



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, Tacoma City Manager
FROM: Kyle Kellem, Roadmaster, Tacoma Rail
Dale W. King, Superintendent, Tacoma Rail
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Resolution, Grant Authorization
DATE: June 24, 2021

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

Subsequent to the Tacoma Public Utility Board’s approval, Tacoma Rail now requests City Council authorization to accept grant funding awarded by the Washington State Department of Transportation to install new grade crossing signalization equipment at multiple locations.

BACKGROUND:

This Department’s Recommendation is Based On: TPU-Rail’s Submittal of two applications for financial assistance to install active signalization equipment at three (3) passive highway-railroad grade crossings, WSDOT Local Programs Division notified Tacoma Rail that a total of \$1,315,000.00 was awarded, and requires Tacoma Rail to contribute \$185,000.00 toward completion of the projects. Letters of support for the project locations were provided by the Tacoma Public Works Department and the Port of Tacoma.

The project locations are identified as Lincoln Avenue, USDOT No. 932-777T, and two grade crossings on Port of Tacoma Road, near Lincoln Avenue, numbered USDOT 852-637U and USDOT 852-638B. Grant funding for Lincoln Avenue is \$745,000 with a matching funds requirement of \$105,000. Grant funding for the two crossings on Port of Tacoma Road is \$570,000 with a matching funds requirement of \$80,000.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

The projects to install grade crossing signal system(s) to include flashing LED lights is intended to alert motorists when railroad equipment is occupying the highway-railroad grade crossing and enhance safety for motorists and Tacoma Rail switching staff.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility: (Mandatory)

Please state how this legislation will reduce racial and other inequities, disparities, or discrimination to under-represented communities. Please state what positive impacts on equity, equality, diversity or inclusion, if any, would result from enacting this legislation.

Identify which Tacoma 2025 strategic goals your legislation most relates to, and then identify the [Equity Index Score](#) for those goals in the geography your proposal will affect. Select the indicator(s) this legislation is most related to, then briefly explain how this legislation will impact the selected indicator(s) and/or improve the Equity Index Score. ***Use the dropdowns below and refer to guide for more information.***



Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the number of infrastructure projects and improvements that support existing and new business developments.

Choose an item.

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

The projects to install grade crossing signal system(s) to include flashing LED lights to alert motorists when railroad equipment is occupying the highway-railroad grade crossing, is intended to enhance safety.

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 grant funding opportunity, and abandon the project/	None associated with this alternative.	Missed opportunity to enhance safety.
2. Proceed with projects without benefit of grant 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 these projects.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Tacoma Rail recommends that City Council authorizes the acceptance of the grant funding associated with these safety improvement projects.



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	Internal Order 80025068		\$1,315,000.00
2.			
TOTAL			\$1,315,000.00

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

PROJECT IS BUDGETED IN TPU-RAIL'S 2021/22 CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS.

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

YES

Click or tap here to enter text.

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 GRADE CROSSING SIGNAL SYSTEMS POST INSTALLATION.

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

No

Click or tap here to enter text.

ATTACHMENTS:

- TPU Board Resolution U-11262