

Decision 89-09-080 September 27, 1989

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the City of Galt to )  
construct one grade crossing of the )  
Southern Pacific Transportation )  
Company DG Line, Ione Branch at )  
Carillion Boulevard in said City of )  
Galt, State of California. )

**ORIGINAL**  
Application 89-05-049  
(Filed May 22, 1989)

O P I N I O N

As part of the project to develop the Northeast Specific Plan Area, the City of Galt (City) requests authority to construct Carillion Boulevard at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Ione Branch Line in Galt, Sacramento County.

The project involves the construction of approximately 3,600 residential units on a 1,250 acre undeveloped area within the city. Adverse impacts include groundwater drawdown and quality reduction; loss of vernal pool habitat; pressure for strip development along highway to interior commercial sites; increased traffic and noise levels; and need for new schools. Mitigation measures include support by City of County efforts to develop a surface water supply for the Galt area, and to impose greater restriction on industrial uses; botanical surveys, followed by avoidance or transportation if needed; vigorous implementation of the specific plan; formation of Assessment Districts to finance noise abatement; donation of land and financing school construction per specific plan.

City 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), City approved

the project. On September 2, 1987, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Sacramento County Clerk which found that "The project will have a significant effect on the environment."

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

The application meets the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, including Rule 38, which relates to the construction of a public highway across a railroad. A sketch of the project vicinity is set forth as Appendix 'A'.

A rubber crossing surface, which City has agreed to provide at SPT's request, is not included within the Standards of the Commission's General Order (GO) 72-B. Since there appears to be ample justification for the installation of a rubber crossing surface in this instance, an exemption from GO 72-B to permit the installation will be granted.

The site of the proposed crossing has been inspected by the Commission's Safety Division Traffic Engineering staff. The staff examined the need for and safety of the proposed project, and recommends issuance of an ex parte order authorizing construction of the proposed grade crossing subject to the installation of automatic gate-type signals with cantilevers as protection.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on May 25, 1989. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. City requests authority under Public Utilities (PU) Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct Carillion Boulevard at grade across the tracks of SPT's Ione Branch Line in Galt, Sacramento County.

2. Construction of the Carillion Boulevard grade

crossing is required to provide access to the proposed development of the Northeast Specific Plan Area.

3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the proposed railroad-highway grade crossing.

4. Public safety requires that protection at the crossing be two Standard No. 9-A automatic gate-type signals with cantilevers (GO 75-C).

5. The public and the railroad will benefit from installation of a rubber crossing surface.

6. City is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

7. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's EIR.

8. The project will have a significant effect on the environment; however, the adopted mitigation measures will reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

Conclusions of Law

1. The application should be granted as set forth in the following order.

2. An exemption from GO 72-B should be granted to permit installation of a rubber crossing surface.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The City of Galt (City) is authorized to construct Carillion Boulevard at grade across the tracks Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Ione Branch Line in Galt, at the location and substantially as shown by the plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing DG-113.7.

2. City is granted an exemption from the provisions of GO 72-B to permit installation of a rubber crossing surface.

3. Construction of the crossing shall be in accordance with the provisions of GO 72-B except that a rubber crossing surface shall be installed.

4. Clearances shall be in accordance with GO 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO 118.

5. Protection at the crossing shall be two Standard No. 9-A automatic gate-type signals with cantilevers (GO-75-C).

6. Construction expense of the crossing and installation cost of the automatic protection shall be borne by City.

7. Maintenance of the crossing shall conform to GO 72-B. Maintenance cost of the automatic protection shall be borne by City under PU Code Section 1202.2.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. The application is granted as set forth above.  
This order becomes effective 30 days from today.  
Dated SEP 27 1989, at San Francisco, California.

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

Commissioner Frederick R. Duda,  
being necessarily absent, did  
not participate.

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

*Wesley Franklin*

WESLEY FRANKLIN, Acting Executive Director

*PB*

TWIN CITIES ROAD

(104)

# GALT CALIFORNIA



# APPENDIX A

Decision 89 09 080

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