

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

CITY OF LONGVIEW)	
)	DOCKET NO. TR-010608
)	
Petitioner,)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION
)	TO MODIFY A HIGHWAY-RAIL
v.)	GRADE CROSSING AT SEVENTH
)	AVENUE
BURLINGTON NORTHERN)	
SANTA FE RAILWAY COMPANY)	D.O.T. 101828G
)	
Respondent)	W.U.T.C. 18ASC 1.5
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On April 26, 2001, the City of Longview filed a petition with the Commission, seeking authority to modify a highway-rail grade-crossing surface. The crossing is located at the intersection of Seventh Avenue and the tracks of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) in Longview, Washington.

- 2 Respondent has consented to an entry of an order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.

DISCUSSION

- 3 In the vicinity of the grade crossing, Seventh Avenue is classified as an urban local road, with one lane for each direction of traffic and a vehicle speed limit of 25 mph. Average daily traffic through the crossing is estimated at 100 vehicles, although this number is expected to increase relative to commercial development in the area.

- 4 BNSF maintains a single spur track across Seventh Avenue. Daily train traffic through the crossing averages 2 trains per day, traveling at a maximum speed of 10 mph.

- 5 The SEVENTH Avenue crossing consists of a rubberized crossing surface that extends approximately 30 feet across the full width of the traveled roadway. As part of a roadway improvement project, the City of Longview proposes widening the roadway to a width of 38 feet, as well as constructing sidewalks on each side of the roadway. The petition proposes replacing the existing crossing with a concrete crossing surface that will extend 42 feet across Seventh Avenue, and using portions of the existing rubberized crossing surface for the adjacent sidewalk sections. Warning devices at the crossing include crossbuck signs. The surface modifications will not affect warning devices at the crossing.

6 Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted,
subject to specified conditions.

7 The Commissioners have reviewed the petition and have been fully advised in the
matter. They believe that granting the petition, subject to the conditions set forth
below, is in the public interest, and direct the Secretary to enter this Order.

ORDER

8 THE COMMISSION GRANTS the petition of the City of Longview to modify a
highway-rail grade-crossing surface at the intersection of Seventh Avenue and the
Respondent's tracks in Longview, Washington, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The modifications must conform to the plans filed in this proceeding.
- (2) The crossing surface must extend the full width of the traveled roadway, including the sidewalks.
- (3) Traffic control devices, advance warning signs, and pavement markings must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
- (4) Upon completion of the modifications authorized herein, petitioner must notify the Commission. Acceptance of the changes is subject to an inspection, verifying that the crossing is in full compliance with law and regulation and the conditions specified herein.

DATED at Olympia, Washington and effective this 22nd day of August, 2001.

THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary