# Legislation Details (With Text)

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| **File #:** | 91115 | **Version:** | 2 | **Name:** | Authorizing the Department of Transportation to apply for a $6.75 million Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (FSP) Grant from the Federal Railroad Administration and, if awarded, amending the 2026 capital budget for Transportation and |
| **Type:** | Resolution | | | **Status:** | Passed |
| **File created:** | 12/3/2025 | | | **In control:** | FINANCE COMMITTEE |
| **On agenda:** | 1/13/2026 | | | **Final action:** | 1/13/2026 |
| **Enactment date:** | 1/16/2026 | | | **Enactment #:** | RES-26-00032 |

**Title:** SUBSTITUTE: Authorizing the Department of Transportation to apply for a $6.75 million National Railroad Partnership Program / Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (NRPP/FSP) Grant from the Federal Railroad Administration and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the resulting grant agreement to accept the grant (District 4, District 6, District 12, District 15, District 17).

**Sponsors:** Michael E. Verveer, Sean O'Brien, Derek Field, Sabrina V. Madison, Yannette Figueroa Cole

**Indexes:**

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:** 1. V1-91115.pdf

| Date | Ver. | Action By | Action | Result |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1/13/2026 | 1 | COMMON COUNCIL | Adopt Substitute | Pass |
| 1/13/2026 | 2 | COMMON COUNCIL | Adopt Unanimously | Pass |
| 1/7/2026 | 1 | TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION | RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER | Pass |
| 1/5/2026 | 1 | FINANCE COMMITTEE | Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Common Council to Adopt | Pass |
| 12/9/2025 | 1 | TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION | Referred | |
| 12/9/2025 | 1 | COMMON COUNCIL | Referred | |
| 12/3/2025 | 1 | Transportation Department | Referred for Introduction | |

## Fiscal Note

The proposed resolution authorizes the application and acceptance of a National Railroad Partnership Program / Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Grant. The $6~~.75~~ million grant would fund planned safety improvements and identify additional needs at at-grade railroad crossings that support the proposed extension of the Amtrak Hiawatha service to Madison. Existing funding available in Engineering's Railroad Crossings and Quiet Zones capital program would be used to support the 20% local match of $1.2~~35~~ million. If awarded, the grant amount will be appropriated through a separate resolution or future budget request.

## Title

SUBSTITUTE: Authorizing the Department of Transportation to apply for a $6~~.75~~ million National Railroad Partnership Program / Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (NRPP/FSP) Grant from the Federal Railroad Administration and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the resulting grant agreement to accept the grant (District 4, District 6, District 12, District 15, District 17).



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## Body

WHEREAS, the NRPP/FSP Grant would fund planned safety improvements and identify additional needs at at-grade railroad crossings that support the proposed extension of the Amtrak Hiawatha service to Madison, which is currently being studied by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation through the Corridor ID program; and

WHEREAS, improvements to at-grade railroad crossings will benefit all users of Madison's transportation system, improve safety, and support both current freight rail operations and future passenger rail operations; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department is planning to utilize Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to improve at-grade rail crossings, and these improvements align with and complement the proposed FSP Grant scope; and

WHEREAS, the grant funding is in the amount of $6~~.75~~ million with a 20% local match of $1.2~~35~~ million; and

WHEREAS, the City would complete the planning, environmental review, design, and construction of identified safety improvements using a combination of City staff and procured professional and construction services, with any contracted work obtained through a competitive bidding and qualifications-based selection process; and

WHEREAS, funds awarded under this grant would be one-time capital funds that will be spent down by the end of the period defined in the grant agreement; and

WHEREAS, the grant application form includes legal terms, obligations, and/or commitments from the City and/or requires a signature from a person who is authorized to bind the City to such things; and

WHEREAS, City staff can attest to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the grant application; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the Federal Railroad Administration may require the City to sign a contract, grant agreement, and/or other documents binding the City to certain obligations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Transportation, after consultation with the City Attorney, is authorized, on behalf of the City, to apply for a grant up to $6~~.75~~ million through the Federal Railroad Administration's NRPP/FSP grant program and sign all application materials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, if awarded the grant, the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the Federal Railroad Administration, in a format approved by the City Attorney; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized to sign related paperwork or forms associated with the administration of the grant, after consultation with the City Attorney where appropriate.



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