



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities
 Dale W. King, Tacoma Rail Superintendent
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution – Approve WSDOT Freight Rail Bank Loan RRB 1296 Blair Switch Upgrade Project
DATE: January 9, 2024

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

Tacoma Rail requests City Council approval to enter into a Loan Agreement with the Washington State Department of Transportation in the amount of \$408,000, budgeted from Tacoma Rail Fund 4500, to partially fund a railroad track rehabilitation project.

BACKGROUND:

This Department’s Recommendation is Based On: This interest free loan was awarded through a competitive call for projects initiated by the Washington State Department of Transportation, with funds having been appropriated by the Washington State Legislature. Loan Agreement RRB-1296 is in the principal amount of \$408,000, requires ten annual payments of \$40,800 beginning on August 1, 2025, and includes an \$8,000 administrative fee. Additionally, Tacoma Rail is required to contribute \$399,877 in matching funds toward completion of the project.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

The project to improve railroad tracks will enhance safety for Tacoma Rail staff, while mitigating potential customer service interruptions resulting from deteriorated railroad track conditions.

ALTERNATIVES:

Presumably, your recommendation is not the only potential course of action; please discuss other alternatives or actions that City Council or staff could take. Please use table below.

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Reject the project funding opportunity and delay the project.	None associated with this alternative.	Would delay the completion of the track upgrade project.
2. Proceed with project at a later date without benefit of Loan funding assistance.	None associated with this alternative.	Potentially delays other Capital Outlay projects which are currently planned.
3.		



EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Timely progression of project milestones is anticipated given that TPU-Rail staff has partnered with Public Works engineering staff to complete the project.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Tacoma Rail recommends that City Council authorize execution of Loan Agreement RRB-1296 associated with a planned railroad track upgrade project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Please provide a short summary of the fiscal impacts associated with the grant, agreement, policy action, or other action.

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1. Fund 4500, TPU Rail	WBS-00129		\$408,000.00
2.			
TOTAL			

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

PROJECT IS BUDGETED IN TPU-RAIL'S 2023/24 CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS.

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?

YES

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

YES

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

YES

TPU-RAIL WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR INSPECTING AND MAINTAINING THE TRACK IMPROVEMENTS AFTER INSTALLATION.

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

No

Click or tap here to enter text.

ATTACHMENTS:

TPU Board Resolution U-11427