Decision No. C25-0381

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 25A-0122R

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE TOWN OF WINDSOR FOR AUTHORITY TO INSTALL ADVANCE WARNING SIGNS AND RECONSTRUCT THE EXISTING MEDIANS ON EACH APPROACH TO TRACKS OWNED BY GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY OF COLORADO, LLC CROSSING ON WALNUT STREET, USDOT NO. 934006W, IN WELD COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO.

> COMMISSION DECISION DEEMING APPLICATION COMPLETE AND GRANTING APPLICATION

> > Issued Date:

May 19, 2025

Adopted Date: May 14, 2025

I. **BY THE COMMISSION**

> Α. Statement

1. This matter comes before the Commission for consideration of an Application

("Application") filed by the Town of Windsor ("Windsor") on March 21, 2025, for an order

authorizing the repositioning of existing advance warning signs and installation of additional

advance warning signs, and reconstruction of the existing raised medians on each approach as

identified by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) as necessary to maintain Quiet Zone

status, at the crossing of Walnut Street with tracks owned by Great Western Railway of Colorado,

LLC ("GWR"), at railroad milepost 30.94 of the Longmont subdivision, National Inventory No.

934006W, in the Town of Windsor, Weld County, State of Colorado.

2. Notice of the Application was provided by the Commission to all interested parties,

including adjacent property owners pursuant to § 40-6-108(2), C.R.S., on March 31, 2025.

- 3. No interventions were filed in this matter.
- 4. The Commission reviewed the record in this matter and deems the Application complete within the meaning of § 40-6-109.5, C.R.S.
 - 5. Now being fully advised in the matter, we grant the Application.

B. Findings of Fact

- 6. The Commission gave notice to all interested parties, including the adjacent property owners. No intervention was received contesting or opposing the Application.
- 7. Windsor requests authority for the repositioning of existing advance warning signs and installation of additional advance warning signs, and reconstruction of the existing raised medians on each approach to the crossing of Walnut Street with tracks owned by GWR in Windsor, Colorado. The changes are required to maintain the crossing's status as a Quiet Zone as identified by the FRA. An inspection of the crossing in May 2024 identified the need for installation of a W10-3 advance warning sign on the westbound approach to the Walnut Street intersection with Chimney Park Drive, and the need to move the existing W10-12 sign closer to the crossing and add W10-1 andW10-9P signs on the eastbound approach. The FRA identified the existing medians at the crossing as not meeting the required 6-inch minimum height required for Quiet Zones. The existing raised medians are proposed to be reconstructed in the existing footprint, with the required 6-inch curb height. No modifications are proposed to the existing railroad active warning equipment at the crossing.
- 8. Windsor states that most recent traffic volume at the subject crossing as of 2023 is 17,200 vehicles per day ("VPD"). None of this traffic volume is estimated to be heavy vehicles. School buses do not use the crossing. The posted speed limit at the crossing is 30 miles per hour ("MPH"). The five-year traffic volume projections at the crossing are 19,800 VPD and 20-year

traffic volume projections are 31,000 VPD. There are currently two trains per day as of 2019 that use the crossing at a maximum timetable speed of 10 MPH with no anticipated changes in train volume in the future.

- 9. There have been no accidents at the crossing since 1975.
- 10. Windsor estimates the cost of the project at \$93,959. Windsor will cover 100 per cent of the costs of the project.
- 11. Windsor proposes to start the project on June 1, 2025, and anticipates being complete with the work by June 30, 2026. Windsor will be required to provide a copy of the signed Construction and Maintenance Agreement with GWR for this project by June 1, 2025, prior to starting construction on this project.
- 12. Windsor will be required to inform the Commission in writing that all work is complete within 10 days of completion. The Commission will expect this letter no later than June 30, 2026. However, the Commission understands this letter may be provided earlier or later than this date depending on changes or delays to the construction schedule.
- 13. GWR will be required to update the US DOT Crossing Inventory Form for the crossing. This form will need to be filed in this proceeding by GWR by June 30, 2026.

C. Conclusions

- 14. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter under §§ 40-4-106(2)(a) and (3)(a), C.R.S.
- 15. Because the Application is unopposed, the Commission will determine this matter upon the record, without a formal hearing under § 40-6-109(5), C.R.S., and Rule 1403, Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* ("CCR") 723-1.

16. Based on the Findings of Fact, the Application is granted consistent with the discussion above.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

- 1. The Application ("Application") filed by the Town of Windsor ("Windsor") on March 21, 2025, for an order authorizing the repositioning of existing advance warning signs and installation of additional advance warning signs, and reconstruction of the existing raised medians on each approach as identified by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) as necessary to maintain Quiet Zone status, at the crossing of Walnut Street with tracks owned by Great Western Railway of Colorado, LLC ("GWR"), at railroad milepost 30.94 of the Longmont subdivision, National Inventory No. 934006W, in the Town of Windsor, Weld County, State of Colorado is deemed complete within the meaning of § 40-6-109.5, C.R.S., and is granted.
- 2. Windsor is authorized and ordered to proceed with the repositioning of existing advance warning signs and installation of additional advance warning signs, and reconstruction of the existing raised medians at the crossing.
- 3. Windsor shall file a copy of the signed Construction and Maintenance Agreement with GWR for this project by June 1, 2025, prior to starting work at the crossing.
- 4. Windsor is required to inform the Commission in writing that the work is complete within 10 days after completion. We shall expect this letter by June 30, 2026. However, we understand this letter may be provided earlier or later than this date depending on changes or delays to the construction schedule.
- 5. GWR will be required to update the US DOT Crossing Inventory Form for the crossing. This form will need to be filed in this proceeding by GWR by June 30, 2026.

Commissioners

- 6. The 20-day period provided for in § 40-6-114, C.R.S., within which to file an Application for Rehearing, Reargument, or Reconsideration, begins on the first day following the effective date of this Decision.
 - 7. The Commission retains jurisdiction to enter further decisions as necessary.
 - 8. This Decision is effective upon its Issued Date.
 - B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING May 14, 2025.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

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MEGAN M. GILMAN

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

TOM PLANT

Rebecca E. White, Director