Decision 89 04 072 APR 26 1989

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )
The City of San Buenaventura to con- )
struct a City Class I Bikeway across )
the Right of Way of the Southern )
Pacific Transportation Company, east )
of Johnson Drive in the East )
San Buenaventura area.

Application 88-09-036 (Filed September 19, 1988) (Amended November 18, 1988)

## OPINION

The City of San Buenaventura (City) requests authority to construct a City Class I Bikeway at grade across the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Santa Paula Branch Line, in San Buenaventura, Ventura County.

The proposed bikeway crossing will connect the existing Linear Park with areas north of the tracks. The bikeway crossing will offer additional access, improved circulation and increased convenience between the beach and commercial areas on the north, south, east and west of the crossing.

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, the creation of a bicycle lane on an existing right-of-way, is exempt from CEQA under Section 15104(h) of the California Administrative Code - Title 14, Division 6.

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

The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission's Safety Division's Traffic Engineering Section. The staff examined the need for and safety of the proposed bikeway crossing. Because of the extremely low number of train movements at moderate speeds and generally favorable surrounding site topography, the staff concurs with the City's proposal to install two Standard No. 1-D signs (General Order (GO) 75-C), modified to state that the crossing is for the use of "Pedestrians and Bicycles Only." Barrier post will be installed at the entrance of the bikepath to prevent motor vehicles from entering.

City has met the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure including Rule 38, which relates to the construction of public highways across a railroad track. A drawing of the bikeway crossing geometrics is in Appendix "A" of this order.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on September 21, 1988. Notice of the amendment was published November 23, 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 City Class I Bikeway at grade across the tracks of SPT's Santa Paula Branch Line in San Buenaventura, Ventura County.
- 2. Construction of the Bikeway is required to increase circulation and provide access to areas on the north, south, east and west of the crossing.
- 3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the proposed bikeway crossing.
- 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 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. Under 14 Cal. Admin. Code Div. 6 the activity is exempt from CEQA and the requirements concerning the preparation and review of environmental documents do not apply.

## QRPER

## IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. The City of San Buenaventura (City), is authorized to construct a City Class I Bikeway at-grade across the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Santa Paula Branch Line in San Buenaventura, Ventura County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application and this order, to be identified as Crossing BE-404.0-D.
- 2. Construction of the crossing will be in accordance with General Order (GO) 72-B.
- 3. Clearances shall be in accordance with GO 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO 118.
- 4. Protection at the crossing shall be two Standard No. 1-D signs, modified to read "Crossing for Pedestrians and Bicycles Only" as shown in Figure 2 of GO 75-C.
- 5. Construction expense of the crossing and installation of the warning signs shall be borne by the City.
  - 6. Maintenance of the crossing shall conform to GO 72-B.
- 7. 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.

- 8. 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.
- 9. 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.
  - 10. The application is granted as set forth above.

    This order is effective 30 days from today.

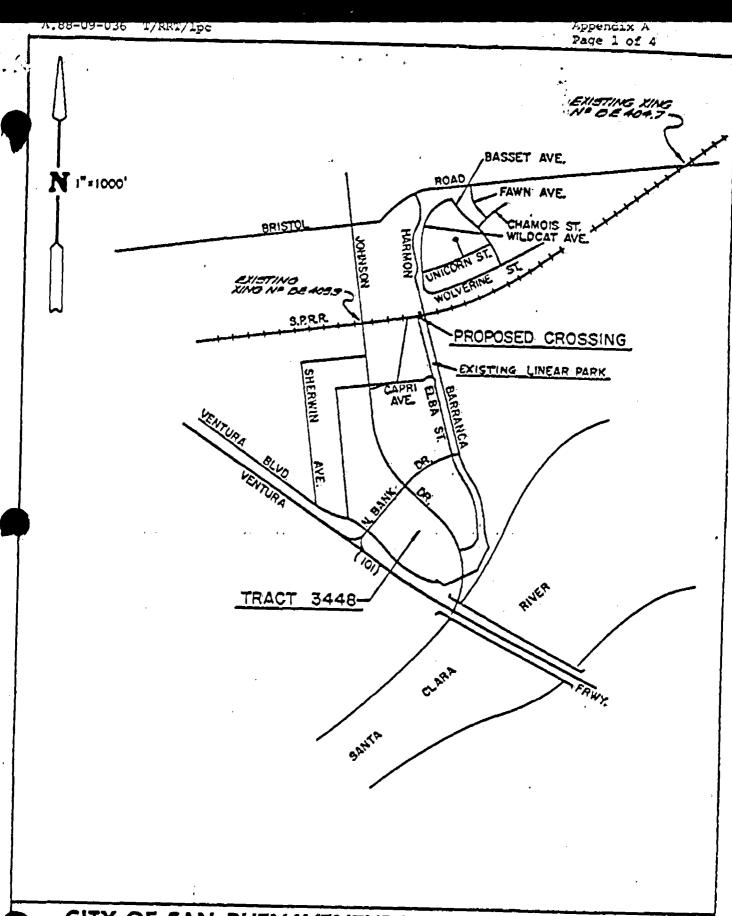
    Dated APR 26 1985, at San Francisco, California

G. MITCHELL WILK
President
FREDERICK R. DUDA
STANLEY W. HULETT
JOHN B. OHANIAN
PATRICIA M. ECKERT
Commissioners

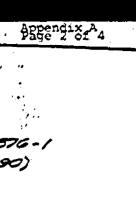
I CERTIEY THAT THIS DECISION WAS ADDITIONED BY THE ABOVE COMMISSIONERS TODAY.

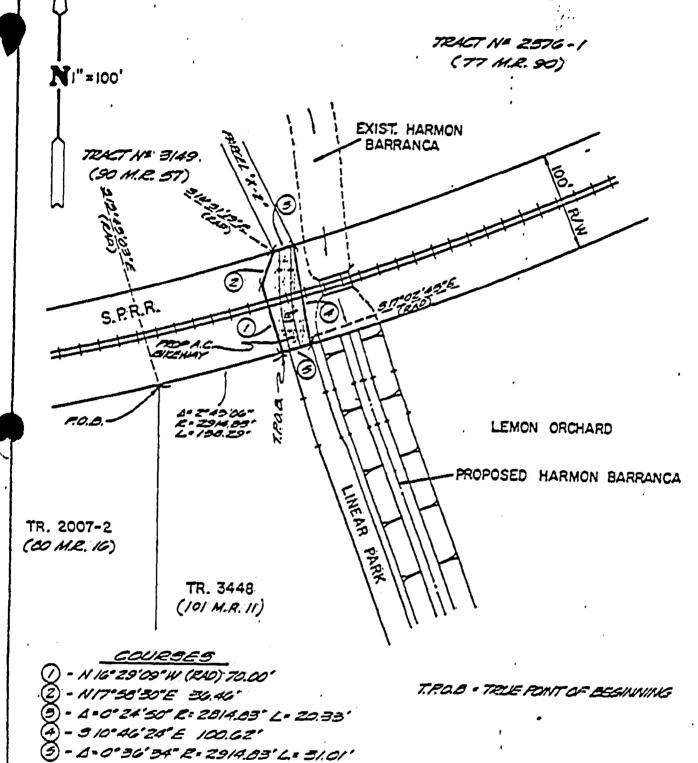
VILLE Weisser, Executive Director

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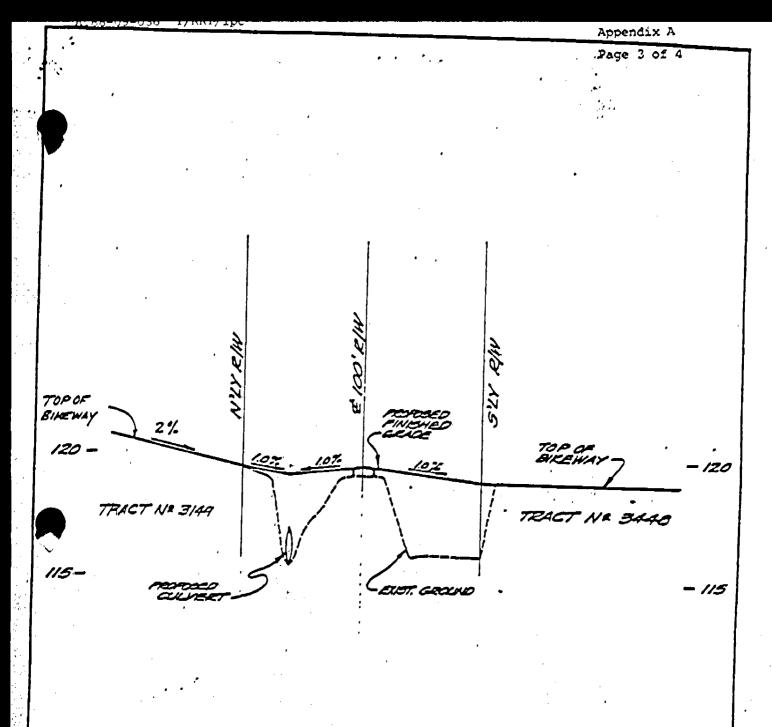




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