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## Paducah and Louisville Railway Awarded a \$29.563 Million Federal Grant

PADUCAH, KY – Officials with Paducah and Louisville Railway, Inc. (PAL) announced today that they have been awarded up to \$29.563 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) to rehabilitate 23 bridges along PAL's line; make various track improvements at PAL's Paducah Yard; and rehabilitate 19 locomotives. The P&L is required to contribute \$33.337 million to the project costs.

PAL's President and CEO Tom Greene commented on the significance of the award stating, "Paducah & Louisville Railway is thrilled to see this significant federal investment awarded today. Thanks to this funding, PAL is strongly positioned to overhaul and upgrade our rail infrastructure, laying the groundwork for future economic development throughout Kentucky."

USDOT awarded the grant as part of the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) competitive grant program. PAL will use the funds to significantly improve the safety of rail operations over the PAL Line and bring the entire PAL rail line, which extends 280-miles from Paducah, KY to Louisville, KY, into a state of good repair.

PAL's Foster Economic Sustainability Throughout Kentucky Project, which costs \$62.9 million in total, received bipartisan support from key stakeholders at both the Federal and State levels including U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell, Congressmen James Comer, Brett Guthrie and Morgan McGarvey; former Congressman John Yarmuth, Governor Andy Beshear, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Secretary Jim Gray, Kentucky Senators Danny Carroll, Matthew Deneen, Jason Howell and former Senator Dennis Parrett, and Kentucky House members Randy Bridges, Richard Heath, and Steven Rudy.

Mr. Greene indicated that this broad and influential support was crucial to securing the federal investment and stated, "we are grateful for the bipartisan supporters at the Federal and State levels, who helped secure today's federal grant, and for the opportunity to continue the growth and prosperity of Kentucky."

PAL's Project also received overwhelming support from the numerous shippers and communities served by PAL, who depend heavily on the PAL Line and its connection to the national network via interchange with four Class I carriers.

PAL's Project was noted in the <u>FRA's September 25<sup>th</sup> press release</u>, which highlighted seven of the 70 federally funded projects that will improve rail safety, strengthen supply chains, and add passenger rail service. As noted in FRA's press release, the FY 2022 CRISI program was a historic investment in rail made possible by the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), enacted in 2021.

PAL has spent years preparing to undertake a massive sustainability-oriented overhaul of the PAL Line via this Project and a related project involving modernizing PAL's Rockport Bridge, which received federal funding in 2022 under the USDOT's Infrastructure and Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program. Completion of these two related projects is essential and will transform PAL's aging infrastructure into a state of good repair for years to come.

PAL will utilize these federally funded transportation investments, made possible through the unprecedented funding under the BIL, to create economic opportunity for the communities and customers its serves and to continue to be a regional engine for future economic growth and development throughout Kentucky.