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Decision <u>89 07 007</u>

JUL 6 1989

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 along Flower Street; at grade along Washington Boulevard; at grade across a driveway on Flower Street; the westbound lanes of Washington Boulevard; Grand Avenue; Olive Street; Hill Street; Broadway; Main Street; Los Angeles Street; Maple Street; Trinity Street; San Pedro Street; Pedestrian Crossing; Griffith Avenue; Central Avenue; Naomi Avenue; Hooper Avenue and the eastbound) lanes of Washington Boulevard and the construction of a spur track across the westbound lanes of Washington Boulevard,) all in the City of Los Angeles.

Application 88-09-034 (Filed September 15, 1988)

OPINION

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, along Flower Street across a driveway and the westbound lanes of Washington Boulevard and along Washington Boulevard across Grand Avenue, Olive Street, Hill Street, Broadway, Main Street, Los Angeles Street, Maple Street, Trinity Street, San Pedro Street, a pedestrian crossing, Griffith Avenue, Central Avenue, Naomi Avenue, Hooper Avenue, the eastbound lanes of Washington Boulevard and the construction of a spur track across the westbound lanes of Washington Boulevard, (18 crossings) all at grade as set forth in the appendix, in Los Angeles, 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 site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Traffic Engineering staff, who after review of the proposed street and crossing improvement plans, portions of which have been incorporated in the appendix attached to this order, recommend that LACTC be granted the sought authority.

LACTC has met 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. Detailed drawings of the LRV track construction and street geometrics are in the appendix attached to this order.

LACTC wishes to commence construction of this portion of its LRT system 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.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on September 21, 1988. 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, at grade along
 Flower Street and Washington Boulevard across a driveway on Flower
 Street, the westbound lanes of Washington Boulevard, Grand Avenue,
 Olive Street, Hill Street, Broadway, Main Street, Los Angeles
 Street, Maple Street, Trinity Street, San Pedro Street, pedestrian
 crossing, Griffith Avenue, Central Avenue, Naomi Street, Hooper
 Avenue, Washington Boulevard, and Washington Boulevard spur
 crossing (18 crossings), as set forth in the appendix, in Los
 Angeles, Los Angeles County.
- 2. Construction of the two LRV tracks at grade along Flower Street (two crossings) and along Washington Boulevard (sixteen crossings) are an essential element in construction of the LRV system, as set forth in the appendix.
- 3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the tracks at grade along Flower Street and Washington Boulevard across eighteen crossings, as set forth in the appendix.
- 4. Public safety requires that protection at the crossings be LRT traffic signals and traffic lights, as set forth in the appendix.
- 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 at the earliest possible date.

QRDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) is authorized to construct two LRV tracks, at grade along Flower Street and Washington Boulevard across eighteen crossings in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, as set forth in the appendix.
- 2. Construction of the crossings shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of GO 72-B.
- 3. Clearances and walkways shall conform to General Order (GO) 143.
- 4. Protection at the crossings shall be as set forth in the appendix.
- 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 has been filed with the Commission.

- 6. Preemption of traffic signals, pedestrian crossing signals and no left turn signals, shall be actuated by the approach of on-rail vehicles of LACTC and as more fully described in the application and appendix attached to this order.
- 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 ________, at San Francisco, California

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

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

Victor Waisser, Executive Director

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APPENDIX

As part of the project to construct a light rail transit system, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) proposes to construct two LRV tracks at grade along Flower Street and Washington Boulevard and in connection therewith alter the street geometrics in such a manner that the LRV tracks will occupy exclusively the east half of Flower Street and the other half will be used for southbound vehicular traffic (one-way). LRV tracks along Washington Boulevard will occupy the middle portion of the boulevard. Full details for the 18 crossings are indicated on plans attached to the application and this order and more particularly as set forth below:

Crossing No.	Street Name	Crossing Protection
86L-1.17-D	Driveway	Train actuated NLT* sings
84L-1.23	Washington Blvd.	Traffic signals with LRT controlled signals
84L-1.40	Grand Ave.	n
84L-1.44	Olive St.	<i>"</i>
84L-1.49	Hill St.	*
84L-1.56	Broadway	*
84L-1.63	Main St.	M
84L-1.70	Los Angeles St.	"
84L-1-83	Main St.	#
84L-1.98	Trinity St.	**
84L-2.08	San Pedro St.	"
84L-2.15-D	San Pedro Station Pedestrian Walkway	Traffic signals (See Note 2)

APPENDIX

84L-2.34	Griffith Ave.	Traffic signals with LRT controlled signals
84L-2.54	Central Ave.	#
84L-2.71	Naomi St.	"
84L-2.85	Hooper Ave.	<i>w</i>
84L-3.04	Washington Blvd.	"
84L-3.01-C	Spur Washington Blvd.	Flagging (See Note 4)

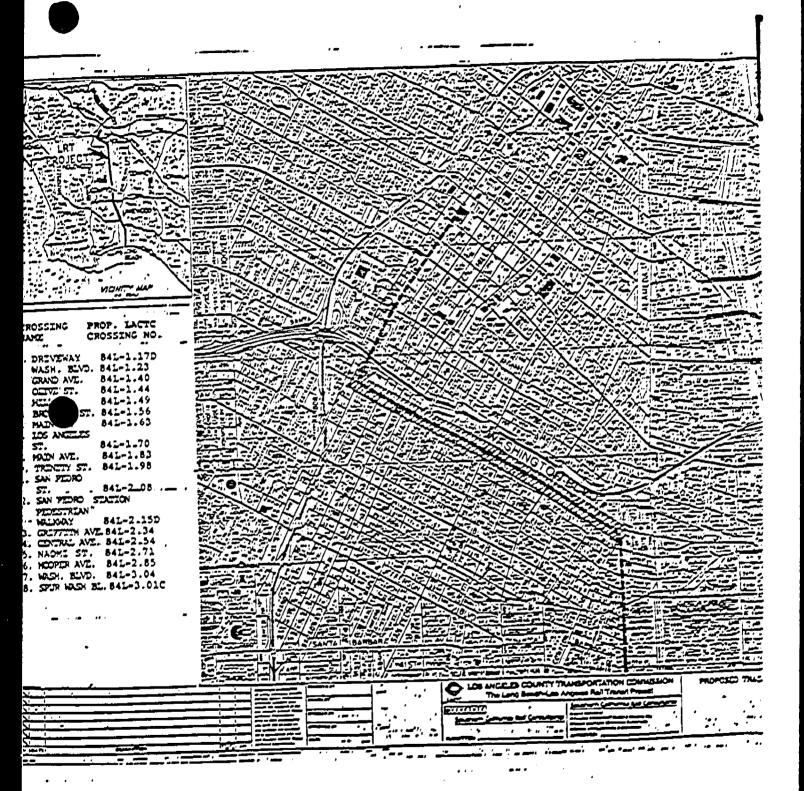
*NLT (no left turn signals)

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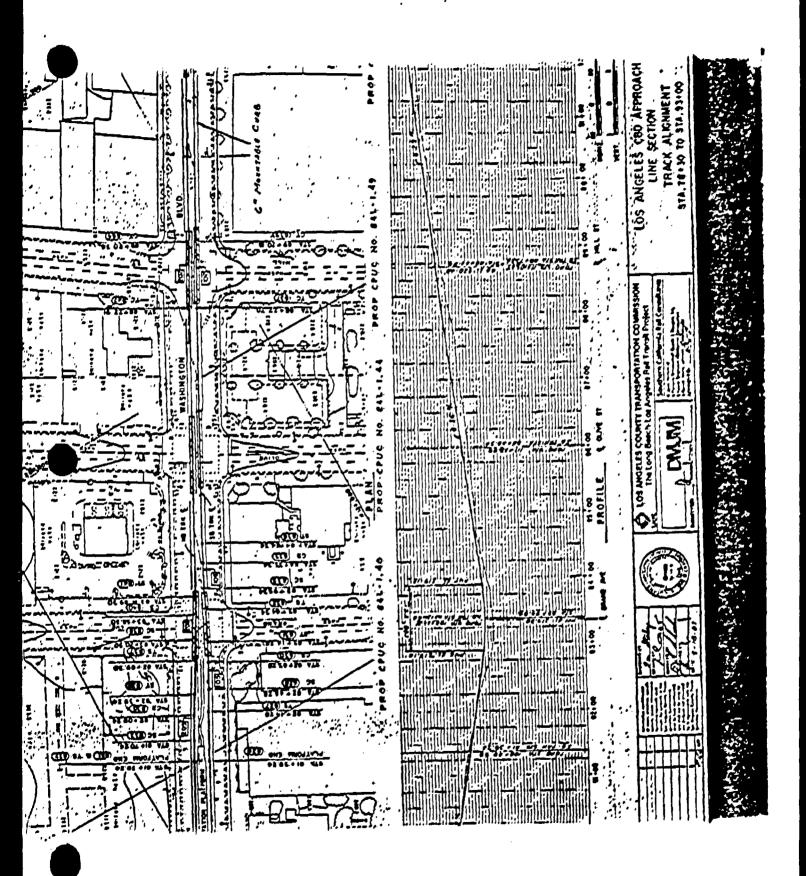
- 1. Light rail vehicle movements will be governed by LRT signals which will be actuated by the vehicular traffic signal system.
- 2. Vehicular traffic and LRT signals at the pedestrian crossing proposed number 84L-2.15D will normally indicate proceed for vehicular traffic and for LRT. "Don"t Walk" indicators will govern pedestrian traffic. Pedestrian push buttons will cause vehicle and LRT signals to indicate "Stop" and change pedestrian signals to "Walk."
- 3. The approach of light rail vehicles to driveway will actuate illuminated no left turn signals at the driveway.
- 4. Operation of light rail vehicles (LRV) on the spur track across Washington Avenue westbound lanes shall be as follows: No on-rail vehicle shall operate over the crossing unless it is first brought to a stop and traffic on the street is protected by a member of the crew, or other competent employee of LACTC, acting as flagman. The flagman shall place a minimum of two fusees on side on the track prior to entry of the on-rail vehicle into the crossing. Written instructions shall be issued by LACTC to trainmen, operating over the crossing, to comply with the flagging instructions. A copy of the instructions shall be filed with the Commission.

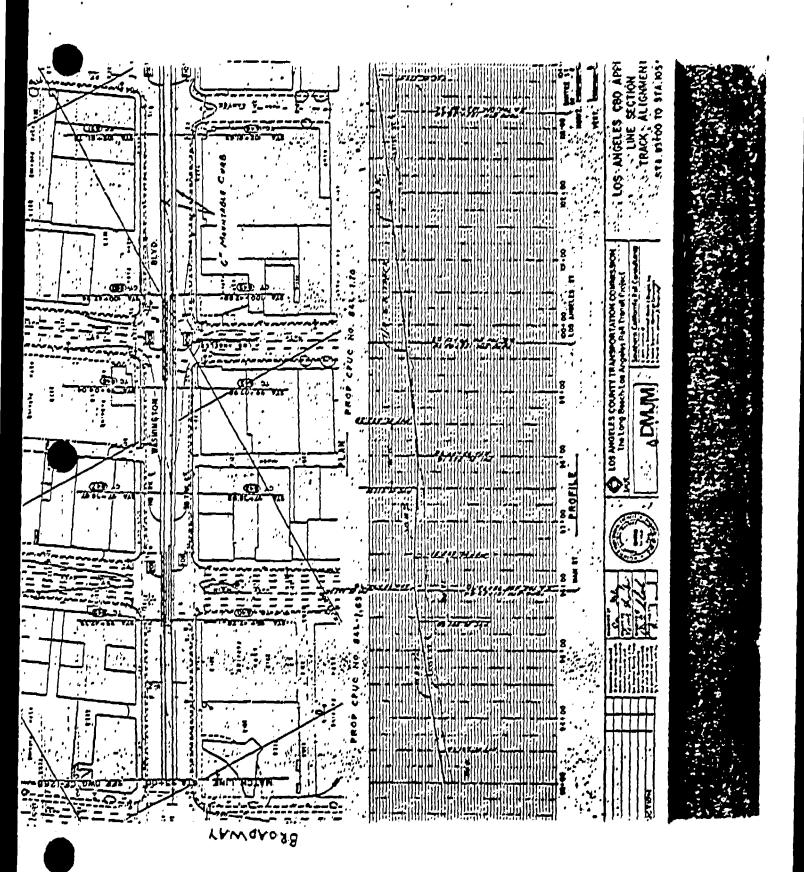
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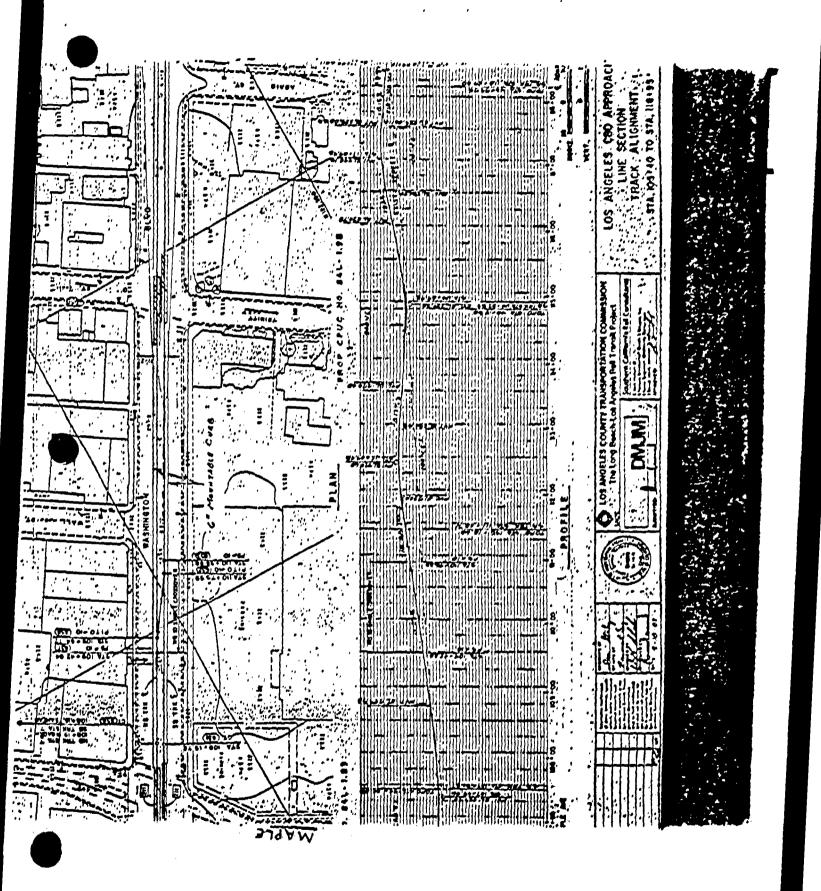
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