

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

CITY OF MARYSVILLE,	)	DOCKET NO. TR-031022
)	
Petitioner,	)	ORDER NO. 02
)	
v.	)	ORDER AMENDING ORIGINAL
	)	ORDER TO INCLUDE CHANGES TO
THE BURLINGTON NORTHERN	)	ROADWAY CONFIGURATION AND
SANTA FE RAILWAY	)	RAILROAD WARNING DEVICES AT
COMPANY,	)	THE 116 th STREET RAILROAD-
	)	HIGHWAY GRADE CROSSING
Respondent.)	
	)	USDOT: 084654P
	)	WUTC: 2B 42.04
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On July 23, 2003, the Commission entered an Order in TR-031022 approving a petition filed by the City of Marysville that sought to upgrade railroad-warning devices at the 116th Street railroad-highway grade crossing, in Marysville, Washington. Specifically, the Order approved installing a pre-signal in advance of the crossing’s eastbound approach and replacing the cantilever-mounted flashing light signals with shoulder-mounted signals for both approaches. To date, none of the changes approved by the Order have been implemented.
- 2 In the vicinity of the crossing, 116th Street consists of two eastbound lanes and one westbound lane. At the time the original petition in TR-031022 was filed, the city did not foresee any changes to this roadway configuration. By September of 2003, new development activity in the vicinity of the 116th Street grade crossing prompted the city to consider revising the roadway configuration to accommodate projected increases in traffic.
- 3 On August 31, 2004, the City of Marysville filed a request with the Commission to amend the original Order in TR-031022 to reflect changes to the roadway

configuration and railroad warning devices that are necessitated by the development plans. The city seeks to widen 116th Street through the crossing to include an additional lane in each direction and sidewalks on both sides of the roadway. Due to the added roadway width and a Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company policy to limit warning gate lengths to 32 feet when possible, the proposal also includes installing median gates for both roadway approaches, to be mounted on a raised center median. In addition, a cantilever-mounted flashing light signal will replace the shoulder-mounted signal previously approved for the westbound approach, and an additional shoulder-mounted flashing light signal will be installed on the raised center median for the eastbound approach – resulting in one shoulder-mounted signal on each side of the eastbound approach. The only change to the pre-signal involves lengthening the signal arm relative to the wider roadway.

- 4 After the roadway widening, the crossing width will be approximately 82 feet, including five 12-foot wide lanes (three eastbound and two eastbound), an eight-foot wide center raised median, and two six-foot wide sidewalks. The crossing surface will consist of concrete materials.
- 5 Commission Staff has verified that the changes sought by the City of Marysville’s request to amend the original Order in TR-031022 have been reviewed and agreed-to by the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (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.*
- 7 (2) The 116th Street grade crossing, identified as USDOT 084654P, is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.

- 8 (3) RCW 81.53.060 and 81.53.261 require that the Commission grant approval prior to any changes affecting roadway approaches and warning devices at public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington.
- 9 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted, subject to specified conditions.
- 10 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 8, 2004.
- 11 (6) After examination of the request filed by the City of Marysville on August 31, 2004, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the request.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 The request of the City of Marysville to amend the original Order in TR-031022 to incorporate proposed changes to the roadway configuration and railroad warning devices at a railroad-highway grade crossing, located at the intersection of 116th Street and the tracks of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company, in Marysville, Washington, is granted, subject to the following conditions:
- (1) The upgrades must conform to the amended plans filed in this proceeding.
 - (2) The crossing must be hard-surfaced between the rails and for a minimum distance of one foot outside of each rail for the full width of the traveled roadway, including the sidewalks.

- (3) All other conditions set forth in the original Order in TR-031022 remain in effect.
- (4) Upon completion of the upgrades authorized herein, petitioner must notify the Commission. Acceptance of the changes is subject to inspection by Commission Staff, verifying that the crossing is in full compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and the conditions specified herein.

The Commissioners, having determined that this filing complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.060 and 81.53.261, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 8th day of September, 2004.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary