

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE CITY OF HARRISONBURG
RAILROAD CROSSING ELIMINATION GRANT APPLICATION**

At a regularly scheduled meeting of the Harrisonburg City Council held on Tuesday September 10, 2024, on a motion by _____, seconded by _____, the following resolution was adopted by a vote of ___ to ___.

WHEREAS, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) authorized and appropriated funds to be awarded by the United States Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program (RCE); and

WHEREAS, the CITY OF HARRISONBURG CITY COUNCIL desires to submit an application for the allocation of funds for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Project; and

WHEREAS, the project seeks to develop a plan for eliminating ten (10) at-grade railroad crossings within the City and James Madison University (JMU), and

WHEREAS, the project seeks to plan for an alternative railway location along just outside of the northeast City limits within Rockingham County, and

WHEREAS, the project seeks to understand all industrial and commercial growth possible along the relocated railway segment, and

WHEREAS, the project seeks to plan for the conversion of the abandoned portion of the railway within the City and, to a shared use path that would provide connections from downtown Harrisonburg, through JMU, connect to City schools and the Smithland Fields, and

WHEREAS, the project is supported by robust partnerships and extensive collaboration between the Harrisonburg Department of Public Works, the Rockingham County Board of Supervisors, and James Madison University, and multiple Council-appointed committees and commissions, to ensure the appropriate implementation of the project, and

WHEREAS, the RCE requires the applicant provide a 20% project fund match of which the City will provide one-third, Rockingham County will provide one-third, and James Madison University will provide one-third, and the City Council commits to providing the required matching funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The HARRISONBURG CITY COUNCIL hereby supports this application for the RCE Grant Application.

ADOPTED this 10th day of September 2024.

Deanna R. Reed, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pam Ulmer, City Clerk