



February 2, 2026

The Honorable David Fink
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE W-32
Washington, DC 20590
United States

RE: Letter of Support for the Statewide Advancement of Feature Enhancements at Intercity Passenger Rail Crossings (SAFE-IPR) Program

Dear Administrator Fink,

I am pleased to express strong support for the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) application to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) under the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (FSP) Grant Program for the Statewide Advancement of Feature Enhancements at Intercity Passenger Rail Crossings (SAFE-IPR) Program.

This initiative appears to align closely with the strategic priorities of the U.S. Department of Transportation and FRA by advancing investments that improve safety, enhance state of good repair, strengthen system durability, and modernize critical transportation infrastructure. From a local government perspective, FDOT's SAFE-IPR Program also supports improved system operations by reducing delays and improving travel time reliability for intercity passenger rail service operating through our community.

The SAFE-IPR Program's statewide, programmatic approach to implementing safety countermeasures at 910 intercity passenger rail crossings, of which four lie within the jurisdiction of the City of Fort Pierce, reflects a comprehensive and coordinated strategy for addressing safety risks that affect communities across Florida. Proposed improvements, including upgraded traffic control devices, enhanced pedestrian treatments, improved lighting, and revised approach geometries, will help reduce safety risks at crossings while improving the movement of people and goods, emergency response operations, and quality of life for residents, visitors, and businesses within the City. As improvements are advanced, the City will work with FDOT to facilitate access to municipal right-of-way, as needed, to support timely and efficient program implementation.

The City of Fort Pierce supports FDOT's implementation of the SAFE-IPR Program and believes it will play a critical role in advancing a safer, more reliable, and more resilient transportation system at both the local and statewide levels. FDOT's leadership in advancing this effort is appreciated and coordination with the Department and project partners will continue as safety improvements are implemented at crossing locations within the City.

Sincerely,

Linda Hudson
Mayor