Decision **39 05 052** MAY 26 1989

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of the City of Montebello for the construction of a proposed alteration of an existing grade separation of Bluff Road at the Union Pacific Railroad Crossing 3-8.9A in the County of Los Angeles

Application 87-09-015 (Filed September 8, 1987) (Amended March 29, 1989)

### OPINION

The City of Montebello (City), requests authority to reconstruct the Bluff Road Overpass over the tracks of Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UP) Mainline in Montebello, Los Angeles County.

The project will replace the existing wooden bridge Bluff Road Overpass which is substandard in width, structurally inadequate and partially deteriorated with a modern reinforced concrete structure with two 20-foot wide lanes for vehicles and two 6-foot wide sidewalks for pedestrians. The existing approach pavement approach grades will also be improved to provide safe stopping sight distances for automobiles and trucks travelling within the speed limit, 25 miles per hour. The original structure was built in 1902.

The proposed structure would meet the minimum clearances as provided for in General Order No. 26-D. Reduced clearances will be required during construction.

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

2: Replacement or Reconstruction, as the replacement of an existing structure where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity, under Section 15302 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 exemption determination.

The site of the project has been inspected by the Commission's Safety Division Traffic Engineering staff, who after review of the proposed grade separation plans, portions of which have been incorporated in Appendix "A" attached to this order, recommend that City's request be granted.

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.

City wishes to commence construction of Bluff Road grade separation at the earliest possible date. It is therefore requested that the usual 30-day effective date on an order be waived. We will make our order effective immediately.

By protest filed November 3, 1987, UP informed the Commission, that City and UP were not yet in agreement regarding the cost apportionment of the reconstruction of the Bluff Road Overpass. City forwarded copy of agreement between the parties to the Commission, on September 30, 1988. There are no other unresolved issues, a public hearing is not necessary. Findings of Fact

1. City requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to reconstruct the Bluff Road Overpass over the tracks of Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UP) Mainline in Montebello, Los Angeles County.

- 2. Reconstruction of the overcrossing is required to provide a safe and structurally adequate overcrossing of UP's tracks.
- 3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require reconstruction of the Bluff Road Overpass.
- 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. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may 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.
- 3. The usual 30-day effective date on an order should be waived as City wishes to commence construction of the project at the earliest possible date.

### QRDER

### IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The City of Montebello, (City), is authorized to reconstruct the Bluff Road Overpass at separated grades over the tracks of Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UP) Mainline in Montebello, Los Angeles County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application and this order, identified as Crossing 3-8.9-A.

- 2. Clearances shall be in accordance with General Order (GO) 26-D; except that during the period of construction a clearance of not less than 21'-O" above top of rail (vertical) and 8'-6" between the centerline of the track and concrete forms (horizontal), shall be authorized and UP shall be authorized to operate with such reduced clearances provided that instructions are issued by the railroad and filed with the Commission warning the employees of the restricted clearances.
- 3. City shall notify the Commission and UP at least 15, but not more than 30, days in advance of the date when the temporary clearances will be created.
- 4. Walkways shall conform to GO 118. Walkways adjacent to any trackage subject to rail operations shall be maintained free of obstructions and shall be promptly restored to their original condition in the event of damage during construction.
- 5. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement which has been entered into between the parties. A copy of the agreement, together with plans of the crossings approved by UP, shall be filed with the Commission prior to commencing construction. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will 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 today. Dated MAY 26 1989 , at San Francisco, California

> President FREDERICK R. DUDA STANLEY W. HULETT JOHN B. OHANIAN PATRICIA M. ECKERT Commissioners

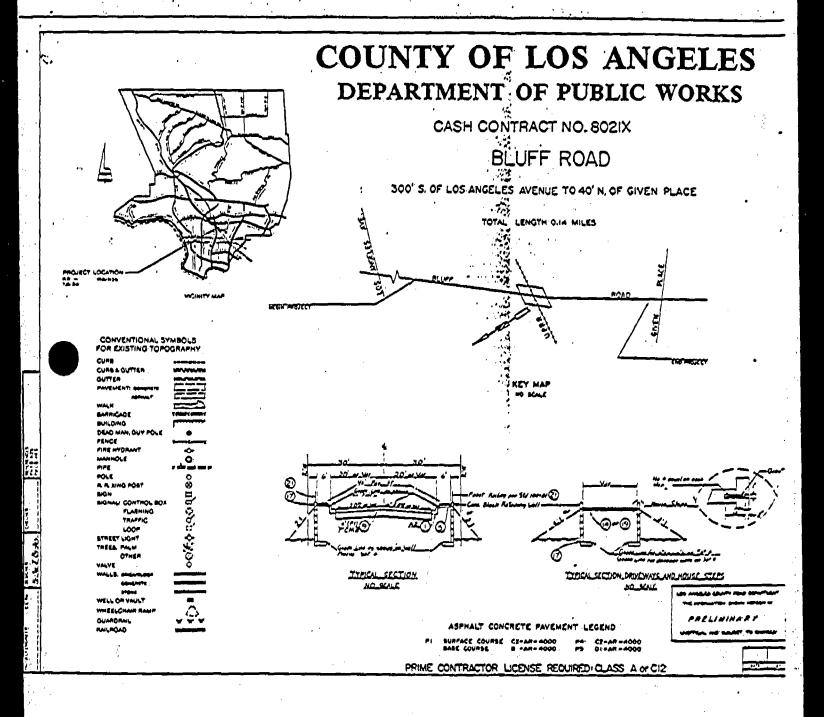
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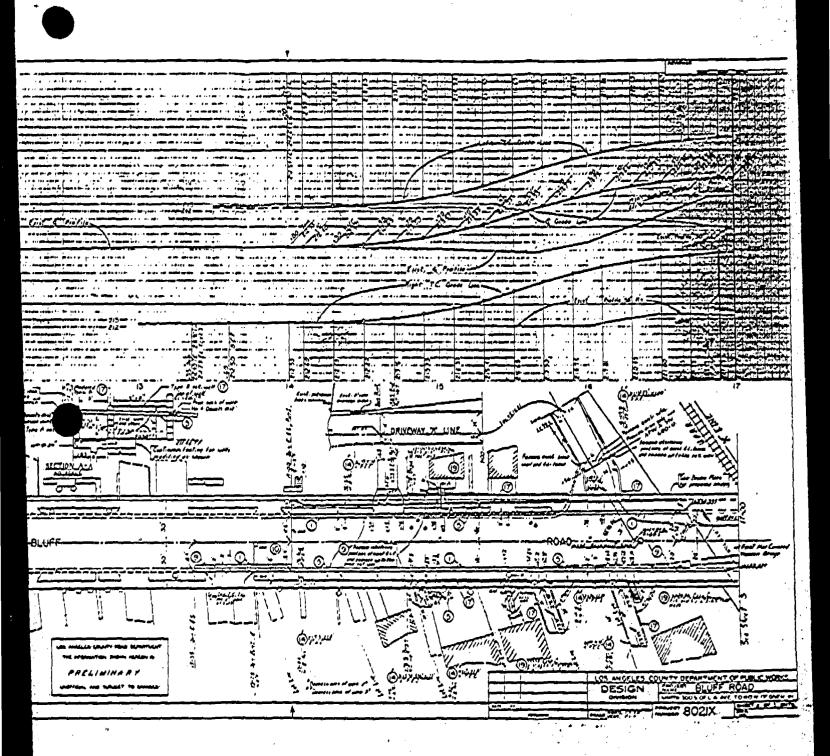
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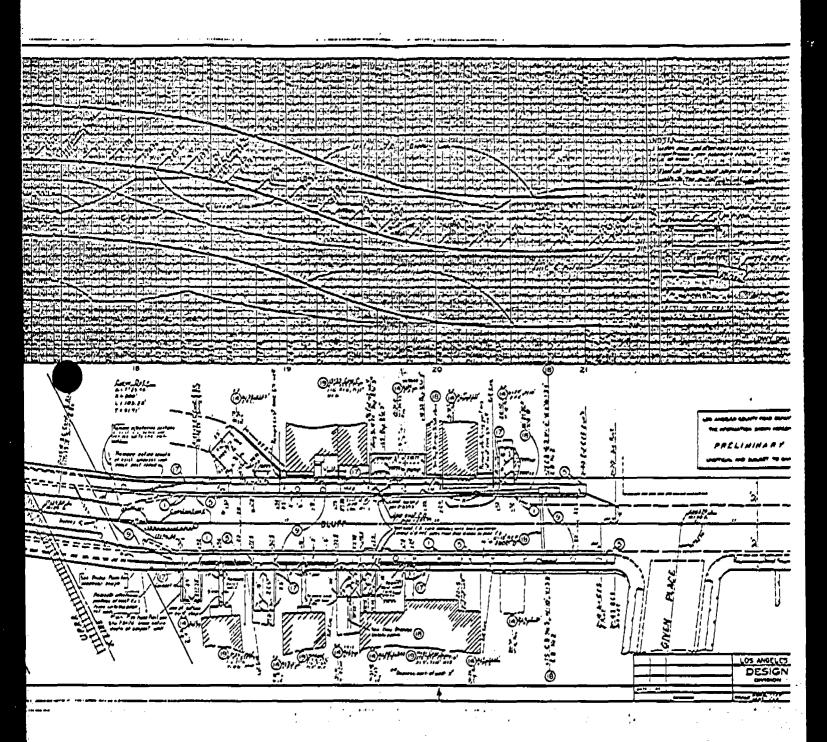
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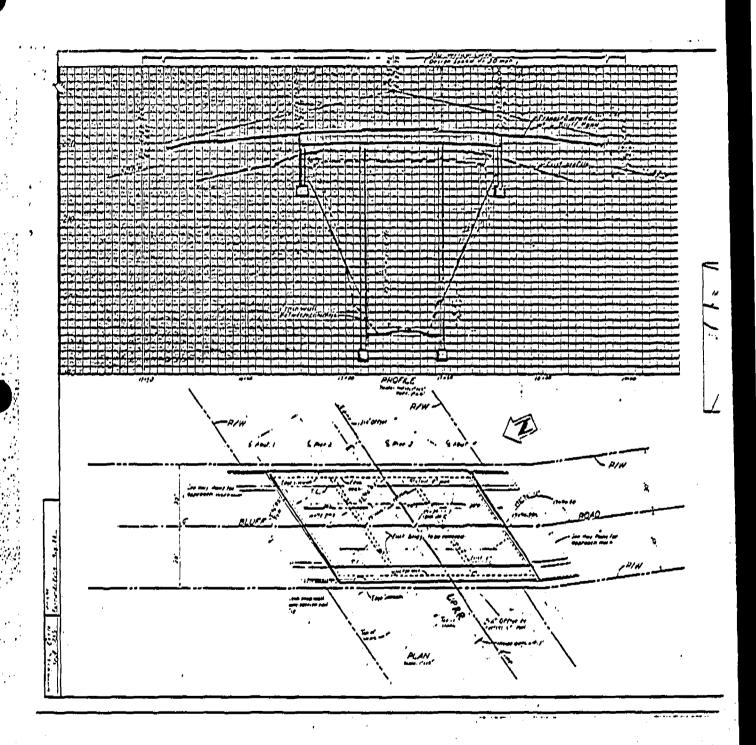
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THOMAS R. COUPE'
Industrial Superintendent
P.I.A. Micrographics

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