

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of

CITY OF RAINIER

Applicant,

Requesting Disbursement from the
Grade Crossing Protective Fund

DOCKET TR-210617

ORDER 01

GRANTING REQUEST FOR
DISBURSEMENT FROM THE GRADE
CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND

BACKGROUND

- 1 On August 2, 2021, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) sent to various interested parties a “Notice of Available Funds for Rail Safety Projects” from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund (GCPF).
- 2 On August 11, 2021, the City of Rainier (City or Applicant) filed with the Commission an application (Application) requesting a disbursement of \$400 from the GCPF to pay for a project to repaint the roadway pavement markings at the Centre Street railroad grade crossing in Rainier, Thurston County (USDOT 396735C).
- 3 The total cost of the materials for the project is \$400. The City will provide the labor required for the project.
- 4 Commission staff (Staff) reviewed the Application and recommends the Commission approve funding in the amount of \$400. Currently there are funds available to pay for this project.
- 5 Staff recommends the Commission approve the request for funds with the following conditions: (1) expenditure from the GCPF must not exceed \$400, (2) the work for which the GCPF disbursement is approved must conform to the project description specified in the Application, (3) the City must sign and return the attached project agreement, (4) payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement and verification by Staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed, and (5) the project must be completed and the associated request for reimbursement from the GCPF must be filed with the Commission no later than September 30, 2022.

DISCUSSION

6 RCW 81.53.281 authorizes the Commission to disburse funds from the GCPF to pay for improvements to rail grade crossings. We find that the proposed modifications will improve the overall safety for roadway users. Accordingly, the Commission grants the Application subject to the conditions that Staff recommends.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington with authority to approve and administer disbursements from the GCPF. RCW 81.53.271; RCW 81.53.281.
- 8 (2) The project for which Applicant seeks disbursement from the GCPF is eligible for funding consideration under Commission rules and complies with the requirements of RCW 81.53.271, RCW 81.53.281, and WAC 480-62.
- 9 (3) Staff investigated the request based on the review criteria specified in the Commission's rules and recommends that it be granted with the conditions set out in paragraph 5, above.
- 10 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 30, 2021.
- 11 (5) After reviewing the City's Application filed on August 11, 2021, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the request for disbursement of funds.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 The City of Rainier's Application for disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund for a project to repaint the roadway pavement markings at the Centre Street railroad grade crossing in Rainier, Thurston County (USDOT 396735C) is granted, subject to the following conditions:
- (1) Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed \$400.

- (2) The work for which the Grade Crossing Protective Fund disbursement was approved must conform to the project description specified in the Application.
- (3) The City of Rainier must sign and return the attached project agreement.
- (4) Payment will be made upon presentation of claim for reimbursement and verification by Staff that the work has been satisfactorily completed.
- (5) The project must be completed and the associated request for reimbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must be filed with the Commission no later than September 30, 2022.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective September 30, 2021.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK L. JOHNSON
Executive Director and Secretary