

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

)	DOCKET TR-141435
)	
CITY OF SNOQUALMIE,)	ORDER 01
)	
Petitioner,)	ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO
)	RELOCATE WARNING DEVICES
v.)	AND FOR PEDESTRIAN
)	IMPROVEMENTS AT THE
NORTHWEST RAILWAY)	SOUTHEAST RIVER STREET
MUSEUM,)	CROSSING IN SNOQUALMIE
)	
Respondent.)	
)	USDOT: 092026E
.....)	
.		

BACKGROUND

- 1 On July 16, 2014, the City of Snoqualmie (Petitioner or City) filed a petition with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission), seeking approval to relocate the warning devices and install sidewalks at a railroad-highway grade crossing. The crossing is identified as USDOT 092026E and located at the intersection of Southeast River Street and the Northwest Railway Museum’s (Northwest Railway) tracks in Snoqualmie, Washington. The installation of sidewalks will provide pedestrians with a smooth, continuous walking surface.
- 2 The Respondent, Northwest Railway Museum, consented to entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.
- 3 Railroad warning devices at the Southeast River Street grade crossing consist of a shoulder-mounted signal mast with a gate and a cantilever-style signal with a gate, crossbucks and an advance warning sign. The Petitioner proposes to install pedestrian sidewalks on the west side of the crossing. The proposed concrete sidewalk will be at least eight feet wide and tie into the existing sidewalk system near the crossing. The signal mast on this approach will need to be moved just over five feet north from its current location to accommodate the new sidewalk. The proposed concrete sidewalks will provide a smooth surface for pedestrians traversing the crossing, and are consistent with the existing concrete crossing surface. The City is responsible for sidewalk maintenance.

4 Southeast River Street is a three-lane roadway with a posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour. Average daily vehicle traffic through the crossing is estimated at 2,990 vehicles, which includes up to 21 school buses. On average four passenger trains per day operate at up to 15 miles per hour over the single track crossing. During seasonal peaks up to 32 trains operate per week and as few as two trains per week operate during the winter months.

5 The proposed sidewalks are in the interest of improving safety for pedestrian users. The sidewalks will ensure that pedestrians have a designated path to safely cross the grade crossing. In addition to the installation of the sidewalks, Commission staff recommends granting the City of Snoqualmie's petition subject to the following conditions:

- Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the 2009 U.S. Department of Transportation Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
- Upon completion of the sidewalk and relocation of the signal mast authorized herein, Petitioner must notify the Commission within 60 days. 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.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

6 (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*.

7 (2) The Southeast River Street grade crossing, identified as USDOT 092026E, is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.

8 (3) WAC 480-62-150(1)(g) requires that the Commission grant approval prior to any changes to crossing at public railroad-highway grade crossings within the state of Washington.

9 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted.

- 10 (5) After examination of the petition filed by the City of Snoqualmie on July 16, 2014, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 The petition of the City of Snoqualmie to install sidewalks at a railroad-highway grade crossing, located at the intersection of Southeast River Street and Northwest Railway Museum's tracks in North Bend, 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) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the 2009 U.S. Department of Transportation *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
 - (3) Upon completion of the sidewalk and relocation of the signal mast authorized herein, Petitioner must notify the Commission within 60 days. 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 Secretary of the Commission has delegated authority over this matter pursuant to Order 03 in Docket A-090485. The Secretary finds this Order to be consistent with the public interest.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective August 6, 2014.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary

NOTICE: This is an order delegated to the Secretary for decision. In addition to serving you a copy of the decision, the Commission will post on its Internet Web site for at least fourteen (14) days a listing of all matters delegated to the Secretary for decision. You may seek Commission review of this decision. You must file a request for Commission review of this order no later than fourteen (14) days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission's Web site. The Commission will schedule your request for review for consideration at a regularly scheduled open meeting. The Commission will notify you of the time and place of the open meeting at which the Commission will review the order.

The Commission will grant a late-filed request for review only on a showing of good cause, including a satisfactory explanation of why the person did not timely file the request. A form for late-filed requests is available on the Commission's Web site.

This notice and review process is pursuant to the provisions of RCW 80.01.030 and WAC 480-07-904(2) and (3).