

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION,

Petitioner,

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY,

Respondent.

DOCKET TR-180439

ORDER 01

ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO
MODIFY HIGHWAY-RAIL GRADE
CROSSING ACTIVE WARNING
DEVICES AT STATE ROUTE
104/MAIN STREET IN EDMONDS

USDOT: 085445K

BACKGROUND

- 1 On May 17, 2018, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT or Petitioner) filed a petition with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) seeking approval to modify highway-rail grade crossing active warning devices at the State Route 104 (SR-104)/Main Street crossing in Edmonds, identified as USDOT 085445K.
- 2 Respondent BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) consented to entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.
- 3 SR-104/Main Street is a five-lane road with a posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour. Average annual daily traffic through the crossing is estimated at 5,500 vehicles. SR-104/Main Street is part of an established truck route with approximately two percent commercial motor vehicle traffic. The crossing is not part of an established school bus route.
- 4 Railroad warning devices at the SR-104/Main Street crossing consist of cantilever-mounted LED flashing lights, gates, crossbucks, and advance warning signs. Approximately 40 freight trains travel over the crossing daily at 35 miles per hour. In addition, 10 passenger trains travel over the crossing each day at 35 miles per hour.
- 5 WSDOT proposes to replace the obsolete signal equipment, upgrade all flashing lights to LEDs, move the bungalow from a temporary to a permanent foundation, replace signs, and refresh the roadway pavement markings. These improvements are funded by the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Railroad Highways Crossings Section 130 program.

6 The proposed upgrades are in the interest of improving the overall safety for roadway and pedestrian users.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

7 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the state of Washington having jurisdiction over public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington. *Chapter 81.53 RCW.*

8 (2) The proposed modification involves a public railroad-highway grade crossing, as defined in RCW 81.53.010.

9 (3) RCW 81.53.261 and WAC 480-62-150 require that the Commission grant approval prior to modifying a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.

10 (4) Commission staff investigated the petition and recommends that it be granted. All traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.*

11 (5) After examination of the petition filed by WSDOT on May 17, 2018, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

12 The petition of WSDOT to modify railroad-highway grade crossing warning devices at SR-104/Main Street in Edmonds is granted, as follows:

- (1) The modifications must conform to those described in the petition.
- (2) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation *2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.*
- (3) Petitioner must notify Commission Staff within 30 days upon completion of this project.

The Secretary of the Commission has delegated authority over this matter pursuant to Order 01 in Docket A-151775. The Secretary finds this Order to be consistent with the public interest.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective May 22, 2018.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



MARK L. JOHNSON, Executive Director and Secretary

NOTICE: This is an order delegated to the Secretary for decision. In addition to serving you a copy of the decision, the Commission will post on its Internet Web site for at least fourteen (14) days a listing of all matters delegated to the Secretary for decision. You may seek Commission review of this decision. You must file a request for Commission review of this order no later than fourteen (14) days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission's Web site. The Commission will schedule your request for review for consideration at a regularly scheduled open meeting. The Commission will notify you of the time and place of the open meeting at which the Commission will review the order.

The Commission will grant a late-filed request for review only on a showing of good cause, including a satisfactory explanation of why the person did not timely file the request. A form for late-filed requests is available on the Commission's Web site.

This notice and review process is pursuant to the provisions of RCW 80.01.030 and WAC 480-07-904(2) and (3).