

## Draft H-GAC Evaluation Criteria for Railroad Grade Separation Pilot Program

1. **Weight Assignment:** Each factor is assigned a weight that reflects its importance in the overall evaluation, ranging from 1 (*least important*) to 5 (*very important*).
2. **Criteria Definition:** Factors are defined to clearly explain what data is needed and where to find it. All data for the criteria can be found in publicly available platforms.
3. **Scoring:** Each submitted crossing location is evaluated and scored against the defined factors. Scoring is a combination of numerical (e.g., 1-3 scale) and categorical (e.g., "Yes" or "No") scores.
4. **Weighted Score Calculation:** For each factor, the score is multiplied by its corresponding weight to get a weighted score. The overall score for each option is then calculated by adding up these weighted scores.

$$[\text{Weighted Score} = \sum (\text{Score} \times \text{Weight})]$$

5. **Decision Making:** The crossing location with the highest weighted score is considered the most suitable choice based on the evaluated criteria. If there are ties in the scores, additional factors like Grade Crossing Accident Prediction (GXAPS) Score and Protection Type will be used to further evaluate the location.

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Factor	Weight	Description and Consideration	Score
No. of tracks <sup>1</sup>	2	Number of tracks intersecting roads.	≥5 = 3 pts 3-4 = 2 pts <2 = 1 pts
Trains per day (both through and switching movements) <sup>2</sup>	5	Number of trains per day on intersecting railroads. It will also include switching trains.	≥50 = 3 pts 26-49 = 2 pts 0-25 = 1 pts
Reported Blocked crossings <sup>3</sup>	3	Number of reported blockages over a 12-month period, as found on the FRA Blocked Crossing Portal.	≥61 = 3 pts 16-60 = 2 pts 0-15 = 1 pts
Police/fire/EMS distance	4	Fire, EMS, or Police station within 1/4 mile of crossing.	Yes = 3 pts No = 1 pts
Proximity to school	5	For this factor, we'll consider schools within 1/4 mile of the crossing.	Yes = 3 pts No = 1 pts
Crash History <sup>4</sup>	5	Reports incidents, fatalities, and serious injuries that occur at rail crossings per year.	>10 = 3 pts 5-10 = 2 pts <5 = 1 pt
High Injury Network	3	Is the crossing located on a designated high injury network?	Yes = 3 pts No = 1 pts
City/County Services	1	Proximity to other public destinations, including multi-service centers, community centers, trauma centers, hospitals, health dept facilities, libraries - within 1/4 mile.	Yes = 3 pts No = 1 pts
Supply Chain or freight generator	2	Proximity to freight generators, within 1/4 mile.	Yes = 3 pts No = 1 pts
Distance to nearest grade separation	4	Existence of a parallel grade separation with ½-mile.	Yes = 1 pts No = 3 pts
AADT Score	3	Vehicle volumes on the intersection roadway.	≥20k/day = 3 pts 1k-20k/day = 2 pts <1k/day = 1 pts
Road Classification	3	Street classification on Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan.	Major = 3 Collector = 2 Local = 1

<sup>1</sup> Track data reported in Crossing Inventory Listing <https://data.transportation.gov/stories/s/Crossing-Inventory-Listing/ejv6-cpdh/>

<sup>2</sup> Train ADT found in the crossing Inventory

<sup>3</sup> Reports the amount of time a crossing is blocked. Page 4, Blocked Crossing Portal, [https://railroads.dot.gov/sites/fra.dot.gov/files/2024-01/FRA%20Report%20to%20Congress\\_Blocked%20Crossing%20Portal.pdf](https://railroads.dot.gov/sites/fra.dot.gov/files/2024-01/FRA%20Report%20to%20Congress_Blocked%20Crossing%20Portal.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Incident, Fatalities, and Injuries list - <https://data.transportation.gov/stories/s/Highway-Rail-Grade-Crossing-Incidents-Fatalities-a/bda5-32at/> n