>(Maximum 70% eligible project costs)</i>	
LIST OTHER PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES			
PROJECT FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE	CONFIRMED OR PENDING
		%	
		%	
		%	
		%	
WOULD THE APPLICANT REQUIRE A PORTION OF THE GRANT PAYMENT IN ADVANCE OF PROJECT COMPLETION (MAXIMUM 25%)? NO YES <i>(If yes, indicate the type of collateral that is proposed to secure the advanced payment.)</i>			
CERTIFICATION			
THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES THAT THE APPLICATION, INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS, IS TRUE AND COMPLETE.			
NAME		TITLE	
SIGNATURE			DATE