

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

)	DOCKET TR-070252
)	
CITY OF WALLA WALLA,)	ORDER 01
)	
Petitioner,)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR
)	PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS AT
v.)	THE WEST CHESTNUT STREET
)	CROSSING
PALOUSE RIVER AND COULEE)	
CITY RAILROAD,)	USDOT: 808943V
)	UTC: 36K45.78
Respondent)	
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On February 1, 2007, the city of Walla Walla (city) filed a petition with the Commission, seeking approval to install concrete panels and sidewalks at a railroad-highway grade crossing. The crossing is identified as USDOT 808943V and located at the intersection of West Chestnut Street and the respondent’s tracks in Walla Walla, Washington.
- 2 The respondent consented to entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.
- 3 Railroad warning devices at the West Chestnut Street grade crossing consist of 12” cantilever mounted flashing lights with gates.
- 4 West Chestnut Street is classified as an urban collector roadway, with one lane for each direction of traffic and a vehicle speed of 25 mile per hour. Average daily traffic through the crossing is estimated at 2,500 vehicles, including 250 trucks and 20 school bus trips. Average weekly train traffic includes four trains per week, traveling at 10 miles per hour.
- 5 The petition proposes to install custom concrete panels at the crossing which will connect with new pedestrian sidewalks on both sides of the crossing. The installation of concrete panels and new sidewalks will provide pedestrians with a smooth walking surface up to and across the tracks.

- 6 The proposed installation of concrete panels at the crossing and adjoining sidewalks are in the interest of improving safety for pedestrian users by providing a path to safely cross the railroad-highway grade crossing.

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 West Chestnut Street grade crossing, identified as USDOT 808943V is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 9 (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.
- 10 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted.
- 11 (5) After examination of the petition filed by the city of Walla Walla on February 1, 2007, 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 the city of Walla Walla to install concrete panels at a railroad-highway grade crossing and adjoining sidewalks, located at the intersection of West Chestnut Street and Palouse River and Coulee City's tracks in Walla Walla, 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 20, 2007.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary