

S/RRT/dt *

Decision 89 11 022 NOV 3 1989**ORIGINAL**

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 light rail vehicle)
 tracks at separated grade above)
 Santa Fe Avenue, the alternation of)
 a three track crossing at grade into)
 a one track crossing at grade across)
 Santa Fe Avenue in the County of)
Los Angeles, California.)

Application 86-08-035
 (Filed August 22, 1986)
 (Amended December 9, 1986)

INTERIM OPINION AND ORDER MODIFYING DECISION 87-07-077

On July 29, 1987, we issued Decision (D.) 87-07-077 in Application (A.) 86-08-035 authorizing the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) to remove two and relocate one of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Wilmington Branch Line tracks at grade across Santa Fe Avenue in Los Angeles County.

By Petition for Modification of D.87-07-077 filed June 21, 1989, LACTC requests that the Commission issue an Order Modifying D.87-07-077, to authorize the construction of light rail vehicle (LRV) tracks at separated grades over Santa Fe Avenue.

LACTC states in the Petition that the Interim Order (D.87-07-077) specifically states that LACTC was not authorized to construct the grade separation structure of the two LRV tracks until such a time as the Commission ruled by further order on the need to install railings on aerial structures.

LACTC further states that, "As part of the effort to construct the Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project, LACTC has submitted fourteen applications to the Commission for authority

to build light rail vehicle (LRV) tracks at separated grades. The Commission has issued twelve Interim Orders concerning these Applications."

In all but one, LACTC was granted authority to construct the tracks pending resolution of the need to install railings on the aerial structures. The Order regarding Santa Fe Avenue was the only one in which the Commission failed to grant LACTC the necessary authority to build the LRV tracks (D.87-07-077).

Construction of these tracks must be allowed to continue while the handrail issue is being resolved in order to avoid costly delays. This is an important transit project that, once operational, will provide a significant improvement in transportation access for Los Angeles commuters as well as reduce vehicular emissions in Los Angeles County."

The Safety Division Traffic Engineering staff, after viewing the projects in the field as well as reviewing construction plans and prior Commission decisions and interim orders, is of the pinion that LACTC's request has merit and should be granted. The twelve Interim Orders concerning the LACTC applications are shown on Page 1 of Appendix "A".

DISCUSSION

During the course of planning and review the Commission's Rail/Transit Planning and Policy Branch was initially of the opinion that consideration should be given to the installation of railings and walkways on LRV aerial structures, at such locations where installation might appear desirable on the Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project. After several meetings by all the concerned parties during a two year time frame, LACTC advised the Commission that it believed it could successfully satisfy the individual concerns of the affected agencies along the corridor. It was their intention to address and resolve each issue with each agency on a case-by-case, agency-by-agency basis.

LACTC further believes that because of the unique and diverse circumstances associated with each segment of the project, that their proposed course of action would satisfactorily resolve any concerns of the transit corridor agencies as well as reservations that the Commission staff may have had initially concerning the issue of handrail/walkways for the Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project aerial structures.

Because of the urgency of this project and the need for LACTC to move ahead with the construction of this important segment of LRT system we will issue an order granting interim authority for the construction of LRV tracks as requested by applicant in petition for modification. A later final order will be issued addressing the question of aerial structures in this proceeding and in those other proceedings where this question has been raised (Applications 86-08-035, 87-12-034, 88-08-005, 88-06-037, and 88-06-024, et al) This will allow for a more comprehensive and consistent treatment of these related matters, without unduly delaying LACTC's necessary construction work at the Santa Fe Avenue site now. The Safety Division's Traffic Engineering Section has studied the need for the proposed grade separation and recommends that one be granted at this location.

LACTC wishes to commence construction the Santa Fe Avenue aerial structure at the earliest possible in order to meet the completion date of June 1990. It is therefore requested that the usual 30-day effective date on an order be waived. We will make our order effective immediately.

Findings of Fact

1. LACTC requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct two LRV tracks at separated grades over Santa Fe Avenue in Los Angeles County.

2. Construction of the LRV tracks at separated grades over Santa Fe Avenue is an essential element in the construction of the LRT system.

3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the two LRV tracks at separated grades over Santa Fe Avenue as indicated in Appendix "A" attached to this order.

4. The need for railings and walkways on LRV aerial structures will be dealt with by further order of the Commission.

Conclusions of Law

1. The Petition for Modification of Decision (D.) 87-07-077 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.

INTERIM ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) is authorized to construct two LRV tracks at separated grades over Santa Fe Avenue, to be identified as Crossing 84L-14.4-B in Los Angeles County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application and Appendix "A" of this order.

2. Clearances and walkways shall be in accordance with General Order (GO) 143.

3. 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.

4. The Commission will issue a final order concerning

APPENDIX "A"

<u>Location</u>	<u>Application #</u>	<u>Interim Decision #</u>
Santa Fe Avenue	86-08-035	87-07-077*
Firestone Blvd.	87-12-034	88-03-031
Owens Corning Spur	88-08-005	88-12-007
UP San Pedro Branch	88-10-008	89-02-056
Long Beach Freeway	88-10-015	89-01-031
Dawson Spur	88-11-001	89-04-006
Rosecrans Avenue	88-11-030	89-03-036
Dominguez Junction	88-12-021	89-04-033
Slauson Avenue	88-12-029	89-04-012
Alameda Street	88-12-033	89-04-039
60th Street	88-12-054	89-04-065
AT&SF Harbor Subdiv.	89-01-044	89-04-063

*This is the only Interim Order that specifically forbids the construction of two LRV tracks at separated grades, pending resolution of the handrail walkway issue. All other orders allow construction of LRV tracks at separated grades pending a final order.

railings and walkways on aerial structures at a later date.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. The application is granted as set forth above.

This order is effective today.

Dated NOV 3 1989 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.

Wesley Franklin

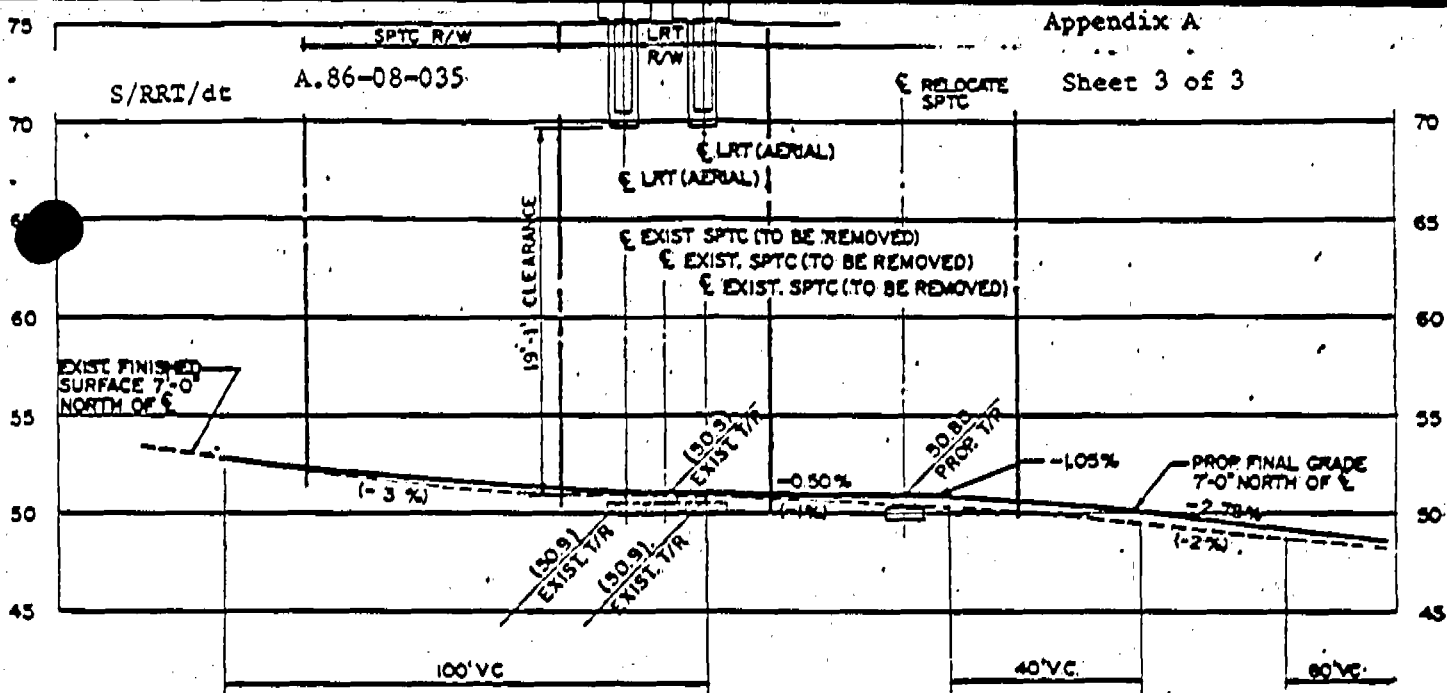
WESLEY FRANKLIN, Acting Executive Director

A.86-08-035

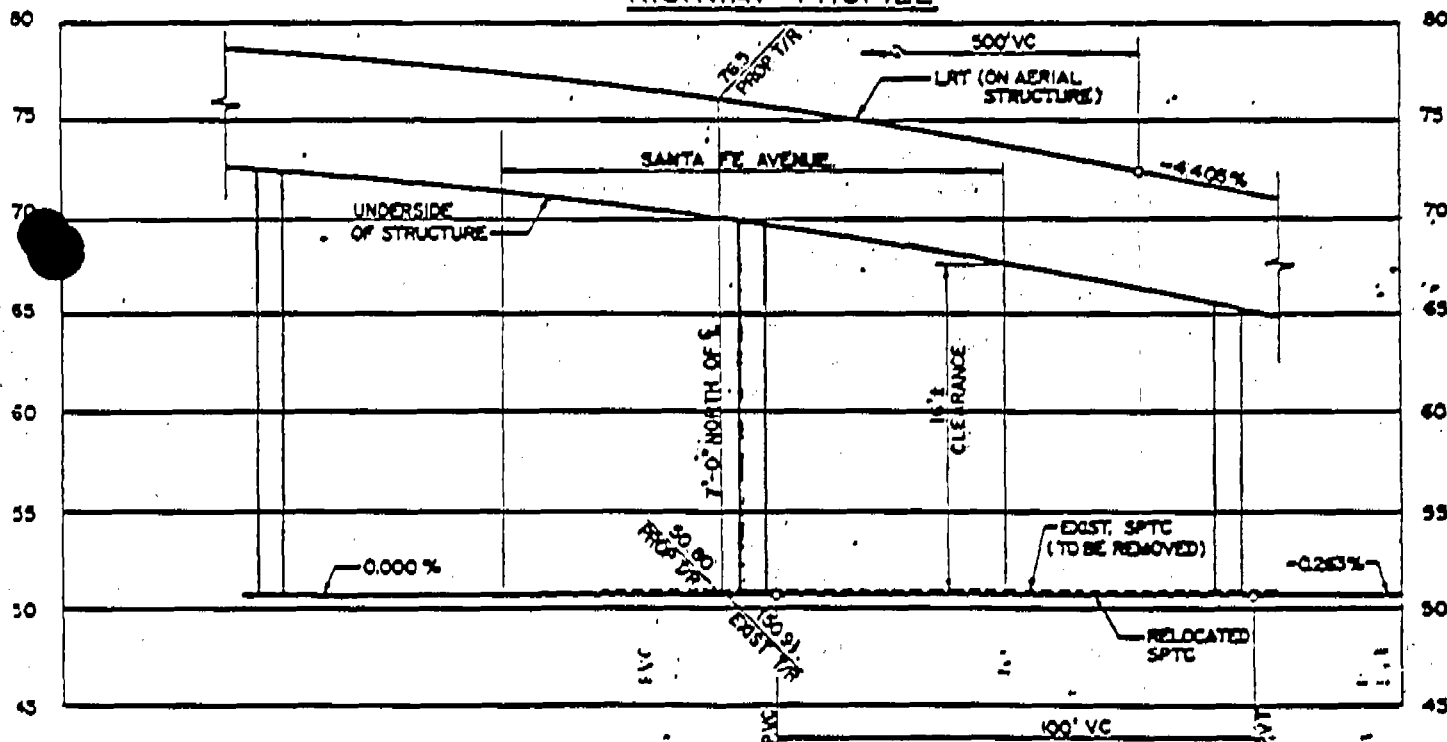


EXISTING CURBS
TO BE REMOVED

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HIGHWAY PROFILE



RAILROAD PROFILE

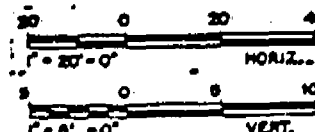


EXHIBIT B

COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Los Angeles Rail Transit Project

Southern California Rail Consultants

Consultants:
A Joint Venture of
Parrish Engineering & Construction, Inc.
Parrish Engineers & Constructors Corporation
Denton, Mann, Johnson, & Mendenhall

APPROVED:

PROPOSED SPTC TRACK RELOCATION AND CONSTRUCTION
OF LACTC LRT TRACK GRADE SEPARATION
AT SANTA FE AVENUE GRADE CROSSING
CPUC CROSSING No. B8H496.62, DOT CROSSING No. 747796 P
PROPOSED LACTC CROSSING NO. 84L-14.4-B
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

CONTRACT NO.
DRAWING NO. 39

REV. SHEET NO.

SCALE

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