

Decision 88 01 040 JAN 28 1988

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION)
COMMISSION)
for an order authorizing the)
construction of two light rail)
vehicle tracks at grade across)
Wardlow Road and Spring Street)
in the City of Long Beach,)
California)

Application 87-09-008
(Filed September 4, 1987)

O P I N I O N

As part of the project to construct a light rail transit (LRT) system, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) requests authority to construct two light rail vehicle (LRV) tracks on an exclusive LRT right-of-way, at grade across Wardlow Road and Spring Street in the City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County.

The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit project is part of an on-going transit development process in which the Long Beach-Los Angeles Corridor and thirteen other corridors have been identified as candidates for transit improvements. The project is being planned as a conventional LRT system from downtown Los Angeles to downtown Long Beach to serve between 54,000 and 76,000 passengers per day. A variety of impacts were identified, both beneficial and adverse. Mitigation measures will either eliminate or reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

LACTC 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), LACTC approved the project. On March 29, 1985, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Secretary for Resources and with the Los Angeles

County Clerk which found that "The Project will have a significant effect on the environment." A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for the project.

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

The Commission staff has had numerous on-site meetings at both Wardlow Road and Spring Street with representatives of LACTC, City of Long Beach and Southern California Rail Consultants (a joint venture of, Parsons, Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas Inc., Kaiser Engineers Inc., and Daniel, Mann, Johnson and Mendenhall) and all parties are in agreement with respect of the type of automatic crossing protection to be installed and crossing geometrics. Detailed plans of the proposed construction of LACTC LRT track grade crossings are in the appendix attached to this order.

LACTC has met the filing requirement of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure including Rule 38, which Rule relates to the construction of public highways across railroads.

LACTC wishes to commence construction of this portion of its LRT system in January. It is therefore requested that the usual 30-day effective date on an order be waived. We will make our order effective immediately.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on September 11, 1987. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. LACTC requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct two LRV tracks, along an exclusive LRT right-of-way, at grade across Wardlow Road and Spring Street in Long Beach, Los Angeles County.
2. Construction of the LRV tracks is an essential element in construction of the LRT system.

3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the tracks at grade across the two crossings.

4. Public safety requires that protection at Spring Street be two Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals and four Standard No. 8 flashing light signals (may be modified if required for pedestrian use) and at Wardlow Road two Standard No. 9-A automatic gate-type signals with cantilever arms, two Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals and two Standard No. 8 flashing light signals (may be modified if required for pedestrian use) (General Order (GO) 75-C).

5. LACTC is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

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

7. The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project will have a significant impact on the environment; however, mitigation measures will either eliminate or reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

8. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for the project.

Conclusions of Law

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

2. The usual 30-day effective date on an order should be waived as LACTC wishes to commence construction of the project in January.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) is authorized to construct two LRV tracks on an exclusive LRT right-of-way at grade across Wardlow Road and Spring Street in Long

Beach, Los Angeles County, to be identified as Crossing 84L-17.5 (Wardlow Road) and Crossing 84L-18.1 (Spring Street), at the locations and substantially shown by plans attached to the application and as further indicated by plans on the appendix of this order.

2. Construction of the crossings shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of GO 72-B.

3. Clearances shall conform to GO 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO 118.

4. Protection at the crossings shall be as follows: Spring Street, two Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals and four Standard No. 8 flashing light signals (modified as required for pedestrian use); and at Wardlow Road, two Standard No. 9-A automatic gate-type signals with cantilevers, two Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals and two Standard No. 8 flashing light signals (modified as required for pedestrian use) (GO 75-C).

5. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne by LACTC.

6. Preemption of traffic signals at Wardlow Road and Pacific Place, an adjacent intersection to the grade crossing shall be actuated by the approach of on-rail vehicles.

7. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, LACTC shall notify the Commission in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

8. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within three 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.

9. The application is granted as set forth above.

This order is effective today.

Dated JAN 28 1988, at San Francisco, California

STANLEY W. HULETT
President

DONALD VIAL
FREDERICK R. DUDA
G. MITCHELL WILK
JOHN B. O'HANIAN
Commissioners

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


Victor Weisser, Executive Director

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DOCUMENTS

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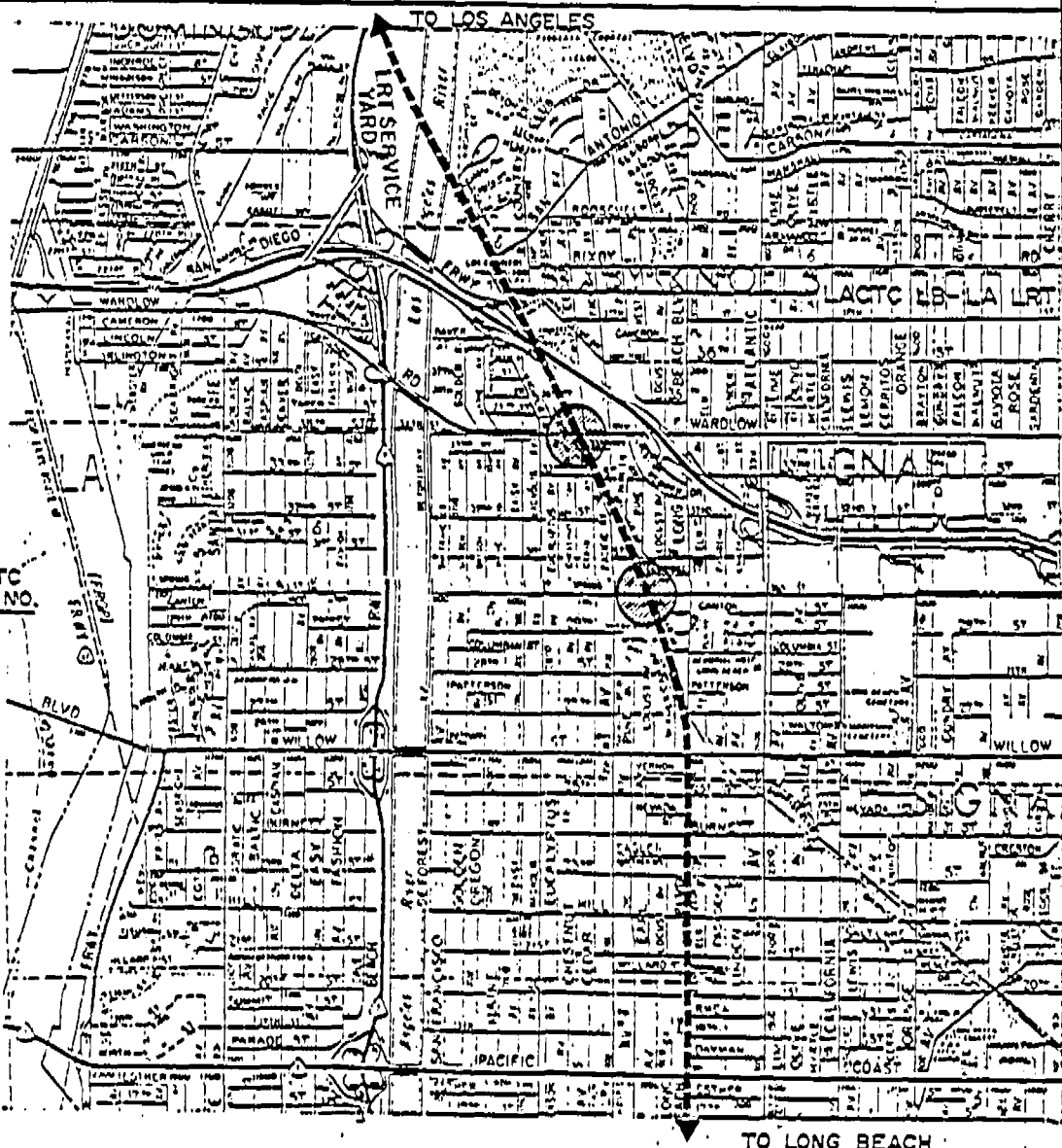
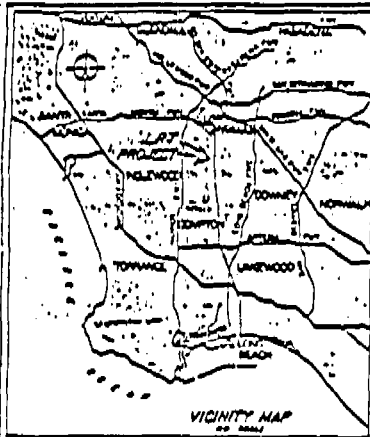
ORIGINALS

MICROFILMING SERVICES

WILL NOT ASSUME

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE

IMAGE QUALITY



CROSSING NAME
WARDLOW ROAD
LONG BEACH STREET

PROP. LACTC
CROSSING NO.
84L-17.5
84L-18.1

NO.	NAME	ADDRESS	DATE	BY

PROPOSED TRACK

LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project

Los Angeles County Transportation Commission

Los Angeles County Transportation Commission

Los Angeles County Transportation Commission

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