



AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Abby Christian, Grant Administrator

DATE: 18 June 2024

SUBJECT: IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL TO SUBMIT FY24 CONSOLIDATED RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS SOLICITATION – FY24 THUD – AC

Request: Seeking the Council’s approval to submit the FY24 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Solicitation for the award of FY24 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations Bill request for funding of \$7,728,745.

Agency: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)

Grant: FY24 CRISI

Amount: \$7,728,745

Match: \$1,932,196.25

Submission Deadline: N/A

Overview: In 2023 the City of Tupelo submitted a FY24 THUD funding request to Senator Wicker’s office for the amount of \$7,728,745. With this funding the City of Tupelo will make safety improvements to 11 railroad crossings for a total of \$5,500,000, and cover the cost of design engineering of the switching operations relocation project for a total of \$2,228,745. To receive our awarded funding the City of Tupelo must submit various FY24 CRISI application attachments and contract documents.

Project 1: The construction of upgrades at eleven intersections (at-grade crossings) will allow the City to establish quiet zones on either side of “Crosstown”. Specific intersections for the BNSF line are Lumpkin Street, Jackson Street, Blair Street, Jefferson Street, Church Street, Green Street, and Elizabeth Street. Specific intersections for the KCS line are Elizabeth Street, Clark Street, Main Street, and Jefferson Street. These quiet zones will improve the quality of life for current residents and businesses and spur new economic development in Downtown Tupelo.

Project 2: The City of Tupelo was awarded a FY22 RAISE grant in the amount of \$1,452,292.00. This funding is to procure engineering consultant services and complete design work for three Tupelo rail projects to 30% completion – one of the three projects being to move the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Switching Operations further away from the busiest intersection in Tupelo (Crosstown) at Main Street and Gloster Street. This THUD funding will allow the City to procure for the remaining 70% design engineering work of this project.