

ICYMI: Florida Receives More Than \$192,000 in Rail Safety Grants from Federal Railroad Administration

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) [recently awarded](#) more than \$192,000 in Railroad Trespassing Enforcement Grants to law enforcement agencies in Florida to support life-saving trespass abatement.

"The Florida Department of Transportation is grateful for the Federal Railroad Administration's continued commitment to rail safety in Florida and across the nation," said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. "The funding for the enforcement of rail safety laws is crucial and aligns with the department's statewide Operation STRIDE rail safety initiative to prevent fatalities on or near rail crossings. Rail safety would not be possible without the hard work of Florida's law enforcement officers, and this funding is a testament to just how important their work is to protecting Floridians."

The FRA announced funding totaling \$528,028 for 11 projects in six states: California, Florida, Massachusetts, Montana, North Carolina, and New Jersey. FRA will provide law enforcement grants to cover officer wages for the projects in Florida below. Read more about the projects [here](#).

- Broward Sheriff's Office Railroad Trespassing Enforcement Grant – Up to \$80,000
- City of Jacksonville Railroad Trespassing Education and Enforcement Project – Up to \$20,100
- Hollywood Police Department Trespassing Pilot Grant Program Operation Fast Track – Up to \$50,000
- Tampa Police Department Trespassing Prevention Program – Up to \$41,920

FRA awarded states with the highest numbers of trespass-related incidents. FRA also considered geographic diversity and applicants using innovative approaches to saving lives. Between 2014 and 2018, FRA research confirmed 4,721 trespass incidents resulting in 2,412 deaths in the United States. Law enforcement agency grantees are required to report their programmatic outcomes to ensure agencies meet project goals through the activities negotiated in their agreements with FRA. Agencies are also required to provide other activity details, such as rationale for the selected enforcement activities.

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About The FDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on FDOT contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



About The Program

The Construction Estimating Institute (CEI) works with FDOT as the statewide provider of the federally funded Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Supportive Services Program. We want to increase the number of certified DBEs participating in highway and bridge construction, as well as assist DBEs in growing and eventually becoming self-sufficient. Additionally, CEI provides supportive services by assisting prime contractors and consultants with identifying DBEs for subcontracting opportunities on priority projects.

FDOT Projects Receive Recognition from Florida Transportation Builders Association

Today, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) received Best in Construction Awards from the Florida Transportation Builders Association (FTBA) for 14 projects throughout Florida. Each year, the FTBA recognizes those companies and individuals who have responsibly executed outstanding road and bridge construction projects across the state.

“FDOT is proud to work with industry partners to continue to provide a safe transportation system that fits the lifestyles of Florida’s residents and visitors,” said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. “These awards highlight FDOT’s continued commitment to ensuring mobility and innovation for years to come, and I commend our employees for their significant achievements in the transportation industry.”

The FDOT projects chosen as the winning projects for the FTBA Best in Construction Awards are:

- Alternative Contracting: SR 56 Widening Project from Meadow Point Blvd. to U.S. 301 in Pasco County
- Community Awareness: SR 5/North Roosevelt Blvd. between U.S. 1/Overseas Hwy & 2nd St.
- Design Build: I-95 Interchange at Micco Road
- Interchange: I-75/Turnpike – Wildwood Interchange Modification
- Interstate: I-95 Rigid Pavement Reconstruction between NW 29th St. and NW 131st St. in Miami-Dade County
- LAP: Crosstown Parkway Extension Project, connecting the existing Crosstown Parkway from Manth Lane to U.S. 1, in St. Lucie County
- Major Bridge: I-95 Interchange at Viera Boulevard
- Minor Bridge: SR A1A/MacArthur Causeway East Bridge Rehabilitation Project in Miami-Dade County
- MOT: SR 811/NE 4 Avenue/Wilton Drive Complete Streets Project in Fort Lauderdale and Wilton Manors
- Partnering: SR 5/US 1 South Dixie Highway Widening/Pavement Rehabilitation from SW 57 Ave. to SW 40th St. in Miami-Dade County
- Rural: State Road 20 and State Road 81 Resurfacing Project
- Special Significance: Hurricane Michael Rehabilitation Project in Bay County
- Urban: NW 47th Ave. Reconstruction from North of NW 199th St. to Premier Parkway in Miami Dade County

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Supportive Services Offered:

- Estimating Training
- Building Capacity
- Mobilization Financing
- Bonding Assistance
- Marketing Plan Development
- Creating a Business Plan
- Building a Website



Within the past 3 months,
CEI assisted DBEs
in obtaining

**\$6 MILLION
IN BONDING!!**

Contact CEI for Bonding,
Financing or Insurance needs!

 (800) 423-7058

 www.fdotdbesupportservices.com
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CEI is an educational organization providing the highest quality construction training in the industry. Over 100,000 owners, estimators, project managers, field supervisors, office support staff, foremen, laborers, and key management personnel have attended courses that are offered nationwide. The courses provide students with construction skills training and the critical information needed to be effective within their companies and organizations.