

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

)	DOCKET TR-070114
)	
CITY OF LAKEWOOD,)	ORDER 01
)	
Petitioner,)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR
)	PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS AT
v.)	BRIDGEPORT WAY CROSSING
)	
CENTRAL PUGET SOUND)	USDOT: 085821P
REGIONAL TRANSIT)	UTC: 43B.60
AUTHORITY,)	
)	
Respondent)	
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On January 12, 2007, the city of Lakewood (city) filed a petition with the Commission, seeking approval to install sidewalks at a railroad-highway grade crossing. The crossing is identified as USDOT 085821P and located at the intersection of Bridgeport Way and the respondent's tracks in Lakewood, Washington.

- 2 The respondent consented to entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.

- 3 Railroad warning devices at the Bridgeport Way grade crossing consist of 12" cantilever mounted flashing lights with gates. The petition proposes to install pedestrian sidewalks at the crossing, which will eliminate the existing gaps between the sidewalk systems. The installation of sidewalks will replace dirt and gravel walkways and provide pedestrians a smooth walking surface to cross the tracks. The city proposes to install traffic barriers around the cantilever masts to protect both the posts and the pedestrians using the sidewalks.

- 4 The proposed sidewalks are in the interest of improving safety for pedestrian users. The sidewalks will ensure that pedestrians have a path to safely cross the railroad-highway grade crossing.

5 The Bridgeport Way crossing is part of the Washington State Department of
Transportation's (WSDOT) Rail Point Defiance Bypass Project, which will bring
passenger rail service through Lakewood. This future project will provide for track
realignment, the addition of a second track, new lights and gates, and potentially
installation of roadway medians and wayside horns at this crossing. Once all project
improvements are complete at this crossing and passenger service is implemented,
passenger trains will travel through the Bridgeport Way crossing at speeds up to 79 mph.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (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.*
- 7 (2) The Bridgeport Way grade crossing, identified as USDOT 085821P is a public
railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 8 (3) WAC 480-62-150(1)(g) requires that the Commission grant approval prior to any
changes to crossing surfaces at public railroad-highway grade crossings within the
state of Washington.
- 9 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted.
- 10 (5) After examination of the petition filed by the city of Lakewood on January 12,
2007, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown,
the Commission grants the petition.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

11 The petition of the city of Lakewood to install sidewalks at a railroad-highway grade
crossing, located at the intersection of Bridgeport Way and the Central Puget Sound
Regional Transit Authority's tracks in Lakewood, Washington, is granted. Approval of
the petition is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The modifications must conform to those described in the petition.
- (2) Upon completion of the sidewalks authorized herein, petitioner must notify the Commission. Acceptance of the changes is subject to inspection by Commission Staff, verifying that the crossing is in full compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and the conditions specified herein.

The Commissioners, having determined that this filing complies with the requirements of WAC 480-62-150(1) (g) and RCW 81.53.030, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective February 13, 2007.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary