

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of	DOCKET TR-220344
CHEHALIS-CENTRALIA RAILROAD & MUSEUM,	ORDER 01
Applicant,	GRANTING REQUEST FOR DISBURSEMENT FROM THE GRADE CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND
Requesting Disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund	USDOT 980484U

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 May 18, 2022, the Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum (Museum or Applicant) filed with the Commission an application (Application) requesting \$282.60 from the GCPF to install Emergency Notification System (ENS) signs at private pedestrian crossing locations at the Museum’s facility in Chehalis, Lewis County. The two adjacent pedestrian crossings share one USDOT number (980484U) and provide pedestrian access between the parking lot and the depot where passengers board excursion trains.
- 3 According to the Application, the ENS signs, with tax and shipping, will cost \$282.60. The Museum will provide the labor to install the signs and is requesting \$282.60 in GCPF funds.
- 4 Commission staff (Staff) recommends the Commission approve funding in the amount of \$282.60 to assist with the cost of this project.
- 5 Staff recommends the Commission approve the request for funding with the following conditions: (1) expenditure from the GCPF must not exceed \$282.60, (2) the work for which the GCPF disbursement is approved must conform to the project description specified in the Application, (3) the Applicant 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 October 31, 2022.

DISCUSSION

6 RCW 81.53.281 authorizes the Commission to disburse funds from the GCPF to pay for improvements to highway-rail grade crossings. We find that the proposed modifications will improve pedestrian safety at the crossings. 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 having authority to approve and administer disbursements from the GCPF. RCW 81.53.271; RCW 81.53.281.
- 8 (2) The project for which the 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 Application and recommends that it be granted, subject to the conditions set out in paragraph 5, above.
- 10 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 16, 2022.
- 11 (5) After reviewing the Museum's Application filed on May 18, 2022, 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 Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum's Application for disbursement from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund for a project to install Emergency Notification Signs at private pedestrian crossing locations at its facility in Chehalis, Lewis County, is granted, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Expenditure from the Grade Crossing Protective Fund must not exceed \$282.60.
- (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 Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum 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 October 31, 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 June 16, 2022.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

AMANDA MAXWELL
Executive Director and Secretary