



**Justin Lopez**  
Division Engineer  
Northwest Division

**BNSF Railway Company**  
2454 Occidental Avenue South  
Seattle WA 98134  
(940) 447-2490  
*Justin.Lopez@BNSF.com*

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UPS 1Z9E92780195200546

Kathy Hunter  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia WA 98504

RE: UTC Filing TR-140816  
USDOT Crossing No. 092255Y  
Burlington Boulevard Sidewalk Extension

Dear Ms. Hunter:

In reference to the crossing and UTC Filing referenced above, BNSF respectfully requests a temporary waiver from the terms of the Final Order requiring extension of the concrete crossing surface to match up with the existing sidewalks. Due to the fact that there are two joint bars in close proximity to the sidewalk on the east side of the crossing, BNSF is unable to extend the concrete crossing surface as required in the Final Order. The joint bars must remain exposed, in order for BNSF to perform FRA-required monthly inspections. Current BNSF welding standards preclude welding these together because the rail end mismatch is too great; the crossing is currently 115 pound rail and the adjacent switch is 136 pound rail. To address the sidewalk issue on an interim basis, BNSF made temporary asphalt repairs on September 3, 2015 to protect the pedestrian walkway. As with the concrete crossing panels, the asphalt cannot cover the two joint bars close to the sidewalk, as it would prevent FRA-required monthly inspections. At this time, asphalt is the only solution until the crossing is completely upgraded. This project involves coordinating temporary closure of the crossing with the city, installing transition rails, and time to have the crossing panels ordered, custom built and delivered. When the crossing is replaced and upgraded to 136 pound rail, BNSF will be able to eliminate the joints and use concrete crossing panels for the sidewalk walkway. Dependent on the cooperation of the city to approve and schedule closure within an appropriate time frame, we anticipate being able to complete this work on or after November 23, 2015.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

*Justin Lopez*

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Division Engineer

# Asphalt Repairs to Crossing SR- 20/USDOT #092255Y

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TR-140816

# Asphalt Repairs

