

FY 2025
KENTUCKY RAIL CROSSING
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
BGRM: Steele Road
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FY 2025
KENTUCKY RAIL CROSSING
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT SCOPE OF WORK - The Bluegrass Railroad Museum is desiring to upgrade major public road crossings along its 5.5-mile line through Woodford County to improve safety for the motoring public as well as for train operations. This comprehensive project would remove and replace the old broken asphalt and splintered wood filler boards, remove lighter 75-pound rail and replace with heavier 115-pound rail, and remove and replace old ties, base plates, spikes, anchors, track bolts, and ballast to provide a more stable foundation. This project would also reopen a paved over siding which would improve the operation of trains, allowing passing and sharing of the railroad more readily with Rail Explorers USA.

PROJECT STATEMENT OF WORK - The Bluegrass Railroad Museum (BGRM) will contract most of the actual renovation work to a state approved subcontractor, such as Vorst Rail Services, since our museum consists of volunteer crew and limited rail equipment. BGRM may assist in prepping the site, helping to clean up the area before and after renovations, provide rail transportation to the site, stage materials, etc.

PROJECT URGENCY – With the arrival of the Rail Explorers USA railbikes in June 2023, rail traffic has increased along the Bluegrass Railroad’s line to a daily use rather than weekends and special charters. This increased rail traffic, along with the smaller size of the railbikes, makes improvements to road crossings even more important than ever. With lightweight railbikes traversing damaged crossings, derailments are more likely, as well as injuries to exposed passengers. Opening the Milner siding will allow coordination of train and railbike activities for safe passage and future expansion of services, which will allow increased tourist revenue.

PROJECT TIMELINE GHANT CHART

Steele Road Crossing Renovation Timeline			
	FEB 25	MAR 25	APR 25
Project Granted			
Contractor begins coordinating with local road authority and BGRM			
Project Funding Received			
Road Closure and Detours			
Contractor performs renovations			
Project Completion			
Work is Inspected for Approval			
Road Reopened			
Contractor is Paid			
Documentation of Project			
Report to Grantor			



KENTUCKY RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT (KRCI) APPLICATION

SECTION 1: PROJECT OVERVIEW

APPLICANT NAME	DOT CROSSING #	APPLICATION YEAR
Bluegrass Railroad Museum, Inc.	719854-H	2025

ROAD NAME	ROAD MILE POINT	CROSSING LOCATION	
		CITY	COUNTY
Steele Road	0.173	Milner	Woodford

PROJECT TYPE

Crossing Rehab Select One
 Crossing Safety Select One
 Obstructive Vegetation Removal

TOTAL PROJECT COST	KRCI FUNDING REQUESTED	APPLICANT MATCH	APPLICANT MATCH % (20% Minimum)
\$ 135,000.00	\$ 108,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	20 %

Does applicant plan to use their own manpower, equipment, or materials on the project (Force Account) or competitively bid out all work related to the project? Bid Out

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (Provide a *brief* project description. Include why the crossing was selected, project purpose and benefits, and the proposed work to be completed. Text is limited to the space provided below.)

The Bluegrass Railroad Museum is desiring to upgrade major public road crossings along its 5.5 mile line through Woodford County to improve safety for the motoring public as well as for train operations. This comprehensive project would remove and replace the old broken asphalt and splintered wood rail fence, remove lighter 75-pound rail and replace with heavier 115-pound rail, remove and replace old ties, base plates, spikes, anchors, track bolts, and ballast to provide a more stable foundation, and to reopen the full length of the siding at Milner, KY.

FOR KYTC USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ Application Complete <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N 603 KAR 7:090 Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N Eligible Applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	FRA WBAPS Score: _____ Match %: _____ Road ADT: _____	Secretary Approval: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N KRCI Award Amount: _____ KRCI Award Date: _____
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KENTUCKY RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT (KRCI) APPLICATION

SECTION 2: APPLICANT INFORMATION

Is the applicant a railroad? NO YES (Provide KY Secretary of State information.)

KY SECRETARY OF STATE (KY SOS) ORGANIZATION ID OR #	KY SOS STATUS	KY SOS STANDING
0062584	A-Active	G-Good

PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME & TITLE	PHONE	EMAIL		
John Penfield	859.338.7889	john_m_penfield@yahoo.com		
MAILING ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP
175 Beasley Road, P. O. Box 27		Versailles	KY	40383

If awarded, will signatory be different from the Primary Contact? NO YES (Provide signatory information.)

SIGNATORY NAME & TITLE	PHONE	EMAIL		
W. Glenn Walker	502.667.2374	gwalker429@gmail.com		
MAILING ADDRESS		CITY	STATE	ZIP
175 Beasley Road, P. O. Box 27		Versailles	KY	40383

SECTION 3: PERMITS AND APPROVALS

- A. Have consultations with state or federal agencies (US Army Corps of Engineers, US Coast Guard, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Kentucky Division of Water, Kentucky Heritage Council, or others) determined the need for permits?
 In Progress
- B. Have all required permits been obtained? In Progress

SECTION 4: CURRENT RAILROAD CROSSING INFORMATION (Section 4 must be completed for ALL projects.)

# OF TRAFFIC LANES	ROAD SPEED LIMIT	AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC (ADT) AT CROSSING	RAILROAD DIVISION	
2	35	248	Milner	
TYPICAL TRAIN SPEED AT CROSSING	# OF TRACKS AT CROSSING	RAIL MILE POINT	BRANCH/LINE NAME	
5.0	2	6.2	Bluegrass Scenic Railroad	
AVERAGE DAILY TRAIN MOVEMENTS AT CROSSING	FRA TRACK CLASS AT CROSSING	TOTALS FROM PREVIOUS 5 YEARS AT CROSSING		
2	Class 1	CRASHES	FATALITIES	INJURIES
		0	0	0



KENTUCKY RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT (KRCI) APPLICATION

SECTION 5: CROSSING RECONSTRUCTION *(Required **ONLY** for Crossing Reconstruction projects.)*

CURRENT CROSSING

DATE INSTALLED	WIDTH OF ROAD	SURFACE MATERIAL		WEIGHT OF RAIL
	35 feet	Asphalt		75
SURFACE CONDITION	VISIBLE TIE CONDITION	APPROACH CONDITION	DRAINAGE CONDITION	
Good	Fair	Good	Good	

PROPOSED RECONSTRUCTION

PROJECT IMPACT ON SIDEWALK, MULTI-USE PATH, OR RECREATIONAL TRAIL	MAXIMUM CHANGE IN TRACK ELEVATION ABOVE/BELOW EXISTING ROADWAY	LENGTH OF ASPHALT APPROACH	
No	2 inches	Taper 1	Taper 2
		12 feet	12 feet

REPLACEMENT CROSSING SURFACE: ADT below 400

SECTION 6: CROSSING SAFETY EQUIPMENT IMPROVEMENT *(Required **ONLY** for Crossing Safety Equipment Improvement projects.)*

	INSTALL	UPGRADE EXISTING
A. Project Signage Work: Crossing Signs and Markings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Describe in detail signs and markings <u>currently</u> used at crossing. <i>(Text is limited.)</i>		
2. Describe in detail signs and markings <u>proposed</u> at crossing as part of the project. <i>(Text is limited.)</i>		
	INSTALL	UPGRADE EXISTING
B. Project Signal Work: Active Traffic Control Devices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1. Describe in detail active traffic control devices <u>currently</u> used at crossing.		
2. Describe in detail active traffic control devices <u>proposed</u> at crossing as part of the project.		



KENTUCKY RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT (KRCI) APPLICATION

SECTION 7: SUBMISSION CHECKLIST (See KRCI Guidance Document, Section V, for details.)

- Kentucky Railroad Crossing Improvement Application (TC 59-13)
- Statement of Work
- Scope of Work
- Project Schedule/Timeline
- Detailed engineering assessment report (as applicable)
- Aerial Photographs and photographic documentation of crossing location and condition (especially for Obstructive Vegetation removal projects)
- Plans, schematics, details, drawings of the proposed project (as applicable)
- Photographic documentation of the project location and condition
- Detailed estimate
- Road authority consultation letter (if applicant is a railroad)
- Railroad consultation letters (if applicant is a government entity)
- Public Interest Finding (as applicable)

SECTION 8: RAILROAD COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION (Required ONLY if applicant is a railroad.)

I hereby certify that as an applicant defined as a railroad in 603 KAR 7:090(1), my company has completed and submitted the TC 59-102 in compliance with the provisions of 603 KAR 7:090 at the time of this application. If it is determined I am not an eligible applicant at the time of this submission, I agree that this application shall be immediately rejected without consideration and returned to me without review.

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE
John M. Penfield		2/12/25

SECTION 9: APPLICANT CERTIFICATION (The certification below applies to all applicants.)

I have read the Kentucky Railroad Crossing Improvement guidance document, and I understand and agree to abide by what is stated therein. I also hereby certify, subject to the provisions of KRS 523.100 (unsworn falsification to authorities), that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

PRINTED NAME AND TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE
W. Glenn Walker		2/12/25

Submission Directions: Applicants must combine their completed application and all required attachments into a single PDF and submit it electronically via email to KYTC.ModalPrograms@ky.gov. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure delivery of the emailed submission.

EXHIBIT A – AERIAL MAP



EXHIBIT B – EXISTING CROSSING PHOTOGRAPHS



**Steele Road – looking North
(County Road 1685)
Sidetrack in foreground
Main Line in center**



**Steele Road looking West through
Milner KY
(County Road 1685)**



**Steele Road looking East at Milner
KY**

(County Road 1685)

EXHIBIT C – DETAILED CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATE

Steele Road Crossing Upgrade Budget		
February 2025		
Action or Material	Units	Cost
Saw cut, remove & dispose of existing asphalt	100 tons	\$4,800
New Asphalt Road Surface	125 tons	\$25,000
Rail Seal with clips	72 TF	\$11,180
Road Closure	1 each	\$2,600
New 7"x9"x8.5' ties	144 each	\$10,080
New 115RE 80' rails	4 each	\$13,640
Relay 5.5" base plates	288 each	\$3,456
New cut spikes (100# kegs)	7 kegs	\$595
New 5.5" base anchors (bag of 25)	576 each	\$2,304
#4 Ballast	100 tons	\$4,000
Comp Bars (115RE-100RE)	8 sets	\$7,160
Comp Rails (100RE relay - 39')	8 each	\$7,950
Comp Bars (100RE-90RA)	8 sets	\$7,160
1"x6" track bolts with lock washers	64 each	\$256
Labor/Equipment (including surfacing)	4 days	\$32,000
TOTAL		\$132,181
<i>Adjusted for possible inflation</i>		\$135,000

EXHIBIT D – ROAD AUTHORITY CONSULTATION LETTER



Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR

TRANSPORTATION CABINET

Department of Highways, District 7 Office
P.O. Box 11127
Lexington, KY 40512-1127
859-246-2355

Jim Gray
SECRETARY

February 14, 2025

Dear Mr. Edgeworth:

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District Seven Office has been in contact with Bluegrass Railroad Museum regarding their supplementary safety enhancements at the following railroad crossing located in District Seven:

- KY 1685/Steele Road MP 0.173 at-grade crossing, DOT# 719854H

The District Seven office concurs with and supports Bluegrass Railroad Museum's proposal to enhance safety at this crossing.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly A. Baker".

Kelly A. Baker, PE
Chief District Engineer
District Seven, Lexington