

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

CITY OF WALLA WALLA,	)	DOCKET TR-091818
	)	
Petitioner,	)	ORDER 01
	)	
	)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR
	)	PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS AT
	)	THE EAST ROSE STREET HIGHWAY-
WATCO TRANSPORTATION,	)	RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	
	)	USDOT: #097093R
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On November 18, 2009, the City of Walla Walla (City or Petitioner) filed with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission), a petition seeking approval to install sidewalks and upgrade the crossing surface at a railroad-highway grade crossing. The City filed a revised petition on December 5, 2009. The crossing is identified as USDOT #097093R and is located at the intersection of East Rose Street and the Respondent’s tracks in the City of Walla Walla.
- 2 Respondent WATCO Transportation (WATCO) consented to entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.
- 3 Current railroad warning devices at the crossing consist of cantilever mounted 12” flashing lights.
- 4 East Rose Street is classified as a principal arterial with two- lanes, one in each direction and a posted vehicle speed limit of 30 mile per hour. Average daily traffic through the crossing is estimated at 8,000 vehicles. No school buses travel over the crossing.
- 5 WATCO maintains one spur track at this location. Average daily train traffic is less than one train per day and no passenger trains use the crossing. The authorized speed is 10 miles per hour for freight trains.

6 The City proposes to install sidewalks on both sides of the roadway. The sidewalks will be constructed inside the signal masts. The signal masts will remain in their current location. The city will be responsible for long term maintenance the sidewalks. The City also proposes to upgrade the crossing surface from asphalt to concrete panels and replace the underground utilities.

7 The proposed installation of sidewalks and concrete crossing panels are in the interest of improving safety for pedestrian users by providing a path for pedestrians and bicyclists to safely cross the railroad-highway grade crossing.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

8 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington having jurisdiction over public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington. *Chapter 81.53 RCW.*

9 (2) The East Rose Street grade crossing, identified as USDOT #097093R, is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.

10 (3) WAC 480-62-150(1)(g) requires that the Commission grant approval prior to any changes to crossing surfaces at public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington.

11 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted.

12 (5) After examination of the petition filed by the City of Walla Walla on November 18, 2009, and later revised on December 5, 2009, giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

### **ORDER**

#### **THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

13 The petition of the City of Walla Walla to install sidewalks at the intersection of East Rose Sreet and WATCO Transportation's tracks in Walla Walla is granted. Approval of the petition is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The modifications must conform to those described in the petition.

- (2) Petitioner must notify Commission Staff within 30 days upon completion of this project.

The Commissioners, having determined that this filing complies with the requirements of WAC 480-62-150(1) (g) and RCW 81.53.030, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective February 5, 2010.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Executive Director and Secretary

**NOTICE:** This is an order delegated to the Secretary for decision. In addition to serving you a copy of the decision, the Commission will post on its Internet Web site for at least fourteen (14) days a listing of all matters delegated to the Secretary for decision. You may seek Commission review of this decision. You must file a request for Commission review of this order no later than fourteen (14) days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission's Web site. The Commission will schedule your request for review for consideration at a regularly scheduled open meeting. The Commission will notify you of the time and place of the open meeting at which the Commission will review the order.

The Commission will grant a late-filed request for review only on a showing of good cause, including a satisfactory explanation of why the person did not timely file the request. A form for late-filed requests is available on the Commission's Web site.

This notice and review process is pursuant to the provisions of RCW 80.01.030 and WAC 480-07-904(2) and (3).