



WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

City of Sunnyside

Petitioner,

vs.

Central Washington Railroad/BNSF Railway

Respondent 1

Respondent 2

DOCKET NO. TR-

PETITION TO MODIFY WARNING DEVICES AT A HIGHWAY-RAILROAD GRADE CROSSING

USDOT: 098585A

Received
Records Management
Jul 31, 2023

By filing this petition with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), the Petitioner alleges that public safety requires the modification of a highway-rail grade crossing under RCW 81.53.261.

Section 1 – Petitioner’s Information

City of Sunnyside

Petitioner

Shane Fisher Digitally signed by Shane Fisher
Date: 2023.07.25 18:48:51 -07'00'

Signature

818 E Edison Avenue

Street Address

Sunnyside, WA 98944

City, State and Zip Code

Mailing Address, if different than the street address

Shane Fisher

Contact Person Name & Signature

509-837-5399, sfisher@sunnyside-wa.gov

Contact Phone Number and Email

Section 2 – Respondent’s Information

Central Washington Railroad
Respondent 1
111 University Parkway, Suite 200
Street Address
Yakima, WA 98901
City, State and Zip Code
Mailing Address, if different than the street address
Tim Marshall
Contact Person Name
509-453-9166 tmarshall@cbr.com
Contact Phone Number and Email

BNSF Railway
Respondent 2
605 Puyallup Ave
Street Address
Tacoma, WA 98421
City, State and Zip Code
Mailing Address, if different than the street address
Alex Funderburg
Contact Person Name
206-625-6152 / alex.funderbergjr@bnsf.com
Contact Phone Number and Email

Section 3 – Crossing Location

1. Existing highway/roadway: 6th Street

2. Existing railroad: Central Washington Railroad

3. USDOT Crossing No.: 098585A

4. GPS location: 46.327675, -120.012933

5. Railroad mile post (nearest tenth): 54.2

6. City: Sunnyside County: Yakima

Section 4 – Highway Information

1. Name of highway: 6th Street

2. Road authority: City of Sunnyside

3. Average annual daily traffic (AADT): 9,000

4. Number of lanes: 2

5. Roadway speed: 30

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

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

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?

10. Describe any changes to the information in 1 through 7, above, expected within ten years:

No change expected.

11. What is the available sight distance from the stop bar (or 25 feet from the tracks if no stop bar) on both approaches to the crossing?

500+ feet

12. If the sight distance is less than 400 feet, describe the structures, roadway or track curvature, visual obstacles or other characteristics that limit sight distance:

Section 5 – Railroad Information

1. Railroad company:

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

3. Type of tracks at crossing: Main Line Siding or Spur

4. Number of tracks at crossing:

5. Average daily train traffic, freight:

Authorized freight train speed: Operated freight train speed:

6. Average daily train traffic, passenger:

Authorized passenger train speed: Operated passenger train speed:

7. Describe any changes to the information in 1 through 4, above, expected within ten years:

Section 6 – Current Warning Devices

Provide a complete description of the warning devices currently located at the crossing (vehicle and pedestrian), including signs, gates, lights, train detection circuitry, and any other warning devices.

Advanced warning signs, pavement markings, reflectorized crossbucks, Emergency Notification System signs, bells, gates, and mast and cantilevered-mounted flashing warning lights.

Section 7 – Description of Proposed Changes

Describe in detail the number and type of proposed automatic signals (vehicle and pedestrian), gates, other warning devices, and/or changes to train detection circuitry. (RCW 81.53.271) Please describe any other proposed changes at the crossing, including changes to the crossing surface, signage, pavement markings, etc. If sidewalks are being installed, please provide information on who will maintain them. Attach additional information sheets, if needed.

The centerline pavement markings will be moved approximately 4.5' to the west to accommodate additional parking outside of the railroad right of way, and to allow for new pedestrian islands (bulb-outs) to shorten crosswalk distances.

All existing warning devices will remain with the following proposed modifications: each of two cantilever mast arms will be extended to accommodate one additional LED light on each arm, add one gate conversion bracket to extend the east gate, shorten the adjustable west gate to match to new roadway centerline, and move each of two crossbuck signs to mast arms.

Section 8 – Illustration of Crossing

Attach a detailed diagram, design drawing, map, or other illustration showing the current and proposed layout of the road, crossing surface, and railway in the vicinity of the crossing, including shoulders, sidewalks, lanes of travel, bike lanes, warning devices, pavement markings and any other applicable crossing conditions.

Section 9 – Description of Public Safety Need

Describe and support the public safety need for the proposed changes. (RCW 81.53.261)

The proposed modifications at the 6th Street crossing are part of a larger roadway and sidewalk project which will improve safety for drivers and pedestrians. Two major project safety improvements include shortening of crosswalks at intersections, and upgrading all curb ramps to be ADA compliant.

Section 10 – Approximate Cost of Installation and Related Work

Provide the approximate cost of installation and related work for the proposed changes to signals and/or warning devices. (RCW 81.53.271)

\$5,500.00

Section 11 – Approximate Cost of Annual Maintenance

Provide the approximate cost of annual maintenance for the signals and/or warning devices. (RCW 81.53.271)

\$2,500.00

Section 12 – Cost Apportionment

If the commission directs the installation of or changes to the warning devices requested in this petition, it will apportion installation and maintenance costs in accordance with the applicable statutes. (RCW 81.53.261-295)

Interested parties may instead enter into an agreement providing for the installation of signals or other warning devices or for the apportionment of the cost of installation and maintenance. (RCW 81.53.261) **If the parties to this petition have reached an agreement related to apportionment of costs, please sign here to confirm:**

Petitioner's Signature: Shane Fisher Digitally signed by Shane Fisher
Date: 2023.07.26 18:49:25 -0700


Respondent 1 Signature: 

Respondent 2 Signature: _____

Section 12 – Cost Apportionment

If the commission directs the installation of or changes to the warning devices requested in this petition, it will apportion installation and maintenance costs in accordance with the applicable statutes. (RCW 81.53.261-295)

Interested parties may instead enter into an agreement providing for the installation of signals or other warning devices or for the apportionment of the cost of installation and maintenance. (RCW 81.53.261) **If the parties to this petition have reached an agreement related to apportionment of costs, please sign here to confirm:**

Petitioner's Signature:  Shane Fisher

Respondent 1 Signature: 

Respondent 2 Signature:  Alex Funderburg

Section 13 -- Waiver of Hearing by Respondent

Waiver of Hearing

The undersigned represents the Respondent in the petition to modify highway-rail grade crossing warning devices at the following crossing.

USDOT Crossing No.

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 agree the warning devices should be modified and consent to a decision by the commission without a hearing.

Dated at , Washington, on the day of .

Printed name of Respondent 1

Signature of Respondent's Representative

Title

Phone Number

Email Address

Mailing address

BNSF Railway	
Printed Name of Respondent 2	
Alex Funderburg	Digitally signed by Alex Funderburg Date: 2023.07.31 14:47:05 -07'00'
Signature of Respondent's Representative	
Manager Public Projects	
Title	
206-625-6152	
Phone Number	
alex.funderburgjr@bnsf.com	
Email Address	
605 Puyallup Ave Tacoma, WA 98421	
Mailing Address	

Checklist Prior to submitting petition:

- ✓ Ensure all petition fields are completed.
- ✓ Ensure parties sign Section 12 regarding any Cost Apportionment agreement, if applicable.
- ✓ Obtain signature on Waiver of Hearing (Section 13). *If respondent fails to sign Waiver, advise UTC staff upon submission.*
- ✓ Attach copies of:
 - Illustration of crossing (described in Section 8).
 - Any other relevant documents to support the petition, including but not limited to support of public need, project information, etc.

Submitting the petition: To officially file the petition, send the petition form and supporting documents via E filing.

Questions: For questions, please contact:

<p>Mike Turcott Transportation Planning Specialist mike.turcott@utc.wa.gov (360) 764-0572</p>	<p>Tyler Whitcomb Transportation Planning Specialist tyler.whitcomb@utc.wa.gov (564) 669-0943</p>
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