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UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION  
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STATE OF WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW

Post Office Box 47250

Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Toll-Free 1-888-606-9566 or 360-664-1222

Fax 360-586-1181 or 360-586-1118

TTY 360-586-8203 or 1-877-210-5963

Web: [www.wutc.wa.gov](http://www.wutc.wa.gov)

## Grade Crossing Protection Fund APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

The Commission's objectives in distributing monies from its Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF) are as follows: To reduce accident/incident frequency and severity at both public and private railroad crossings; and to reduce pedestrian trespassing and the frequency of trespass-related deaths and injuries along railroad rights-of-way. Any public, private, or nonprofit entity may submit an application to the Commission for GCPF monies.

The focus of the GCPF program is to fund projects that demonstrate a need for improved public safety related to one of the following four categories:

- **Grade crossing safety projects** (the Commission's original GCPF program).
- **Trespass prevention projects.** Examples of projects in this category include fencing or other physical barriers that prevent trespassing on railroad rights-of-way; pedestrian warning devices; establishing new public grade crossings; installing channeling devices; media/public relations campaigns; and enforcement-related activities.
- **Private crossing safety improvements.** Examples of projects in this category include private crossing closures; installation of private crossing-specific warning devices; installation of nighttime/off-hours locked gates; and improvements to reflectorization/conspicuousness of existing warning devices.
- **Miscellaneous safety projects.** Examples of projects in this category include improvements to motorists' ability to see approaching trains, including the removal of physical obstructions; participation in roadway improvements at or approaching grade crossings; and mitigation of crossing closures.

All projects that fall within any of these four general categories are eligible for funding consideration.

Applicant Name: Ed Mccullough, Trainmaster; Tom Paul, General Manager

Organization: Puget Sound and Pacific Rail Road

Address: P.O. L-2, Elma, Wa

Office Phone: 360-482-4994

E-mail: ed.mccullough@railamerica.com; tom.paul@railamerica.com

Cell Phone: 360-239-5678; 360-239-2721

Fax Number: 360-482-3966

Type of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

- X  Private crossing safety improvement
- Trespass prevention
- Miscellaneous

*Please list all of the other companies (e.g., railroad companies) organizations, or state or local agencies that may be involved in implementing this proposal and the name, address and phone number of each.*

Department of Public Services, Public Works Division  
100 West Broadway, Ste 31  
Montesano, WA 98563 360-249-2153

*Note:* Requests for public grade crossing safety projects will be continue to be processed through the Commission's regular petition process.

**Project Information – Please attach additional information if needed.**

- 1) *Provide a detailed summary of the hazard being addressed, including any accident/incident information or other supporting data. If filing this application electronically, photographs, drawings, or other optional materials that are not in electronic format may be sent to the mailing address specified in the “instructions” section and should be clearly identified as an attachment to your application:*

Mile Post 54.7 Vaughn Pump Crossing- 20-30 trucks use this crossing daily. When trucks exit Elma-Montesano road and stop for the railroad, truck rear is still in Elma-Montesano road; when trucks exit and stop at Elma-Montesano road, rear of truck is still on railroad. Attachments 1 and 2 mailed. Request \$20,000 for turnout lane.

- 2) *Provide a detailed description of your proposed project and explain how its implementation will eliminate or mitigate the hazard. If available, please attach any drawings or construction plans for your proposed project (see section 1 if filing electronically):*

Turnout will provide truck lane to keep trucks off rail and out of Montesano/Elma road.

- 3) *Provide cost estimates, including those related to long-term maintenance:*

\$20,000

- 4) *Estimated timeline of project, if approved:*

Turnout will be coordinated with Grays Harbor county for completion within 1 year of funding.

- 5) *If known, provide a description of how the project’s success would be measured:*

Reduce risk of truck/train incidents and the risk of incidents on Montesano-Elma Road.

- 6) *Other comments:*

For questions or assistance, please contact Ahmer Nizam at 360-664-1345 (e-mail [anizam@wutc.wa.gov](mailto:anizam@wutc.wa.gov)) or Sally Turnbull at 360-664-1230 (e-mail [Sturnbul@wutc.wa.gov](mailto:Sturnbul@wutc.wa.gov))

## Instructions

After completing the Grade Crossing Protective Fund application, please send the original and two copies to:

**Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission**  
**Attention: Grade Crossing Protective Fund**  
**1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW**  
**Olympia, WA 98504-7250**

Applications are available at [www.wutc.wa.gov/GCPFgrants](http://www.wutc.wa.gov/GCPFgrants), and may be filed electronically at [railinfo@wutc.wa.gov](mailto:railinfo@wutc.wa.gov). When filing electronically, please specify "Grade Crossing Protective Fund" in the subject line.

Please ensure that the names and addresses of representatives from the relevant railroad company and local jurisdiction are correct and listed in the application.

### Funding

RCW 81.53.271 allows the Commission to grant up to twenty thousand dollars for selected projects without requiring a monetary match. The Commission, however, may limit the amount of funding per project to a lesser amount so that an optimal number of projects may be funded with regard to relative safety benefits and project costs. The Commission may also consider funding for larger safety projects for which the GCPF grant would constitute some portion of the total cost.

### Selection of Projects

The Commission will initiate a "call for projects," soliciting applications within a specific timeframe. After the specified submittal deadline, all applications will be reviewed simultaneously. Further information about the Grade Crossing Protective Fund may be obtained on the Commission's website at [www.wutc.wa.gov/GCPFgrants](http://www.wutc.wa.gov/GCPFgrants), or by contacting Ahmer Nizam at (360) 664-1345 or Sally Turnbull at (360) 664-1230.

The Commission will review and select projects for funding based on the relative severity of the hazard being addressed, the safety benefits resulting from a project, the costs of implementing a project, and geographic diversity. For projects that require physical installations and are selected after an initial prioritization of applications,\* Commission Staff will organize an on-site meeting with representatives of the railroad, local agency, the applicant (if different from the railroad or local agency), and other entities if appropriate. The purpose of the meeting is to verify information included in the application, gain first-hand knowledge of the hazard and proposal, and give all relevant parties an opportunity to recommend alternatives or additional safety needs. The Commission will approve at an open meeting all projects that receive GCPF funds, as well as the amount of any GCPF funding, if any, to be awarded to each project. Final award of GCPF grants will be contingent upon the recipient signing an agreement specifying the terms of the grant.

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\* Since funding is limited, an initial prioritization will reduce the number of eligible applicants to a number consistent with the amount of funding available.



Department of Public Services  
Public Works Division  
100 West Broadway, Ste 31  
Montesano, WA 98563  
(360)249-4222  
fax (360)249-2153

**FAX MEMO**

1 page

To: Bob Leslie, signal maintainer  
Phone: 482-4994  
Fax: 482-3966

From: Ron Merila

Re: Driveways, Monte Elma Road,

Date: Dec 9, 2003

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Yesterday, Tom Conrad, 369 Monte Elma Road, was in our office and expressed concerns with the large amount of truck traffic turning into the private driveways at Vaughan Pumps and S&S Roofing immediately to the west of VP. He states that the roofing company has installed rr sidings in their yard and truck traffic in and out of their facility has increased dramatically.

Mr. Conrad lives across the highway from these two businesses, and his concern is that with the longer trains going through the area, those vehicles stopped on the county road pose a problem, and he suggests we implement a No Passing Zone in this area, along with advance Truck Crossing signs.

My question to you - what is your perception of the crossing problem here as compared to any other private crossings you have along your routes?

Tks

R.H. Merila, P.E.  
Dep. Dir. of Traffic & Planning

MONTE SADD/ELMA  
ROAD

PSAP RR

TRUCKS STOPPING  
FOR RAIL ARE  
STILL IN ROAD  
WHEN STOPPED

TRUCKS STOPPING  
FOR ROAD ARE STILL  
IN ROAD WHEN STOPPED

Proposed turnouts  
TO ACCOMMODATE  
TRUCKS, KEEPING  
THEM OUT OF ROAD AND  
RAIL

