



## BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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May 21, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Office of the Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Brevard County Sealed Corridor Project - Rail Crossing Elimination Program Discretionary Grant

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

As the Chair representing the Brevard Board of County Commissioners, I write to express my strong support for the Brevard County Sealed Corridor ("Project") that the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization is pursuing through the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program.

The Brevard County Sealed Corridor Project will improve safety by installing enhancements at 9 grade crossings along the Florida East Coast Railway (FECR), which operates freight rail, and Brightline Trains Florida, LLC (Brightline), which provides intercity passenger rail service.

The primary benefits of this Project are reduced loss of life and railway collisions, trespassing, and other safety-related violations. Costly damage to public and private property due to road/rail accidents will decrease, along with traffic backups and grade crossing closures resulting from a crash.

Under the current system under operation, FECR and Brightline meet or exceed FRA's railroad safety requirements and the federal laws and regulations governing the safety of rail operations nationwide. Brightline has made significant safety infrastructure investments and has implemented parallel safety campaigns. The investment to be made with the proceeds of this grant will supplement all the current safety initiatives and create an even more meaningful impact.

I appreciate your consideration and respectfully request you consider this important project for funding.  
Sincerely,

Respectfully,

Jason Steele, Chair  
Brevard County Board of County Commissioners