Rail Loan Programs

Funding for NDDOT’s rail loan programs is limited and is primarily intended to be used to upgrade and enhance rail infrastructure that maintains or improves rail service. With maximum loan amounts of $5 million or less, project proposals are categorized in descending order of priority as follows:

**System Critical** (railroads and rail authorities only eligible) – These are projects critical to a railroad’s existence. These projects maintain or expand service, improve system connectivity, and/or enhance financial stability. These projects may include rail relay, major structure rehabilitation or construction, new rail connections, track realignment, etc. Loan terms are 0% interest with a rail cost share maximum of 80% and repayment in 15 years.

**Infrastructure Improvement** (railroads, units of government, and rail authorities only eligible) – These projects may include structure repairs, tie and ballast replacement, switches, short segments of rail replacement, etc. Loan terms are half of prime (never more than 4.5%) interest with a rail cost share maximum of 80% and repayment in 15 years.

**Economic Development** (all applicants eligible) – These projects may include new sidings, siding extensions or upgrades, switches, loop and ladder tracks, access roads, active warning devices for new facility crossings, equipment – locomotives, maintenance of way equipment, roadway safety improvements adjacent to existing rail infrastructure, etc. These projects may improve safety and result in decreased trucking impacts on state and local roadway infrastructure. Loan terms are half of prime (never more than 4.5%) interest with a rail cost share maximum of 70% and repayment in 10 years.

For more information on NDDOT’s rail loan programs go to: [http://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/planning/docs/NDDOTRailFundLoanApplicationInstructions.pdf](http://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/planning/docs/NDDOTRailFundLoanApplicationInstructions.pdf).

If you have questions or wish to proceed with an application you may contact:

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