

Item: 6B

Date: 11/21/23

# Banana Yard Switch Upgrade

## Project Authorization for Construction

**Norman Gilbert, PE**  
Engineering Project Manager II

Port of Tacoma Commission Meeting

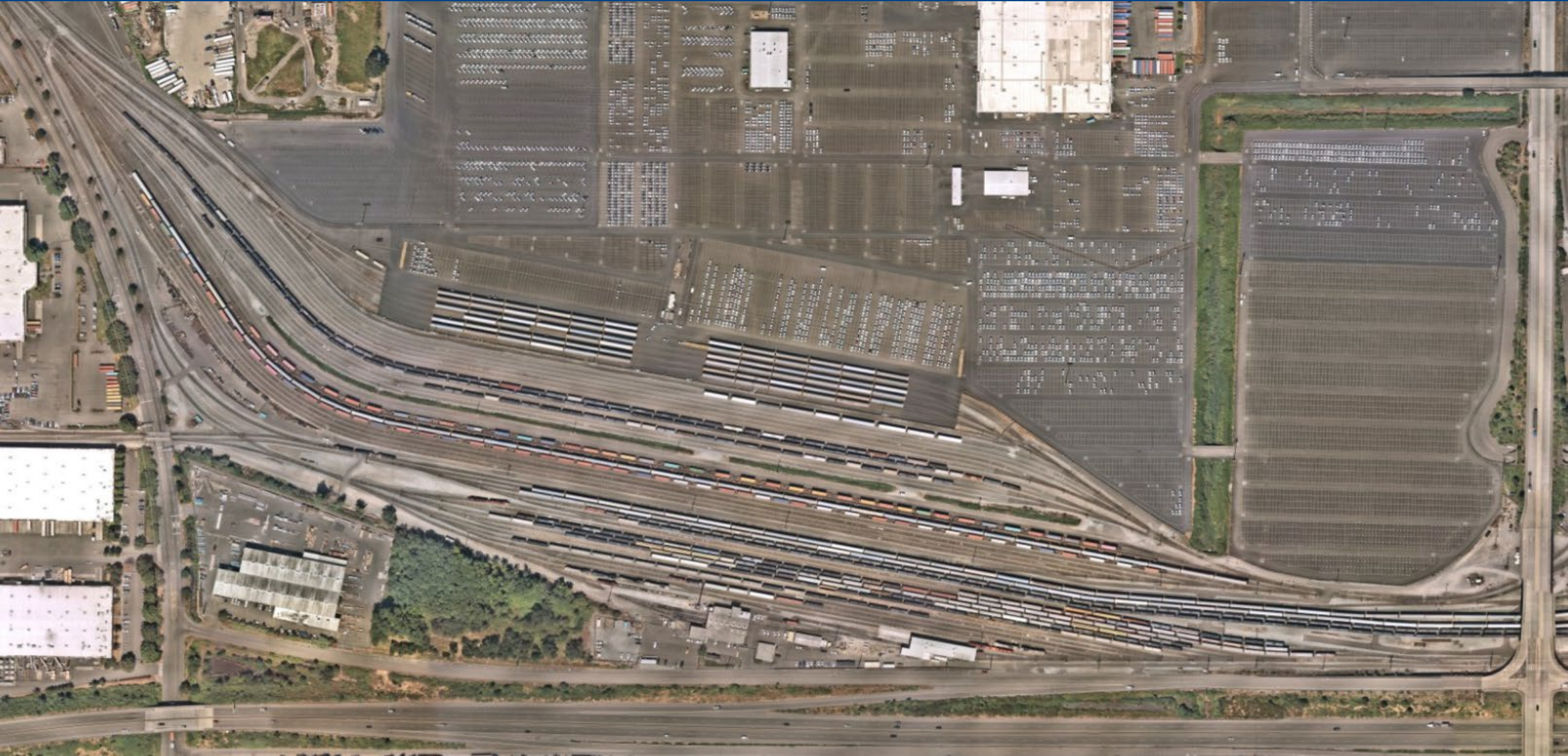
Date: November 21, 2023



- Request project authorization in the amount \$4,090,000 for a total authorized amount of \$4,290,000 for work associated with the Banana Yard Switch Upgrade project, Master Identification No. 101615.01

- Rail cargo accounts for about 60% of container volume in Tacoma Harbor. In addition, this yard also supports automobile cargo and other commercial customers using rail services at the Port of Tacoma.
- The yard is designed to build and/or break the longer trains moving on the national rail network.
- Switches are the mechanisms that allow trains to be guided from one track to another.
- 15 switches have been identified for replacement and account for 8-10 service calls per month.
- Inoperable switches have reduced the yards capacity as much as 50%.

# Banana Yard – Aerial Photograph



## ***Scope of Project:***

- Grant administration including; developing a detailed Project Work Plan (PWP), grant reimbursement requests and reporting.
- Project design and permitting
- Construction and project closeout
- Project and Construction Management

# Project Schedule

Activity	Timeframe
Complete Design	November 15, 2023
Advertise for Bid	December 15, 2023
Substantial Completion	November 29, 2024
Final Completion	December 31, 2024

- The estimated cost of the construction for this project is \$4,090,000.
- The estimated budget for this project is \$4,290,000.
- The current Capital Investment Plan (CIP) allocates \$4,290,000 for this project.

# Financial Summary

Item	This Request	Total Previous Requests	Total Request	Total Project Cost	Cost to Date	Remaining Cost
Design	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$33,459	\$166,451
Construction	\$4,090,000	\$0	\$4,090,000	\$4,090,000	\$0	\$4,090,000
Project Total	\$4,090,000	\$200,000	\$4,290,000	\$4,290,000	\$33,459	\$4,256,541



- U.S. Department of Transportation grant funding of \$2,500,000 for this project.
- Existing jobs will be maintained for design consultants and construction contractors. This project supports the efficient movement of cargo in and out of the Port and all the jobs associated with that cargo movement.

- Alternative 1) Do nothing, continue to require high number of service calls and impacts to the yards capacity or ability to accommodate trains.
- Alternative 2) Upgrade 15 switches (turnouts) in the Banana Yard.
- **Alternative 2 is the recommended course.**

- Permitting - This work is SEPA exempt and requires no environmental permits. FRA issued a Categorical Exclusion to NEPA on 01/24/23.
- Remediation – n/a
- Stormwater - Construction stormwater pollution prevention plan will be developed and implemented for this project.
- Air Quality – n/a

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# Thank You

## Questions & Discussion



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