

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of  
  
Port of Chehalis  
  
Applicant,  
  
Requesting Disbursement from the Grade  
Crossing Protective Fund

DOCKET TR-180329  
  
ORDER 01  
  
ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR  
DISBURSEMENT FROM THE GRADE  
CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On July 27, 2017, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
(Commission) sent to various interested parties a Notice of Opportunity to Apply for  
Grant Monies from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF).
- 2 On April 19, 2018, the Port of Chehalis (Port or Petitioner) filed with the Commission an  
application requesting a disbursement of \$719.82 from the GCPF to pay for a project  
related to improving safety at 19 railroad crossings (Application). On May 17, 2018, the  
Port filed a revised Application that added three additional signs not listed in the original  
application. On May 21, 2018, the Port filed a second revised Application to correct  
errors in the original application. The revised Application requests a disbursement of  
\$989.80 for signage upgrades at 21 crossings. See Appendix A for a list of the crossings  
and signs requested. The Port owns the Chehalis-Centralia Railroad and Museum.
- 3 The Port seeks to add Emergency Notification System signs to 19 crossings, including six  
that need new posts. The Port also seeks to replace passive signage, including one yield  
sign, one advance warning sign, and one crossbuck sign at two crossings. Specific  
information about these crossings is contained in the Port's GCPF application.
- 4 Commission staff (Staff) reviewed the proposed upgrades and recommends the  
Commission grant the Application.

**DISCUSSION**

- 5 We agree with Staff and grant the Application. The requested upgrades will improve the  
overall safety at each of the crossings by providing enhanced signage.

6 We note that the Port must meet the following conditions for administering the GCPF grant:

- Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed \$989.80.
- The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the application.
- The Port must sign and return the attached project agreement.
- Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement and verification by Commission Staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
- The project must be completed and the associated request for reimbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must be filed with the Commission no later than September 30, 2018.
- Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

#### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington having authority to approve and administer disbursements from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund. RCW 81.53.271; RCW 81.53.281.
- 8 (2) The project for which the Port seeks disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund is eligible for funding consideration under Commission rules and complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.271, RCW 81.53.281, and WAC 480-62.
- 9 (3) Commission Staff investigated the request based on the review criteria specified in the Commission's rules and recommended that it be granted.
- 10 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 14, 2018.
- 11 (5) After reviewing the Port's application filed on April 19, 2018, and the revised applications filed on May 17 and May 21, 2018, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the request for disbursement of funds subject to the conditions set out in paragraph 6, above.

**ORDER**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

- 12 (1) The Port of Chehalis's application for disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund for improved crossing signage is granted, subject to the following conditions:
- a. Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed \$989.80.
  - b. The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the application.
  - c. The Port must sign and return the attached project agreement.
  - d. Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement and verification by Commission Staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
  - e. The project must be completed and the associated request for reimbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must be filed with the Commission no later than September 30, 2018.
  - f. Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective June 14, 2018.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK L. JOHNSON, Executive Director and Secretary