

WASHINGTON RECORDS MANAGEMENT



UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
Post Office Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
360-664-1232 or 360-664-1222
Fax 360-586-1150
TTY 360-586-8203 or 1-877-210-5963
Web: www.wutc.wa.gov
E-Mail: records@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 to reduce accident 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.** Grants for improvements to warning devices at public grade crossings must be requested through the commission's petition process pursuant to RCW 81.53.261. Contact Kathy Hunter at (360) 664-1257 for more information.
- **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 or 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 or off-hours locked gates, and improvements to 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.

Please complete and submit the following information as part of the application process.

Applicant Name: Chief of Police Robert V. Perales

Organization: City of Mabton

Address: 307 Main Street / P.O. Box 67
Mabton, WA 98935

Office Phone: 509-894-4096

E-mail: robert.perales@co.yakima.wa.us

Cell Phone: 509-830-8634

Fax Number: 509-854-2306

Type of Application: Pedestrian / Handicapped Railroad Crossing Improvements

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.

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: **Current railroad crossing on Main Street near State Route #22 requires much needed crossing improvements for pedestrians and handicapped persons who utilize wheelchairs and / or motorized scooters for handicapped persons. Pedestrians and***

handicapped persons use busy roadway where railroad tracks are imbedded into roadway creating less of an obstacle when crossing the railroad tracks.

- 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):*

Sidewalks would be installed on both side of Main Street leading up to the railroad crossing. Crossing bars would be placed between the railroad tracks allowing pedestrians, wheelchair and motorized scooter handicapped persons safe and unobstructed crossing of the tracks.

- 3) *Provide cost estimates, including those related to long-term maintenance:*
The initial costs and continued long term maintenance is estimated to be \$19,000.00

- 4) *Estimated timeline of project, if approved:*
Once funds are approved, we would begin the project with an estimated completion date of no later than May 30th, 2007

- 5) *If known, provide a description of how the project's success would be measured:*
City personnel would monitor pedestrian traffic at the railroad crossing and conduct a survey of pedestrians and handicapped persons inquiring about the success of the project.

- 6) *Other comments: Improving pedestrian safety has become a priority to our City, but with limited financial resources we are struggling in initiating such projects such as this. We hope that our project is one that will be taken into consideration. Thank-You.*

For questions or assistance, please contact Mark Halliday at 360-664-1232 (e-mail mhallida@wutc.wa.gov) or Kathy Hunter at 360-664-11257 (e-mail khunter@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. A signed application may be filed electronically at records@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, or by contacting Mark Halliday at (360) 664-1232 or Kathy Hunter at (360) 664-1257.

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. Final award of GCPF grants will be contingent upon the recipient signing an agreement specifying the terms of the grant.