

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

In the Matter of the Application of)	DOCKET TR-061594
)	
CITY OF WASHOUGAL)	ORDER 01
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR
Requesting Disbursement from the)	DISBURSEMENT FROM THE GRADE
Grade Crossing Protective Fund)	CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On September 1, 2006, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) sent a “Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Grant Monies from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund” in Docket TR-051633 to various interested parties eligible to apply for Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF) grants.
- 2 On October 16, 2006, the city of Washougal filed an application with the Commission, requesting a disbursement of \$20,000 from the GCPF to pay for a project related to crossing safety. The city seeks to install median barriers at the 32nd Street railroad crossing in Washougal, Washington.
- 3 The population of Washougal has increased over thirty percent since 2000. Likewise, the commercial district has grown. The city’s largest retail merchants are located on both sides of the tracks near this crossing. Over 11,000 vehicles cross the tracks at 32nd Street each day. Since 2004, three accidents occurred at this crossing, although none were fatal.
- 4 The crossing is equipped with gates, lights, and bells. The median barriers would prevent vehicles from going around the gates and over the crossing when the gates are activated.
- 5 The city of Washougal seeks \$20,000 to pay for the cost of the barriers. There are currently funds available to pay for the project.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington having authority to approve and administer disbursements from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund. *Chapter 81.53.271 RCW and 81.53.281 RCW.*
- 7 (2) The project for which disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund is sought is eligible for funding consideration under Commission rules and complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.271 and RCW 81.53.281.
- 8 (3) Commission staff investigated the request based on the review criteria specified in the rules and recommended that it be granted.
- 9 (4) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 13, 2006.
- 10 (5) After examination of the application filed by the city of Washougal on October 16, 2006, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the request for disbursement of funds.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 The request of the city of Washougal, proposing to install median barriers at the 32nd Street crossing in Washougal, Washington, is granted, subject to the following conditions:
- (1) Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed \$20,000.
 - (2) The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the application.

- (3) Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement for costs incurred and verification by Commission staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
- (4) The project must be completed no later than June 30, 2007.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective December 13, 2006.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary