

T/RRT/ARM/WPSC

Decision 84 03 035

MAR 7 1984

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the City of Santa
 Barbara to relocate an at-grade
 crossing of the Southern Pacific
 Transportation Company railroad
 tracks from Santa Barbara Street
 to Garden Street in the City of
 Santa Barbara.

Application 82-12-66
 (Filed December 30, 1982)

O P I N I O N

As part of the project to develop the Cabrillo Plaza, the City of Santa Barbara (City) requests authority to relocate the existing grade crossing of Santa Barbara Street to Garden Street across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Coast main line in Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County.

The site of the proposed project is located in the waterfront area of the City of Santa Barbara, bounded on the north by Yanonali Street, on the west by Santa Barbara Street and on the south by Cabrillo Boulevard. Planned development includes a major hotel, restaurant and marine storage and repair facilities. The relocation of the Santa Barbara Street crossing to the more desirable Garden Street location will provide primary access to the Cabrillo Plaza Development and to the planned improvement of State Route 101 from an expressway to full freeway standards.

City is the lead agency for this project under the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended,

Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq. After preparation and review of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), City approved the project. On September 1, 1983 a Notice of Determination was filed with the Santa Barbara County Clerk which found that "The project will have a significant effect on the environment."

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's EIR. The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission staff.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on January 4, 1983. By motion filed August 15, 1983, Scenic Shoreline Preservation Conference, Inc. (SSPC) requested that it be permitted to late-file a protest to Application 82-12-66. SSPC's motion was denied by Decision 83-10-075 dated October 19, 1983. No other protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. City requests authority under Public Utilities (PU) Code Sections 1201-1205 to relocate the existing at-grade crossing of Santa Barbara Street to Garden Street across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Coast main line in Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County.

2. Relocation of the crossing to Garden Street is required to provide primary access to the Cabrillo Plaza Development and planned improvement of State Route 101 to full freeway standards.

3. Public convenience, necessity and safety require relocation of the Santa Barbara Street grade crossing to Garden Street.

4. Public safety requires that the protection at the crossing be four Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals (General Order (GO) 75-C).

5. Upon completion of the relocated Garden Street crossing, and its opening to vehicular traffic, the existing Santa Barbara Street grade crossing should be closed and physically removed.

6. Applicant is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

7. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's EIR.

8. The Cabrillo Plaza Development will have a significant impact on the environment; however, mitigation measures will reduce the severity of the adverse impacts.

9. The EIR identifies no significant environmental impact that will be caused by construction of the relocated crossing or the closing of Santa Barbara street crossing.

Conclusion of Law

The application should be granted as set forth in the following order.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The City of Santa Barbara (City) is authorized to relocate the existing at-grade crossing of Santa Barbara Street to Garden Street across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Coast main line in Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County, at the location and substantially as shown by the plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing E-371.05.
2. Construction of the crossing shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 GO 72-B.
3. Clearances shall conform to GO 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO 118.
4. Protection at the crossing shall be four Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals (GO 75-C).
5. Construction expense of relocating the Santa Barbara Street grade crossing to Garden Street crossing shall be borne by the City.
6. Installation cost of the automatic protection shall be shared equally by City and SPT.

7. Maintenance of the crossing shall conform to GO 72-B. Maintenance cost of the automatic protection shall be shared equally by City and SPT under PU Code Section 1202.2.

8. Construction plans of the crossing, approved by SPT, together with a copy of the agreement entered into between the parties, shall be filed with the Commission prior to commencing construction.

9. Upon completion of the relocated crossing and its opening to vehicular traffic, the existing Santa Barbara Street grade crossing, Crossing E-371.0, shall be closed and physically removed.

10. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, City shall advise the Commission in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

This authorization shall expire if not exercised within two years unless time is extended or if the above conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require.

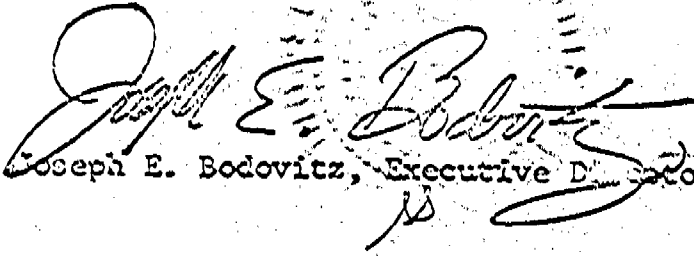
This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated MAR 7 1984, at San Francisco, California.

VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C. GREW
DONALD VIAL
WILLIAM T. BAGLEY
Commissioners

Commissioner Leonard M. Grimes, Jr.,
being necessarily absent, did not
participate.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION
WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE
COMMISSIONERS TODAY.


Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director