

# White Bluffs Rail – Tie and Rail Replacement

*This Project is the Port's Number 1 Priority*

## Total Project Cost

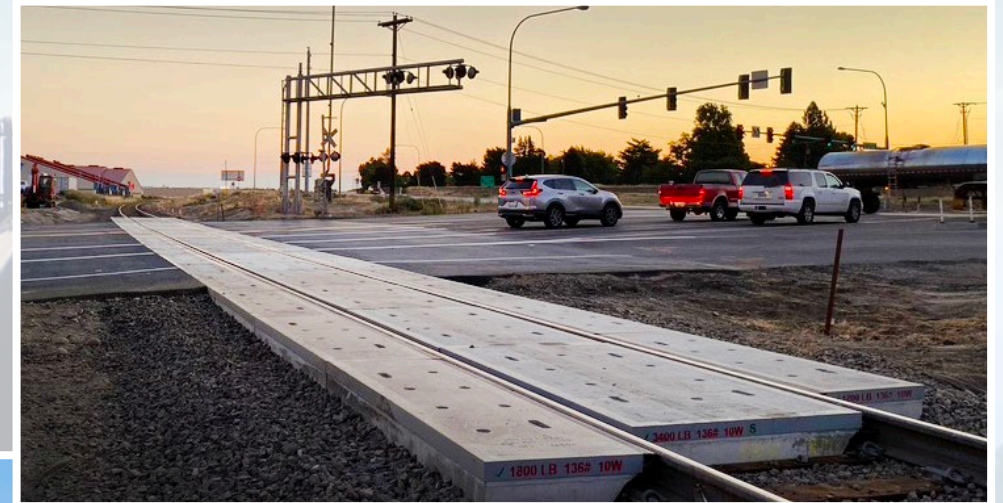
**\$11,960,000 Total**

**\$5,000,000 Federal**

**\$2,000,000 POB**

**\$3,000,000 State**

- The project is located on existing Port of Benton Railroad track between Center Parkway in Kennewick and Horn Rapids Road in North Richland.
- The Port track carries more than 1.3 million tons of freight each year making it the 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest short line track in the state.
- POB and a portion of state dollars are secured, CRISI and Congressional Requests for federal funding are pending.



## What are we Doing at the Track

- The current port track, originally constructed around 1950, is approaching the end of its operational life. In recent years the train traffic has increased significantly including over 60 100-car unit trains annually. This increased rail traffic has accelerated the wear and tear on the track.
- Additionally, the train traffic, specifically the Unit Train traffic is increasing, and the track needs to be maintained and upgraded. This project will install at least 9,000 ties, at least 3 track miles of new rail, and new ballast so that the track can be realigned and leveled.



## Significance Level of Projects

- This project benefits the entire community in that it reduces train delays through the community, reduces carbon emissions, improves safety along the entire track and specifically through at-grade crossings.
- The Port's railroad track carries approximately 50 rail cars daily and growing affecting over 50,000 ADT vehicle traffic.
- This project improves the track conditions to Class 2 track which could allow train speeds up to 25 mph. This commerce movement is crucial for the economic benefit of the community and serves as a major drive of the local economy.

