

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

Applicant Name: **Richard R. Anderson**

Organization: **The Northwest Railway Museum**

Address: **PO Box 459, 38625 SE King Street, Snoqualmie, WA 98065-0459**

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Type of Application:

Private crossing safety improvement

XX 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:*

The Northwest Railway Museum operates an excursion railroad in a formerly rural area that has become heavily urbanized over the past eight years. The railroad is experiencing a major increase in simple trespass, but also in trespass related crime. Unfortunately, this has also included switch lock tampering. In the past 18 months, the Museum has experienced two incidents in which a switch lock was smashed and removed. In one of the incidents, the switch stand was moved to the half way point which, had it not been discovered, would have almost certainly resulted in a derailment for a facing point movement. The railroad carried 43,000 passengers in 2005.

There are two images included at the end of this application illustrating middle school children using the railway as a trail on their way home from school. Also included in a letter from Snoqualmie Police Chief Jim Schaffer endorsing the proposal to add "no trespass" signs.

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):*

The Museum plans two actions:

- 1) **Purchase and replace all switch locks with a high security lock similar to those used on local class one railroads. This lock type is made from hardened steel and is corrosion resistant. These locks are very difficult to break all but eliminating the possibility of incidental trespass-related vandalism. In addition, the key cannot be removed from the lock until it is closed providing additional security by reducing the opportunity for a switch lock to be unintentionally left open. Keys for this type of lock must be purchased from the manufacturer greatly reducing the likelihood of unauthorized key duplication.**
- 2) **Purchase and install no trespassing signs for high traffic areas such as near the Snoqualmie Middle School, approaching bridges, and at primary road crossings. The signage will educate the public that walking on the tracks and bridges is trespassing and provide additional support for the local police department to stop and educate people they see on the tracks and bridges. Major crossings would receive at least two 12 x 18 inch signs and the areas of high trespass such as at the Middle School would receive at least one 18 x 24 sign.**

3) *Provide cost estimates, including those related to long-term maintenance:*

Switch locks with chains and copy-resistant keys \$1,200.

Signs \$1,100

Posts for signs \$950

Total \$3,250

No significant long-term maintenance is anticipated.

4) *Estimated timeline of project, if approved:*

45 days following notice to proceed.

5) *If known, provide a description of how the project's success would be measured:*

By elimination of switch lock tampering incidents and by a marked reduction in trespass.

6) *Other comments:*

This proposal is submitted as a result of an informal risk assessment performed by Museum staff that identified trespass and switch lock tampering as two of the greatest routine potential threats. (Other identified issues that are beyond the scope of GCPC funding include improved building security.) For a modest investment, the Museum staff believes the WUTC GCPC funding can help reduce two of the greatest potential safety threats facing the railroad.



--Beta Street (above) and Meadowbrook Ave (below)--

