



Memorandum July 30, 2010

To: TR-080590 – File

From: Kathy Hunter, Deputy Assistant Director Transportation Safety

Subject: Extension of Time to Complete Grade Crossing Safety Project at Columbia Hills State Park

On April 3, 2008, the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks or the Applicant) filed an application with the Commission, requesting disbursement of \$18,300 from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF) to pay for a project related to crossing safety. On May 28, 2008, State Parks filed a letter requesting that the GCPF application be considered after July 1, 2009, because the scope of the project was being reevaluated. On October 21, 2009, State Parks filed a revised application for consideration.

The total cost of the project is \$21,300 with State Parks contributing \$2,000 toward permit-associated labor costs and BNSF Railway Co., providing flagging services during paving. The cost of flagging services is estimated at \$1,000.

On November 12, 2009, the Commission issued an Order approving the request for disbursement from the GCPF for the proposal to widen and resurface both approaches to the crossing with asphalt. The crossing is located at Columbia Hills State Park on Spearfish Road. The USDOT number assigned is 090183R. The upgrade to asphalt will eliminate the loose gravel and rock which has resulted from interim patching and filling of the roadway approaches to the crossing. The Order required State Parks to complete the project and submit the associated request for reimbursement by June 30, 2010.

On July 29, 2010, State Parks submitted a request for an extension of time for 30 to 60 days to complete the project and submit the request for reimbursement.

Staff recommends approval of the extension of time because of the safety benefit of the upgrades to the approaches to the crossing. Further, Rich Davis, the current Park Ranger is actively

involved with ensuring that the project be completed and all GCPF requirements are fulfilled in a timely manner. Park Ranger, Andy Kallinen who originally applied for the GCPF grant is currently on military active duty. The change in personnel was the primary reason the project is delayed and did not meet the original deadline.

I am confident that the widening and repaving of the approaches to the Spearfish Road crossing will be completed by November 1, 2010, and thus recommend approving State Parks request for an extension of time.