

CENTER PARKWAY EXTENSION PROJECT



Center Parkway is a planned street segment connecting Tapteal Drive in Richland and Gage Boulevard in the City of Kennewick. Center Parkway is a project supported by the Cities of Richland and Kennewick, with Richland being the lead agency. The Cities have planned this project to improve traffic circulation around the Columbia Center area, reduce congestion on nearby arterial streets, improve emergency response times, and support commercial development along Tapteal Drive. The project is prioritized in each Cities’ Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the Benton Franklin Regional Transportation Plan. The project has been a challenge to complete, primarily because of concerns from various railroads.

**TIMELINE OF EVENTS**

		Supporting documents
2006	BNSF, TCRY & UP oppose project before Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)	
2011	City of Richland successfully negotiates agreements with BNSF & UP	<a href="#">Track Use Agreement – BNSF</a> <a href="#">Track Use Agreement – UP</a>
	City of Richland acquires project funding through Benton Franklin Council of Governments (BFCOG)	
2012	City of Richland hires David Evans and Associates and JUB for at-grade crossing studies and designs	
2013	City of Richland files at UTC with TCRY as the only opposing railroad	
Feb 2014	UTC rules in favor of TCRY	<a href="#">UTC Order 02 in favor of TCRY</a>
Mar 2014	City of Richland appeals	
May 2014	UTC ruling in favor of City of Richland	<a href="#">UTC Order 03 in favor of COR</a>
June 2014	TCRY appeals	
June 2014	Petition for Reconsideration Denied	<a href="#">UTC Order 04 in favor of COR</a>
July 2014	TCRY appeals to Benton County Court	
Dec 2014	Benton County Court ruling in favor of City of Richland	<a href="#">BCC ruling in favor of COR</a>
Nov 2014	TCRY appeals to Court of Appeals	
June 2016	Court of Appeals ruling in favor of City of Richland	<a href="#">CoA ruling in favor of COR</a>
Mar 2015	TCRY appeals to Federal STB	
Sep 2016	Federal STB ruling in favor of TCRY	<a href="#">STB ruling in favor of TCRY</a>