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Decision 90 04 017 APR 11 1990

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Application of the City of Carpinteria to Construction a below grade City Class I Bikeway under the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company in the County of Santa Barbara, State of California

Application 89-12-013 (Filed December 11, 1989)

<u>OPINION</u>

The City of Carpinteria (City) requests authority to construct a Class I Bikeway at separated grades under the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Coast Main Line in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County.

The proposed bikeway crossing will provide improved access from the residential communities on the north side of the tracks to the beach areas on the south side of the tracks. The bicycle undercrossing is a part of a segment of the City's designated Bikeway Master Plan that will also provide access to the Carpinteria Beach State Park located south of the tracks.

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. After preparation and review of an Initial Study, City issued a Negative Declaration. A Notice of Determination was filed on April 4, 1988 with the Santa Barbara County Clerk which found that , "The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.".

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has independently reviewed and assessed the Initial Study and Negative Declaration. The site of the proposed Bikeway Undercrossing has been inspected by the Commission's Traffic A.89-12-013 S/RRT/1w

Engineering staff. After a review and analysis of future train traffic and the bikeway geometrics in the area, the staff recommends that approval be granted to construct the bikeway crossing at separated grades. Detailed drawings of the proposed construction are included in Appendix A attached to this order.

By Decision (D.) 88-09-058, dated September 28, 1988, in Application (A.) 88-05-031 the Commission previously granted the City authority to construct a similar Bikeway Undercrossing approximately 1,100 feet west of the proposed project location. The City Council determined that this new location offers superior public benefit by providing enhanced coastal access, scenic and recreational opportunity. City has advised the Commission staff that new engineering bikeway studies indicate that the new location appears to be more economically feasible and, therefore, the previously authorized bikeway crossing will not be constructed.

City has met the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures, including Rule 38, which relates to construction of Public Highways across railroad tracks.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on December 13, 1989. 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 a Class I Bikeway undercrossing at separated grades under the tracks of SPT's coast Main Line in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County.

2. Construction of the Bikeway Undercrossing is required to provide access to the beach areas on the south side of the SPT tracks from the residential areas on the north, as well as to provide access to a City Park on the south side of the tracks.

3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the proposed Bikeway Undercrossing at separated grades.

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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 City's Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

6. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Conclusion of Law

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

QRDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The City of Carpinteria (City), is authorized to construct bikeway crossing at separated grades under the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Coast Main Line in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County, at the location and substantially as shown on plans attached to the application, and Appendix A to this order, to be identified as Crossing E-382.41-BD.

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

3. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into among the parties. A copy of the agreement, together with plans of the crossing approved by SPT, shall be filed with the Commission prior to commencing construction. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission shall apportion the costs of construction and maintenance by further order.

4. Decision 88-09-058, dated September 28, 1988, in Application 88-05-031, which authorized construction of Bikeway Crossing E-382.11-BD, which will not be constructed, shall be allowed to expire.

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5. 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.

6. 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.

7. The application is granted as set forth above. This order is effective 30 days from today. Dated <u>APR 111990</u>, 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

1. Cana IAN. Executive Director ŊВ



COASTAL BINE/HIRE TRAIL ---

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UNAUTHORIZED CHANGES & USES: The engineer preparing these plans will not be responsible for, or liable for, unauthorized changes to or uses of these plans. All changes to the plans must be in writing and must be approved by the preparer of these plans.

