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Decision 88 03 062 MAR 23 1988

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the Santa Clara)
County Transit District for an)
order authorizing construction)
of at grade crossings of Julian)
Street, Devine Street, a)
driveway at Sta. 97 + 90 of)
North First Street and a)
driveway at Sta. 95 + 80 of)
North Second Street by the)
light rail transit line of the)
Guadalupe Corridor project)
in the City of San Jose,)
California.)

Application 87-10-028
(Filed October 20, 1987)

O P I N I O N

As part of the Guadalupe Corridor Project to construct a light rail transit (LRT) system, a four-lane freeway, and bicycle facilities, the Santa Clara County Transit District (SCCTD) requests authority to construct its light rail vehicle (LRV) tracks along First Street and Second Street in San Jose, Santa Clara County, with crossings of streets and driveways at grade as set forth in Appendix A.

The multi-modal transportation improvements will provide relief to congested major highways and local streets in the area. The LRT system is approximately 20 miles in length between Great America Amusement Park in north Santa Clara and the IBM business park in south San Jose. Major

impacts include displacement of 69 residential and 17 non-residential structures, increased traffic congestion at isolated locations, and removal of mature trees along North First Street. Mitigation measures will include relocation assistance, possible future grade separations, and a landscape replacement program.

The Guadalupe Corridor Joint Powers Board (GCJPB) consisting of SCTD; the State of California, Department of Transportation; the County of Santa Clara; the City of San Jose; and the City of Santa Clara, 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. The project is covered by a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) which was approved by the Federal Highway Administration on August 12, 1983.

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's FEIS. The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission's Traffic Engineering staff. The staff examined the need for and safety of the proposed rail crossings. The staff recommends that the new crossings be authorized subject to installation of warning signs and traffic signals as described in Appendix A.

Application 87-10-028 meets the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, including Rule 40, which relates to the construction of a railroad track across a public highway. Separations of grade at the proposed crossings are impracticable because the crossings are located in a highly developed area where right-of-way is inadequate. A sketch of the project vicinity is set forth as Appendix B.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on October 27, 1987. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. SCCTD requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct its LRV tracks along First Street and Second Street in San Jose, Santa Clara County, with crossings of streets and driveways at grade as set forth in Appendix A.

2. Construction of the crossings is an essential element in construction of the LRT system.

3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the crossings, as set forth in the appendix.

4. Public safety requires that vehicular movements at the Julian Street and Devine Street crossings be governed by traffic control signals, with provision for varying degrees of preemption as needed for local traffic conditions. Public safety also requires that the movement of LRV's be controlled by signals which are for the exclusive use of LRV's and that vehicular movements at driveway crossings be controlled by stop signs.

5. GCJPB 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 FEIS.

7. The Guadalupe Corridor Project will have a significant effect on the environment; however, mitigation measures will reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

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 Santa Clara County Transit District (SCCTD) is authorized to construct its LRV tracks along First Street and Second Street in San Jose, Santa Clara County, with crossings of streets and driveways at grade at the locations and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application.
2. Crossing identification and vehicular movements at the crossings shall be governed as set forth in Appendix A.
3. Clearances at the crossings shall be in accordance with General Order (GO) 26-D.
4. Construction of the crossings shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of GO 72-B.
5. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into between SCCTD and the City of San Jose. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will apportion the costs of construction and maintenance by further order.
6. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, SCCTD shall notify the Commission in writing that the authorized work has been completed.
7. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within three years unless time is extended or if the conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require.

8. The application is granted as set forth above.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated MAR 23 1988, at San Francisco, California.

STANLEY W. HULETT
President
DONALD VIAL
FREDERICK R. DUDA
G. MITCHELL WILK
JOHN B. OHANIAN
Commissioners

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

Victor Weisskopf
Victor Weisskopf, Executive Director

PS

A P P E N D I X A

As a part of the Guadalupe Corridor Project to construct a light rail transit (LRT) system, the Santa Clara County Transit District (SCCTD) proposes to construct its tracks along First Street and Second Street in San Jose, Santa Clara County, with crossings of the streets and driveways set forth below and as shown on plans attached to the application.

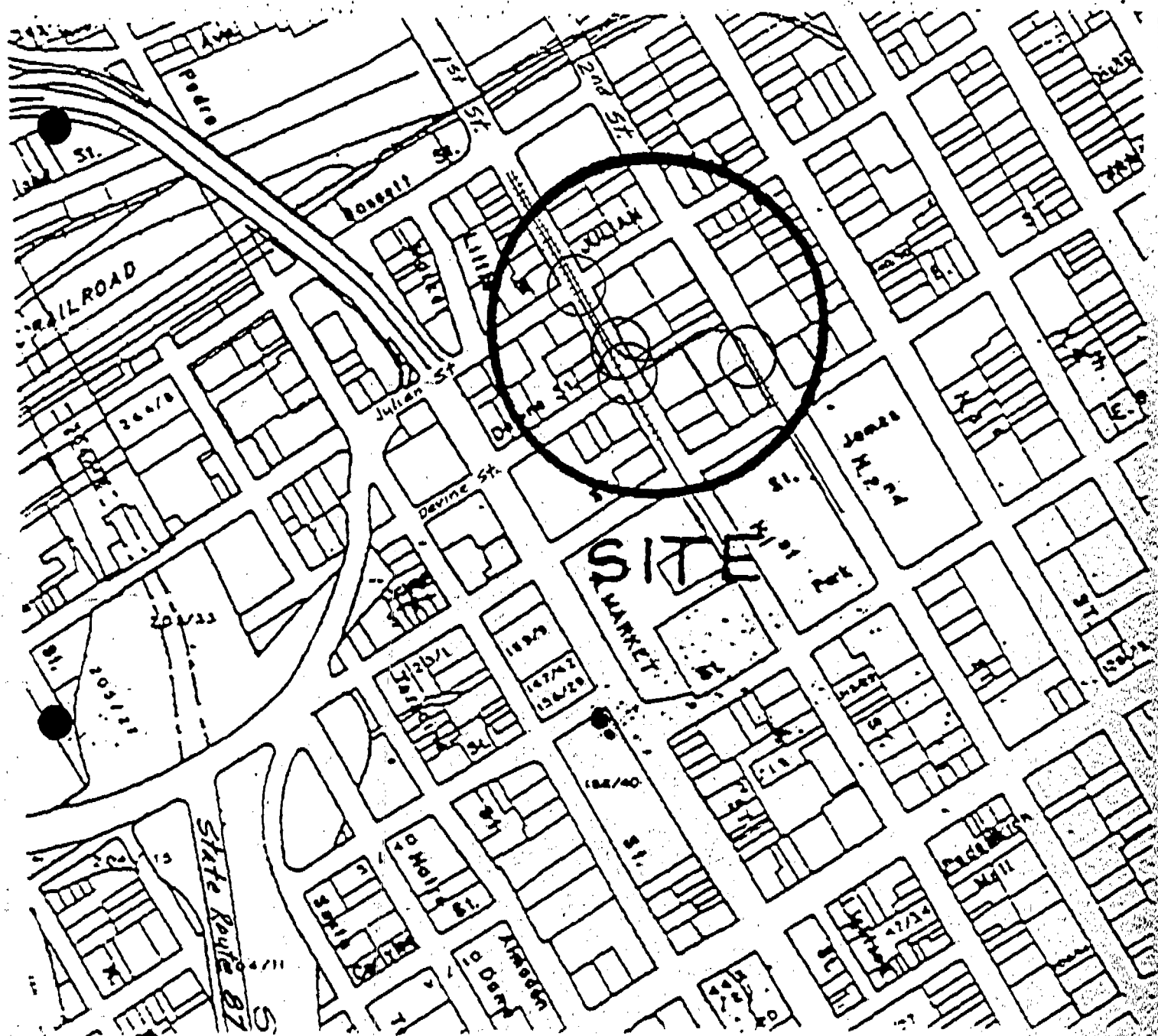
Vehicular movements at each of the listed street crossings shall be governed by traffic control signals (TCS) with provision for varying degrees of preemption as needed for local traffic conditions. Vehicular movements at each of the driveway crossings shall be controlled by arterial stop signs (SS). The movement of LRV's at each street crossing shall be controlled by signals, as described in the application, which are for the exclusive use of LRV's. Construction of SCCTD's LRV tracks along First Street and Second Street is authorized at grade across the following streets and driveways, to be identified as indicated:

Crossing Along First Street

<u>Location of Crossing</u>	<u>Crossing Number</u>	<u>Traffic Control Devices</u>
Julian Street	82A-1.17	TCS
Driveway 82 feet north of Devine Street	82A-1.20	SS
Devine Street	82A-1.23	TCS

Crossing Along Second Street

<u>Location of Crossing</u>	<u>Crossing Number</u>	<u>Traffic Control Devices</u>
Driveway 407 feet south of Julian Street	82AS-1.32	SS



Vicinity Map
of the
TRANSIT MALL EXTENSION
Guadalupe Corridor Project
San Jose, California

Appendix B

