

DISCUSSION

6 As authorized by Chapter 81.53 RCW, the GCPF provides funding for projects that reduce accident frequency and severity at public and private railroad crossings or reduce pedestrian trespassing and motorist injuries and deaths on railroad rights-of-way at places other than crossings. We find that the proposed modifications will increase safety for roadway users, and that extending the deadline is appropriate to ensure project completion.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington having authority under RCW 81.53.281 to approve and administer disbursements from the GCPF for rail safety projects.
- 8 (2) On April 28, 2021, CWW submitted a petition seeking to modify active warning devices at a highway-rail grade crossing and requesting funding from the GCPF.
- 9 (3) On May 11, 2021, the Commission approved CWW's application for funding.
- 10 (4) On June 2, 2021, the Commission approved an extension of the project to September 30, 2021, at the request of the Petitioner.
- 11 (4) On May 13, 2021, CWW requested a second extension of the project period and deadline for applying for reimbursement to November 30, 2021.
- 12 (5) Commission Staff investigated the Applicant's request for extension and recommends that it be granted, but recommended extending the project through June 15, 2022. Granting the extension helps ensure timely completion of the project and submission of reimbursement documents. Although the funding was initially approved during the 2019-2021, biennium, this project will be reimbursed from 2021-2023 funds.
- 13 (6) After reviewing CWW's request for extension and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds that granting additional time to complete this project and apply for reimbursement is appropriate and in the public interest and grants the extension of time to June 15, 2022.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 14 The terms of Order 01 remain in full force and effect with the following change:
- 15 (1) 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
June 15, 2022.
- 16 The Secretary of the Commission has delegated authority over this matter pursuant to
Order 01 in Docket A-180762. The Secretary finds this Order to be consistent with the
public interest.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective September 23, 2021.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

AMANDA MAXWELL,
Executive Director and Secretary

NOTICE TO PARTIES: This is an order delegated to the Executive Secretary for decision. As authorized in WAC 480-07-904(3), you must file any request for Commission review of this order no later than 14 days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission's website.