

TR-071983

WASHINGTON



UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

RECEIVED

OCT 03 2007

WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
(360)664-1257 or (360)664-1100
Fax: (360)586-1150
Web: www.wutc.wa.gov
E-mail: records@utc.wa.gov

**GRADE CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND
APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission), through its Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF), funds projects that eliminate or mitigate public safety hazards at railroad crossings and along railroad rights-of-way in Washington State. Any public, private, or non-profit entity may submit an application to the commission for GCPF monies.

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

Applicant Information

Applicant Name:	Aaron Schwarz
Organization:	Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum
Address:	1945 South Market Blvd.
Phone:	206-724-1918
E-mail:	aaron.schwarz@gmail.com
Fax:	

Please list all other companies, organizations or state or local agencies that may be involved in implementing this proposal and the contact name, address and phone number for each.

Project Information

1. *Provide a detailed summary of the hazard being addressed. Include:*
 - *Any information about accidents or incidents at the site.*
 - *Photographs, drawings or other materials that supports the application.*

2. *Provide a detailed description of the proposed project and explain how it will eliminate or mitigate the hazard. Include any drawings or construction plans for the proposed project.*

Grade Crossing Protective Fund Application Form

Agencies involved in this project:

Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum
1945 South Market Blvd.
Chehalis, WA 98532
Attn: Aaron Schwarz (206) 724-1918

Port of Chehalis
321 Maurin Road
Chehalis, WA 98532
Attn: Rick Rouse (360) 748-9365

Project Information

2. The hazard being addressed in this application is the deficient signing of four private railroad crossings (see attachment 1 for US DOT numbers). The railroad line has many private crossings, but the four crossings listed below were identified as being the most unsafe, mainly because of their orientation with major roads, frequency of traffic, and previous signage. The photos below show the deteriorated cross bucks and the lack of cross bucks at two of the four private crossings.



US DOT No. 848707A (private crossing off of Spooner Rd)

Grade Crossing Protective Fund Application Form



US DOT 848563X (private crossing to residence off SR-6 near Curtis, WA)

3. The Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum respectfully requests funding from WUTC to complete the signing of crossings on the line that are the most dangerous in terms of frequency of traffic and public access off major roads. The CCR&M was previously awarded WUTC funds to upgrade private and public crossings, and the addition of new signage has increased awareness of train activity on the line. Moreover, by completing the signing of private crossings, CCR&M will have addressed all of the crossings deemed as unsafe on the railroad line.

4. **Cross buck Installation**

8 4x6 posts	\$200.00
8 signs	\$600.00
8 'private' signs	\$75.00
16 reflective strips	<u>\$300.00</u>

Total **\$1175.00**

5. The Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum is responsible for long term maintenance on the railroad line. The line itself is owned by the Port of Chehalis.

Grade Crossing Protective Fund Application Form

6. **Timeline of Project** (if approved):

October 17	Give specifications to contractors', order signs and posts.
November 1	Begin work.
November 16	Complete project.
November 19	Submit required documents to WUTC for reimbursement

7. The project's success will be measured by increased awareness of traffic of trains passing through private crossings. Three of the four crossings have poor signage, thus success will be observed by train crews ability to operate through the crossings safely.
8. Over the last year, the Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum has worked to ensure the US DOT crossing data information is up to date and accurate. Previous railroad operators, including Weyerhaeuser Company (WTCX), and Curtis, Milburn & Eastern (CMER) were still listed in the US DOT database, and thus hindered previous efforts to sign private crossings on the railroad line west of Chehalis.
9. Indemnification: The Port, its employees and agents, shall not be liable for any injury, including death and any occupational injury, to any person, or for damage to any property, regardless of how such injury or damage be caused, sustained or alleged to have been sustained by the CCR&M, CCR&M's employees, agents, assigns, invitees, licensees, independent contractors or by any others as the result of any condition, or defect in the Premises, fixtures, or occurrence whatsoever related in any way to the leased Premises and the areas adjacent thereto, fixtures or related in any way to the CCR&M's use or occupancy of said Premises and of the areas adjacent thereto, the fixtures and equipment. The CCR&M shall hold and save the Port harmless from all liability and/or expense, including expense of litigation, in connection with any such items of actual or alleged injury or damage. Nothing in the above shall be construed as indemnifying the Port should liability result from the sole negligence of the Port, its employees or agents.
10. See attached Railroad Commitment Form.

Railroad Commitment

The undersigned represents the Railroad Company in the GCPF application described as (enter a brief description):

The undersigned is Executive Director for the Port of Chehalis. The Port of Chehalis is owner of the Curtis, Milburn & Eastern railroad extending from Chehalis, WA to Curtis, WA. With Port Commission approval, the undersigned is authorized to sign on behalf of the Port for all business related to the Curtis, Milburn & Eastern railroad line.

We have reviewed the application and are satisfied the conditions are the same as described by the applicant in this matter. We agree to allow construction, modification or demolition on a railroad right-of-way as described in the application.

Jim Rothlin

Printed name of Railroad Representative



Signature of Railroad Representative

Executive Director, Port of Chehalis

Title

360-748-9365

Phone

jrothlin@portofchehalis.com

E-mail

Date: _____

Grade Crossing Protective Fund Application Form

Attachment 1, Listing of Private Crossings for GCPF Application

US DOT No.	Railroad Milepost	Nearest Public Road	Previously had signs?	Sign condition
848691F	3.57	Twin Oaks Road	Yes	Wood, poor
848702R	5.52	SR-6	Yes	Missing
848707A	6.44	Clinton Road	Yes	Wood, poor
848863X	8.08	SR-6	Yes	1 metal, poor