

ORIGINALDecision No. 66110

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of the CITY OF FOLSOM to construct)
a city street across the right of)
way of the Southern Pacific Rail-)
road Company at Folsom Boulevard.)

Application No. 44977
(Filed November 28, 1962)

Louis A. Boli III, for applicant.
Randolph Karr and Harold S. Lentz, for Southern
Pacific Company; Fred G. Williams, for the
County of Sacramento, interested parties.
Martin J. Lewis, for the Commission staff.

O P I N I O N

This application was heard before Examiner Rowe at Folsom on August 15 and 16, 1963, and duly submitted. Southern Pacific Company, as interested party, intervened and moved that the County of Sacramento be made a party and that Bidwell Street, as well as Sibley Street, be closed as a condition to granting the application. The County appeared and intervened in opposition to the closing of Bidwell Street, which is located in County territory.

The tracks, where they cross Sibley Street and where they will cross the proposed extension of Natoma, are used by the railroad company only about once per month to move one or two freight cars to and from the Folsom Station. Bidwell crosses these tracks and also the tracks which are used by a freight train approximately twice every work day. By comparison with Sibley Street, Bidwell can be considered as a heavily used street. It is the most direct route between Aerojet and the new shopping center. The local

businessmen and residents strenuously object to any closing of the Bidwell Street crossing.

Applicant introduced evidence to show that the proposed crossing at Natoma Street, as it is to be extended, is required by public convenience and necessity. The staff suggested that by closing Sibley Street the number of grade crossings in the City would not be increased. Sibley Street being close to other grade crossings can be closed without material inconvenience to the public. Representatives of the City did not indicate any objections to the closing of Sibley Street (also referred to as Figueroa Street).

From the evidence of record the Commission finds that public convenience and necessity require that applicant be authorized to open and extend Natoma Street across the tracks of Southern Pacific Company in the City of Folsom at a point to be designated as Natoma Street Crossing ANA-111.3; that public safety requires that said grade crossing be protected by advance warning signs and by two Standard No. 1 crossing signs (General Order No. 75-B) reflectorized with reflex-reflective sheet material and that contemporaneously with the opening at grade of this crossing the nearby grade crossing of Sibley Street be effectively barricaded to vehicular traffic.

Based upon the above findings the Commission concludes that the application should be granted in the manner set forth in the ensuing order. The motion of Southern Pacific Company that Bidwell Street be closed should and will be denied.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the City of Folsom is authorized to construct Natoma Street at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Company, at the location described in the application to be identified as Crossing AHA-111.3. Applicant shall bear entire construction expense, also maintenance cost outside of lines two feet outside of the rails. Southern Pacific Company shall bear maintenance cost between such lines. Width of the crossing shall be not less than 43 feet and grades of approach not greater than 2 percent. Construction shall be equal to or superior to Standard No. 2 of General Order No. 72. Protection shall be by advance warning signs and by two Standard No. 1 crossing signs (General Order No. 75-B) reflectorized with reflex-reflective sheet material.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon completion of Natoma Street Grade Crossing No. AHA-111.3 the grade crossing at Sibley Street, No. AHA-111.5, shall be abolished by physical closing by the railroad. The motion to close Bidwell Street is denied. ✓

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 unless time be extended.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 1st day of OCTOBER, 1963.

William W. Bennett
President
George H. Hoover
Fredrick B. Heblhoff
Commissioners