

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of

GRANT COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS,

Petitioner,

PORT OF ROYAL SLOPE, and

WASHINGTON ROYAL LINE, LLC,

Respondents.

DOCKET TR-190066

ORDER 01

ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO
MODIFY A PUBLIC HIGHWAY-RAIL
GRADE CROSSING AT LOWER
CRAB CREEK ROAD NEAR ROYAL
CITY

USDOT: 397089E

BACKGROUND

- 1 On January 2, 2019, Grant County Public Works (County or Petitioner), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission), a petition seeking approval to modify a railroad-highway grade crossing located at Lower Crab Creek Road near Royal City, identified as USDOT 397089E.
- 2 The respondents, track owner Port of Royal Slope and operating railroad Washington Royal Line, LLC (WRL), consented to entry of an Order by the Commission without further notice or hearing.
- 3 Lower Crab Creek Road is a two-lane gravel roadway with a posted vehicle speed limit of 50 miles per hour. Average annual daily traffic through the crossing is estimated at 125 vehicles. Lower Crab Creek Road is not part of an established truck or school bus route.
- 4 Warning devices at the Lower Crab Creek Road crossing consist of advance warning signs, yield signs and crossbucks. WRL operates less than one freight train per week over this single mainline track crossing at 10 miles per hour. No passenger trains operate on this line.
- 5 As part of a project to improve Lower Crab Creek Road, the County plans to replace the existing gravel approaches and crossing surface with asphalt. The roadway width will be expanded to approximately 26 feet. WRL will install new ties under the crossing surface. The proposed modifications will improve overall safety for roadway users.

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 Lower Crab Creek Road grade crossing, identified as USDOT 397089E, is a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington.
- 8 (3) RCW 81.53.060 requires that the Commission grant approval prior to modifying a public railroad-highway grade crossing within the state of Washington. *See also 480-62-150.*
- 9 (4) Commission Staff investigated the petition and recommended that it be granted with conditions.
- 10 (5) After examination of the petition filed by the County on January 2, 2019, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission grants the petition.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

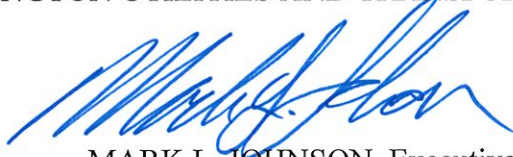
- 11 The petition of Grant County Public Works to modify a railroad-highway grade crossing located at Lower Crab Creek Road near Royal City is granted. Approval of the petition is subject to the following conditions:
- (1) The modifications must conform to those described in and attached to the petition.
 - (2) Traffic control devices must comply with all applicable standards specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
 - (3) Upon completion of the modifications authorized herein, the County 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 01 in Docket A-180762. The Secretary finds this Order to be consistent with the public interest.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective February 6, 2019.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



MARK L. JOHNSON, 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 website 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 website. 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 website.

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