

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

)	DOCKET TR-071454
)	
CITY OF MEDICAL LAKE,)	ORDER 01
)	
Petitioner,)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR
)	PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS AT
v.)	STATE ROUTE 902
)	
EASTERN WASHINGTON)	
GATEWAY RAILROAD,)	
)	USDOT: 066331W
Respondent)	UTC: 36C10.70
)	
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On June 22, 2007, the city of Medical Lake (city) filed a petition with the Commission, seeking approval to install sidewalks at a railroad-highway grade crossing. The crossing is identified as USDOT 066331W and located at the intersection of State Route 902 (SR-902) and the respondent’s tracks in Medical Lake, Washington. The railroad crossing is located within the city limits of Medical Lake, so the city is the designated road authority.

- 2 On October 19, 2007, Eastern Washington Gateway Railroad consented to entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.

- 3 SR-902 is classified as a rural minor arterial, comprised of a two-lane road with one lane in each direction. The city estimates average daily traffic over the crossing at 3,700 which includes commercial motor vehicles and school buses. The posted speed limit is 30 mph.

- 4 Railroad warning devices at the SR-902 grade crossing consist of two 12” cantilever mounted flashing lights. Currently, one train per day travels over this crossing at a speed of less than 25 mph.

- 5 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.

6 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.

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 SR-902 grade crossing, identified as USDOT 066331W 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 Medical Lake on June 22,
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 Medical Lake to install sidewalks at a railroad-highway grade
crossing, located at the intersection of SR-902 and the Eastern Washington Gateway
Railroad's tracks in Medical Lake, 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 October 31, 2007.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary