



INDOT GRADE CROSSING INSPECTION OVERVIEW



Purpose Of INDOT Crossing Inspections

INDOT conducts routine grade crossing inspections statewide to ensure compliance with federal and state safety requirements. Inspections help maintain accurate crossing data, identify deficiencies, and guide coordinated corrective actions.

Inspection Authority

Federal Authorization

- Three-year update requirement for USDOT Crossing Inventory data
- FRA permits states to conduct additional investigative activities
- State Highway Authority & Railroads are responsible for specific updates to the Crossing Inventory Forms; each one sharing their own responsibility.

Note: See the FRA Guide for Preparing U.S. DOT Crossing Inventory Forms for detail
<https://railroads.dot.gov/forms-guides-publications/guides/fra-guide-preparing-us-dot-crossing-inventory-forms>



FRA Guide for
Inventory Forms

State Authorization

- IC 8-3-1.5: Outlines INDOT inspection authority
- IC 8-8-1-9: Grants INDOT enforcement authority for safety standards

What INDOT Inspectors Evaluate

- Accuracy of USDOT Crossing Inventory information
- Visibility and placement of signage
- Crossing surface condition
- Condition of warning devices and electrical components (when visible)
- Vegetation obstructing sight distance
- Signs of unauthorized access to control equipment
- Crossings appearing closed but listed as open

Inspection Notifications & Follow-Up

- Inspections are conducted county-by-county
- Deficiency letters sent to railroads and LPAs after inspections
- Class I, Class II/III, and LPA letters depending on responsibility

Responsibility Summary

Railroads

- Maintain active warning devices
- Maintain electronics and track circuits
- Maintain crossing surface within rail ROW
- Secure signal equipment
- Maintain required documentation
- Maintain Vegetation within railroad ROW for sight Distance
- Maintain Signage (Crossbucks, ENS, etc.)
- MUTCD Compliance

Local Public Agencies

- Maintain roadway approaches
- Maintain Traffic Control Devices within LPA ROW (i.e.- AWS signs, Pavement markings, median barriers, etc.)
- Ensure MUTCD compliance
- Coordinate with the railroads on preemption for traffic signals adjacent to signalized crossings

How INDOT Can Help

INDOT's Rail Programs Office administers the Railroad Grade Crossing Fund, which reimburses up to 100% of eligible safety improvements or permanent closures at public rail highway crossings. For details or assistance, visit the [program website](#) or contact Senior Rail Planner Brittany Olagundoye at 765-516-0512 or bolagundoye@indot.in.gov.

Contact

For questions about crossing inspections or deficiency notifications, contact:

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For more information scan this



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