

Decision No. 55542**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
 SACRAMENTO NORTHERN RAILWAY for )  
 authority to construct a track at )  
 grade across Travis Boulevard in the ) Application No. 38860  
 City of Fairfield and across )  
 Pennsylvania Street, and Fairfield )  
 Avenue in the County of Solano, )  
 State of California. )

Otis J. Gibson, for applicant.  
B. Gale Wilson, for the City of Fairfield;  
Harold J. New, for the County of Solano,  
 interested parties.  
 M. J. Lewis, for the Commission staff.

O P I N I O N

By this application filed February 27, 1957, Sacramento Northern Railway requests authority, pursuant to Section 1201 of the Public Utilities Code, to construct a track at grade across Travis Boulevard in the City of Fairfield and the County of Solano and across Pennsylvania Street and across Fairfield Avenue in the County of Solano. As justification it is alleged the proposed tracks with the above described crossings will reduce the number of tracks and switch movements in the City of Fairfield and will release land for public development.

Public hearing was held in Fairfield on August 9, 1957, before Examiner John A. Rowe, Jr., at which time evidence was adduced and the matter submitted for decision.

A representative of the Commission staff assisted in developing the record. The City of Fairfield participated to the extent of cross-examining some of applicant's witnesses. The County took no part in the hearing other than making an appearance. The evidence of record justifies the conclusion and the Commission finds that the application should be granted. The train movement over

this branch is very light. Last year there were train movements only on fifty-three days, all at night. The speed limit for freight trains in this area is 20 miles per hour. There are no passenger trains involved.

The present crossings are protected only by Standard No. 1 Cross-bucks. The applicant's expert witness conceded that these signs should be reflectorized to protect the proposed crossings since practically all train movement is at night. The cost of automatic protection in this area would be especially high as power would be required to be brought in. None of the present crossings involved has any accident experience. The new track as proposed and the elimination of four existing grade crossings will constitute a definite improvement in public safety.

#### O R D E R

Application therefor having been filed, public hearing having been held, and based upon the evidence of record,

IT IS ORDERED that Sacramento Northern Railway is authorized to construct its tracks at grade across Travis Boulevard in the City of Fairfield and County of Solano and across Pennsylvania Street and across Fairfield Avenue in Solano County territory at locations shown on a drawing attached to the application, to be identified as Crossings Nos. 8F, 12.7, 8F-12.6 and 8F-12.3, respectively. Construction shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 2 of General Order No. 72 and of a width to conform to the portion of the streets now graded, with tops of rails flush with roadway and grades of approach not exceeding four per cent. Protection at each crossing shall be by two Standard No. 1 crossing signs, General Order No. 75-B, equipped with reflex-reflective sheet material. Applicant shall bear the entire construction and maintenance expense.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon completion of the crossings herein authorized, tracks at the following crossings shall be abandoned and closed to rail travel:

<u>Crossing No.</u>	<u>Road</u>
8K - 0.3	County Road No. 329 (Travis Blvd.)
8K - 0.6	Utah Street
8K - 0.8	Webster and Kentucky Streets
8K - 0.3-C	County Road No. 337 (Pennsylvania St.)

Within thirty days after completion pursuant to this order applicant shall so advise the Commission in writing. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within one year after the effective date hereof, unless time be extended.

The effective date of this decision shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 10th day of September, 1957.

[Signature]  
 President

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]  
 Commissioners