



WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Port of Ridgefield  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner,  
  
vs.  
BNSF Railway Company  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent

DOCKET NO. TR-  
  
PETITION TO CONSTRUCT OR  
RECONSTRUCT A RAILROAD-  
HIGHWAY GRADE SEPARATION  
(OVERTCROSSING OR  
UNDERCROSSING)

USDOT CROSSING NO.: 974393A

State Of WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

03/24/2020 13:26

Received  
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The Petitioner asks the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) to approve

Construction                       Reconstruction

of a railroad-highway grade separation (overcrossing or undercrossing<sup>1</sup>) as described in this petition. *RCW 81.53.060*.

***Section 1 – Petitioner’s Information***

Port of Ridgefield _____ Petitioner
_____ Signature
111 W. Division St. _____ Street Address
Ridgefield, WA 98642 _____ City, State and Zip Code
PO Box 55, Ridgefield, WA 98642 _____ Mailing Address, if different than the street address
Laurie Olin _____ Contact Person Name (360) 887-3873 lolin@portridgefield.org _____ Contact Phone Number and Email Address

<sup>1</sup> An overcrossing means any point or place where a highway crosses a railroad by passing above the same, or any point or place where one railroad crosses another railroad not at grade. An undercrossing means any point or place where a highway crosses a railroad by passing under the same, or any point or place where one railroad crosses another not at grade. *RCW 81.53.010*

**Section 2 – Respondent’s Information**

BNSF Railway Company
Respondent
2454 Occidental Ave S, Suite 1A
Street Address
Seattle, WA 98134
City, State and Zip Code
Mailing Address, if different than the street address
Stephen Semenick, Manager Public Projects
Contact Person Name
206-625-6152; stephen.semenick@bnsf.com
Contact Phone Number and Email Address

**Section 3 – Proposed Crossing Location**

1. Name of highway/roadway	Pioneer Street Overpass		
2. USDOT number	974393A		
3. GPS location	45° 48’ 55.35” N & 122° 44’ 51.98” W		
4. Railroad mile post (nearest tenth)	123.63		
5. City	Ridgefield	County	Clark

**Section 4 – Current Highway Traffic Information**

1. Name of highway Pioneer St.

2. Road authority City of Ridgefield

3. Average annual daily traffic (AADT) 350

4. Number of lanes 2

5. Roadway speed 25 mph

6. Is the crossing part of an established truck route?      Yes  No

7. If so, trucks are what percent of total daily traffic? 3 to 5%

8. Is the crossing part of an established school bus route?      Yes  No

9. If so, how many school buses travel over the crossing each day? N/A

**Section 5 – Proposed Crossing Traffic Information**

1. Name of railroad(s) operating at crossing: BNSF Railway Company

2. Type of railroad at crossing     Common Carrier       Logging       Industrial  
 Passenger       Excursion

5. Type of tracks at crossing     Main Line       Siding or Spur

6. Number of tracks at crossing 2

7. Average daily train traffic, freight 51

    Authorized freight train speed 50 mph      Operated freight train speed 50 mph

8. Average daily train traffic, passenger 10

    Authorized passenger train speed 65 mph      Operated passenger train speed 65 mph

*Section 6 – Description of Crossing Construction/Reconstruction*

1. Describe in detail the reasons for constructing or reconstructing a grade separation at this location (attach additional information sheets to petition as needed):

Please refer to pages 8-11 of the attached Railroad Safety Grant Application. Pages 8-11 include sections regarding: Project Benefits, At-grade Crossing Safety, Emergency Access and Egress and Transportation Challenges

2. How far is the nearest alternate access across the tracks from the crossing?  
1.4 miles

3. Describe the alternate access route, including distance and driving time:  
East on Pioneer Street to Hillhurst Road for a total of .4 miles.

South on Hillhurst Road to Refuge Road for a total of .6 miles

West on Refuge Road for a total of .4 miles

Grand total of 1.4 miles with a driving time of 8 minutes

4. If new construction, will the proposed crossing eliminate the need for one or more existing crossings?

Yes  No  N/A

5. If so, identify the crossing(s) by USDOT number and state the distance and direction from the proposed crossing.

Mill St. Crossing – US DOT No. 092426X

Division St. Crossing – US DOT No. 09248L

6. If the grade separation is replacing an existing at-grade crossing, describe what will happen with the existing crossing during construction of the grade separation, as well as what will happen with the crossing surface, signage, and signal equipment once the grade separation is complete.

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The Division St. crossing will remain open until the scheduled demolition timeframe of 8/18/21 to 8/23/21. The Mill St. crossing will remain open until the scheduled demolition timeframe of 8/24/21 to 8/26/21. Upon completion of crossing demolition BNSF will remove railroad infrastructure (track panels, signal system)

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6. Who is responsible for long-term maintenance of the grade separation?

City of Ridgefield

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### *Section 7 – Illustration of Crossing*

Attach a diagram, map, or other illustration showing the location of the railroad and the proposed/existing location of the crossing. If this is a reconstruction, include design-level drawings of the proposed changes to the grade separation.

If this is a new grade separation, include the parcels of private property located on both sides of the proposed crossing for a distance of 500' from the crossing and the name and mailing address of each property owner.

*Section 8 – Waiver of Hearing by Respondent*

**Waiver of Hearing**

The undersigned represents the Respondent in this petition to construct a highway-rail grade separation.

We have investigated the conditions at the crossing. We are satisfied the conditions are the same as described by the Petitioner in this docket. We do not oppose the proposed grade-separated crossing and consent to a decision by the commission without a hearing.

Dated at Seattle, Washington, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of  
March, 2020.

Stephen Semerick  
Printed name of Respondent

  
Signature of Respondent's Representative

Manager Public Projects  
Title

206-625-6152 ; stephen.semerrick@BNSF.com  
Phone number and email address

26154 Occidental Ave S, Suite 1A, Seattle, WA 98134  
Mailing address

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Dated at   Ridgefield  , Washington, on the   23rd   day of  
  March  , 20   20  .

Steve Stuart  
Printed name of Respondent

  
Signature of Respondent's Representative

City Manager  
Title

(360)887-3557, Steve.Stuart@Ci.Ridgefield.Wa.Us  
Phone number and email address

230 Pioneer Street

Ridgefield, WA 98642  
Mailing address