

22549

Decision No. 22549

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of the CITY OF LONG BEACH and PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY for authority to reconstruct the separation of grades at the intersection of Hill Street and Orange Avenue and the Pacific Electric tracks in the City of Long Beach, California.

APPLICATION NO. 16397

BY THE COMMISSION:

ORIGINAL

ORDER

The City of Long Beach and the Pacific Electric Railway Company filed the above entitled application with this Commission on the 27th day of March, 1930, asking for authority to reconstruct the separation of grades at the intersection of Hill Street and Orange Avenue and the Pacific Electric Railway Company's tracks in the said City of Long Beach.

Applicants allege that the present timber overhead highway bridge by which the grade at the intersection of Hill Street and Orange Avenue was separated from and carried over the Pacific Electric Railway Company's tracks, was constructed in 1904; that said structure was built with twenty-foot roadways and was designed for light traffic thereon; that Orange Avenue and Hill Street are now important traffic arteries carrying a heavy volume of traffic, and that said structure is inadequate to take care of the present-day traffic and loading conditions.

Applicants further allege that, due to maintaining the proper street grades, it is not feasible to place the structure at a higher elevation than that existing at present, which will

provide a clearance between top of rail and trolley wires of nineteen feet, six inches (19' 6"); that the railroad tracks cannot be lowered at the present time, because of the drainage conditions; that applicants contemplate the lowering of the tracks to provide standard vertical clearance of twenty-two feet (22') at such time as the City of Long Beach constructs storm drain facilities providing proper drainage within this area, the new structure will be built for future track lowering, and tracks shifted at this time to provide standard side clearance of eight feet six inches (8' 6") between center line of tracks and bents of structure.

Applicants are preparing an agreement covering division of cost and terms of construction, and a copy of said agreement will be filed with this Commission when it is executed.

It appears to this Commission that the present proceeding is not one in which a public hearing is necessary; that it is in the interest of public convenience and necessity that said grade separation be reconstructed, and that this application should be granted, subject to the conditions hereinafter specified, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that permission and authority be and it is hereby granted to the City of Long Beach and the Pacific Electric Railway Company to reconstruct the separation of grades at the intersection of Hill Street and Orange Avenue and Pacific Electric Railway Company's tracks in the City of Long Beach, substantially in accordance with, and at the location particularly as shown by, the map (C.E.C.606) attached to the application.

The overhead crossings of Hill Street and Orange Avenue shall be identified as Crossings Nos. 6E-18.42-A and 6E-18.44-A, respectively.

Said overhead crossings shall be constructed subject to the following conditions and not otherwise:

(1) Applicants shall be permitted to construct said overhead crossings with clearances as shown on map C.E.C. 606, which verticle clearance is less than that prescribed in General Order No. 26-C of this Commission; provided, however, that upon the completion of the new structure, the City of Long Beach shall construct a storm drain providing adequate drainage at this location, and the tracks shall then be lowered so as to provide verticle clearance of twenty-two feet (22') in accordance with the terms of General Order No. 26-C of this Commission. Signs, to be illuminated at night, advising trainmen of the impaired clearances, shall be installed and maintained at said overhead crossings until the tracks have been lowered to proper clearance.

(2) The entire expense of constructing and thereafter maintaining said overhead crossings shall be borne in accordance with the terms of an agreement to be hereinafter entered into by the interested parties, a fully executed and certified copy of which shall be filed with this Commission, for its approval, within ninety (90) days from the date of this order. In the event the interested parties fail to reach such an agreement, or in the event said agreement is not satisfactory to this Commission, the Commission shall apportion said costs by supplemental order herein.

(3) Applicants shall, before commencement of construction, file with this Commission a complete set of detailed plans of the proposed grade separation. Said detailed plans are to be approved by both the City of Long Beach and the Pacific Electric Railway Company.

(4) Applicant shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission, in writing, of the completion of the reconstruction of said overhead crossings.

(5) If said overhead crossings shall not have been installed within one year from the date of this order, the author-

ization herein granted shall then lapse and become void, unless further time is granted by subsequent order.

The authority herein granted shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this ^a 18 day of June, 1930.

C. L. Seaver
E. J. McLaughlin

Thos B. Lewis

Commissioners.