

ALABAMA STATE SENATE

April Weaver
State Senate
Senate District 14
Bibb, Chilton, and Shelby Counties

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Committee Assignments
Healthcare
Children Youth and Human
Services
Shelby County Legislation
Transportation and Energy
Fiscal Responsibility and
Economic Development

August 17, 2022

Dear Sir or Madam:

As an Alabama Senator for District 14, I have seen firsthand the many issues experienced in Shelby County, specifically in Pelham, with railroad crossings. I believe that the city of Pelham is the perfect candidate for funding from the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program.

For years the city of Pelham has worked with railway companies to try to avoid blocked roads, monitor train timing to avoid rush hour, and prevent accidents. Even with this partnership, we are still regularly seeing issues in one area. There are two railroad crossings within 30 yards of each other in Pelham that have become incredibly dangerous over the years. We have seen a number of accidents involving trains and vehicles, as well as many public service vehicle delays in emergency situations that have severely impacted first responders' ability to act quickly. Even recently, we saw a track maintenance closure that was not brought to the city's attention until the day of the closure, impacting the city's ability to notify residents and first responders in the area in an appropriate amount of time.

Several years ago, the City of Pelham developed a plan that would create a fly-over of the specific area that is currently causing issues. At that time, the city completed most of the front-end work for the plan, but the total cost of the project was prohibitive. Since that time, this road has seen an increase in traffic and issues with the train tracks, so the city is again looking to revive and implement this plan. If awarded funding from the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program, the city would be able to create an alternate route for citizens and enhance the safety and infrastructure in the area.

With the majority of the planning already completed, this project is a prime opportunity to make a big difference with funding from the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program. I hope you see the potential impact this would have on this community and will help me support their continued safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "April Weaver".

Senator April Weaver
Senate District 14

