T/RRT/hs

Decision \_\_\_\_\_ **88 09 058** SEP 28 1988

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of the City of Carpinteria to Construct a below grade City Class I Bikeway under the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company in the County of Santa Barbara, State Of California

Application 88-05-031 (Filed May 13, 1988)

## <u>OPINION</u>

The City of Carpinteria (City) requests authority to construct a Class I Bikeway at separated grades under the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Coast Main Line in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County.

The proposed bikeway crossing will provide improved access from the residential communities on the north side of the tracks to the beach areas on the south side of the tracks. The bicycle undercrossing is a part of a segment of the City's designated Bikeway Master Plan that will also provide access to the Carpinteria Beach State Park located south of the tracks.

City is the lead agency for this project under the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resources (PR) Code Sections 21000, et seq. City has determined that this project is categorically exempt from CEQA under Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land, as a creation of a bicycle lane on existing right of way, under Section 15104(h) of the CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Admin. Code - Div. 6).

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

The site of the proposed Bikeway Undercrossing has been inspected by the Commission's Traffic Engineering staff. After a review and analysis of future train traffic and bikeway geometrics of the area, the staff recommends that approval be granted to construct the bikeway crossing at separated grades.

City has met the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures, including Rule 38, which relates to construction of Public Highways across railroad tracks.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on May 19, 1988. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary. Findings of Fact

- 1. City requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct a Class I Bikeway undercrossing at separated grades under the tracks of SPT's Coast Main Line in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County.
- 2. Construction of the Bikeway Undercrossing is required to provide access to the beach areas on the south side of the SPT tracks from the residential areas on the north, as well as to provide access to a City Park on the south side of the tracks.
- 3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the proposed Bikeway Undercrossing at separated grades.
- 4. City is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.
- 5. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's categorical exemption determination.
- 6. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

## Conclusions of Law

- 1. The application should be granted as set forth in the following order.
- 2. The activity is not covered by the requirements set forth in CEQA and, therefore, the Guidelines (14 Cal. Admin. Code Div. 6) concerning the evaluation of projects and the preparation and review of environmental documents do not apply.

## QRDER

## IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. The City of Carpinteria (City), is authorized to construct bikeway crossing at separated grades under the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Coast Main Line in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County, at the location and substantially as shown on plans attached to the application, and Appendix A to this order, to be identified as Crossing E-382.11-B.
- 2. Clearances shall be in accordance with GO 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO 118.
- 3. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into among the parties. A copy of the agreement, together with plans of the crossing approved by SPT, shall be filed with the Commission prior to commencing construction. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission shall apportion the costs of construction and maintenance by further order.
- 4. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, City shall notify the Commission in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

- 5. 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.
  - 6. The application is granted as set forth above.

    This order is effective 30 days from today.

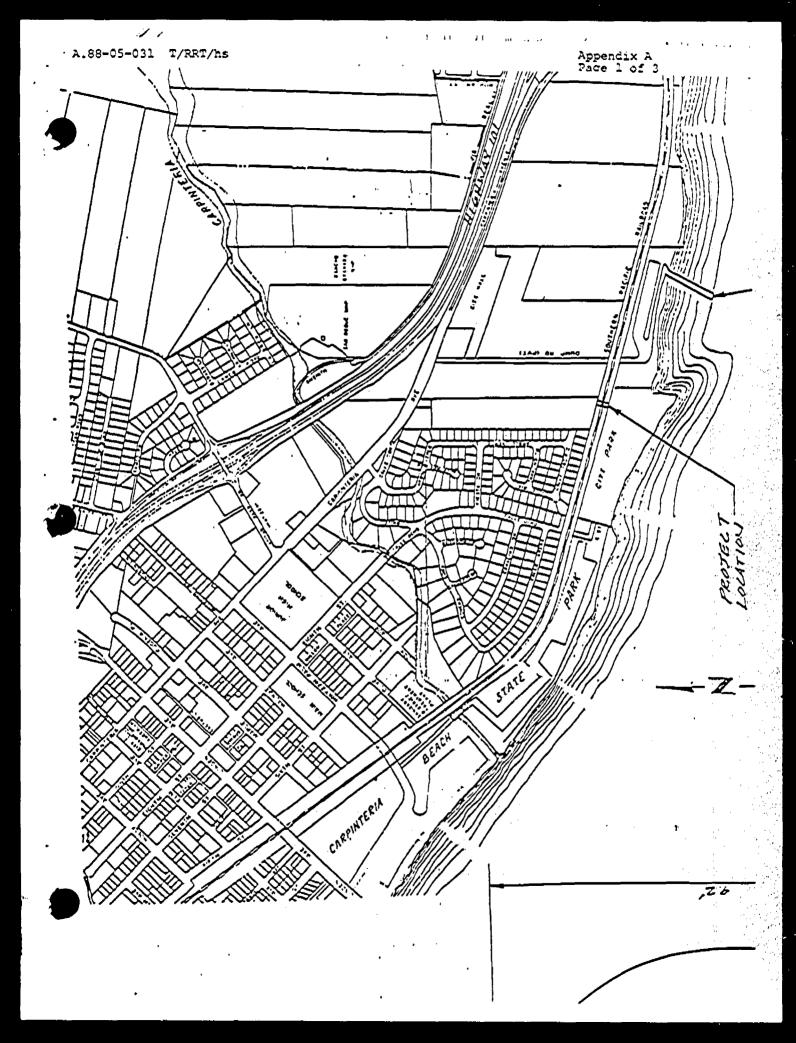
    Dated SEP 28 1988 , at San Francisco, California

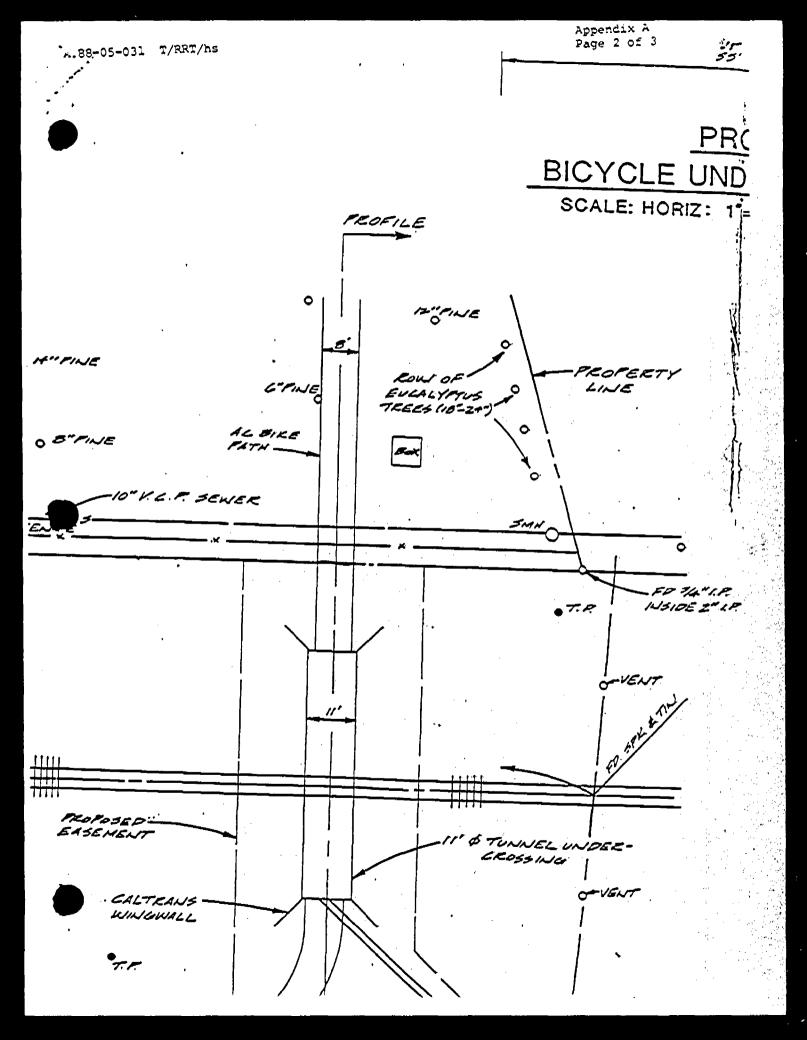
STANLEY W. HULETT
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Commissioners

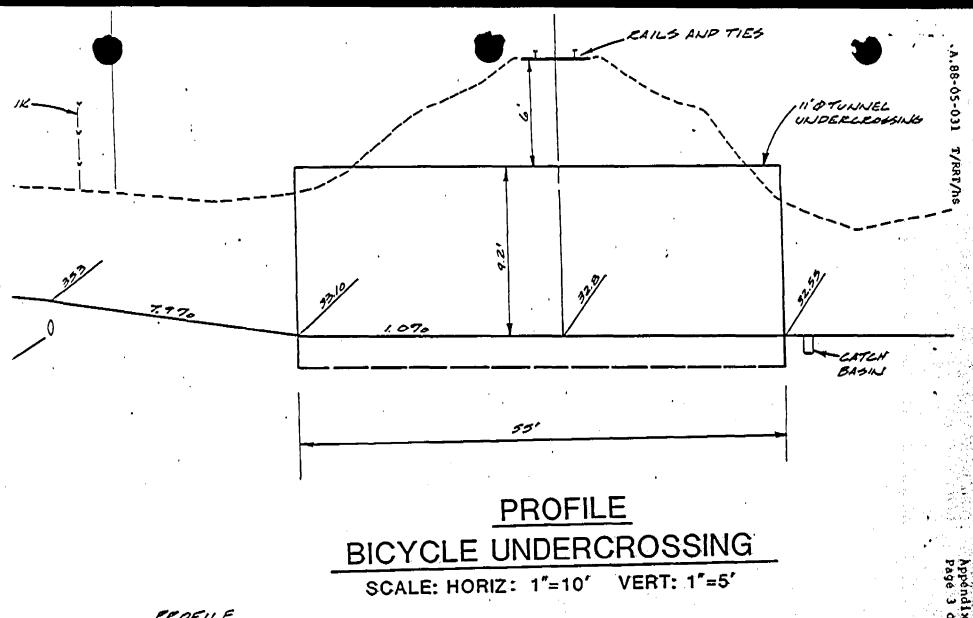
CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE COMMISSIONERS TODAY.

Victor Weisser, Executive Director

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