

S/ELB/bcy

Decision 90 07 025 JUL 6 1990

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the Santa Clara County)  
 Transit District for an order )  
 authorizing construction of grade )  
 separated crossings of the Auzerais )  
 Avenue Overcrossing (Offramp) and )  
 Northbound Route 87 Connector by the )  
 light rail transit line of the )  
 Guadalupe Corridor Project in the )  
 City of San Jose, California. )  
 Crossing No. 82A-2.49 & 82A-2.46. )

**ORIGINAL**

Application 90-04-031  
(Filed April 19, 1990)

O P I N I O N

As part of the Guadalupe Corridor Project to construct a light rail transit system, a four-lane freeway, and bicycle facilities, the Santa Clara County Transit District (SCCTD) requests authority to construct its light rail vehicle (LRV) tracks at separated grades under the Auzerais Avenue off ramp and the northbound State Route (SR) 87 connector in San Jose, Santa Clara County.

The multi-modal transportation improvements will provide relief to congested major highways and local streets in the area. The LRT system is approximately 20 miles in length between Great America Amusement Park in north Santa Clara and the IBM business park in south San Jose. The grade separation structures are part of a project to extend the Guadalupe Corridor Freeway southerly on new alignment. Major impacts include displacement of 69 residential and 17 non-residential structures, and increased traffic congestion at isolated locations. Mitigation measures will include relocation assistance and possible future grade separations.

The Guadalupe Corridor Joint Powers Board (GCJPB) consisting of SCCTD; the State of California, Department of Transportation; the County of Santa Clara; the City of San Jose; and the City of Santa Clara, 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. The project is covered by a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) which was approved by the Federal Highway Administration on August 12, 1983.

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's FEIS. The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission's Safety Division Traffic Engineering staff. The staff examined the need for and safety of the proposed rail crossings, and recommends that the new grade separated crossings be authorized as requested.

Application 90-04-031 meets 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. A sketch of the project vicinity is set forth as Appendix A.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on April 23, 1990. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. SCCTD requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct its LRV tracks at separated grades under the Auzerais Avenue off ramp and the northbound SR-87 connector in San Jose, Santa Clara County.

2. Construction of the grade separated crossings is an essential element in construction of the Guadalupe Corridor Project.

3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the grade separated crossings.

4. GCJPB 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 FEIS.

6. The Guadalupe Corridor Project will have significant effect on the environment; however, mitigation measures will reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

Conclusion of Law

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

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Santa Clara County Transit District (SCCTD) is authorized to construct its LRV tracks at separated grades under the Auzerais Avenue off ramp and the northbound SR-87 connector in San Jose, Santa Clara County, at the locations and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossings 82A-2.49-A and 82A-2.46-A, respectively.

2. LRV operating clearances at the crossings shall be in accordance with GO 143.

3. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into between the parties. A copy of the agreement, together with plans of the crossings approved by all parties involved, 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, SCCTD shall notify the Commission's Safety Division 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 conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require.

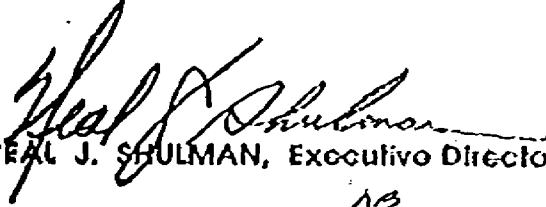
6. The application is granted as set forth above.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated JUL 6 1990, at San Francisco, California.

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

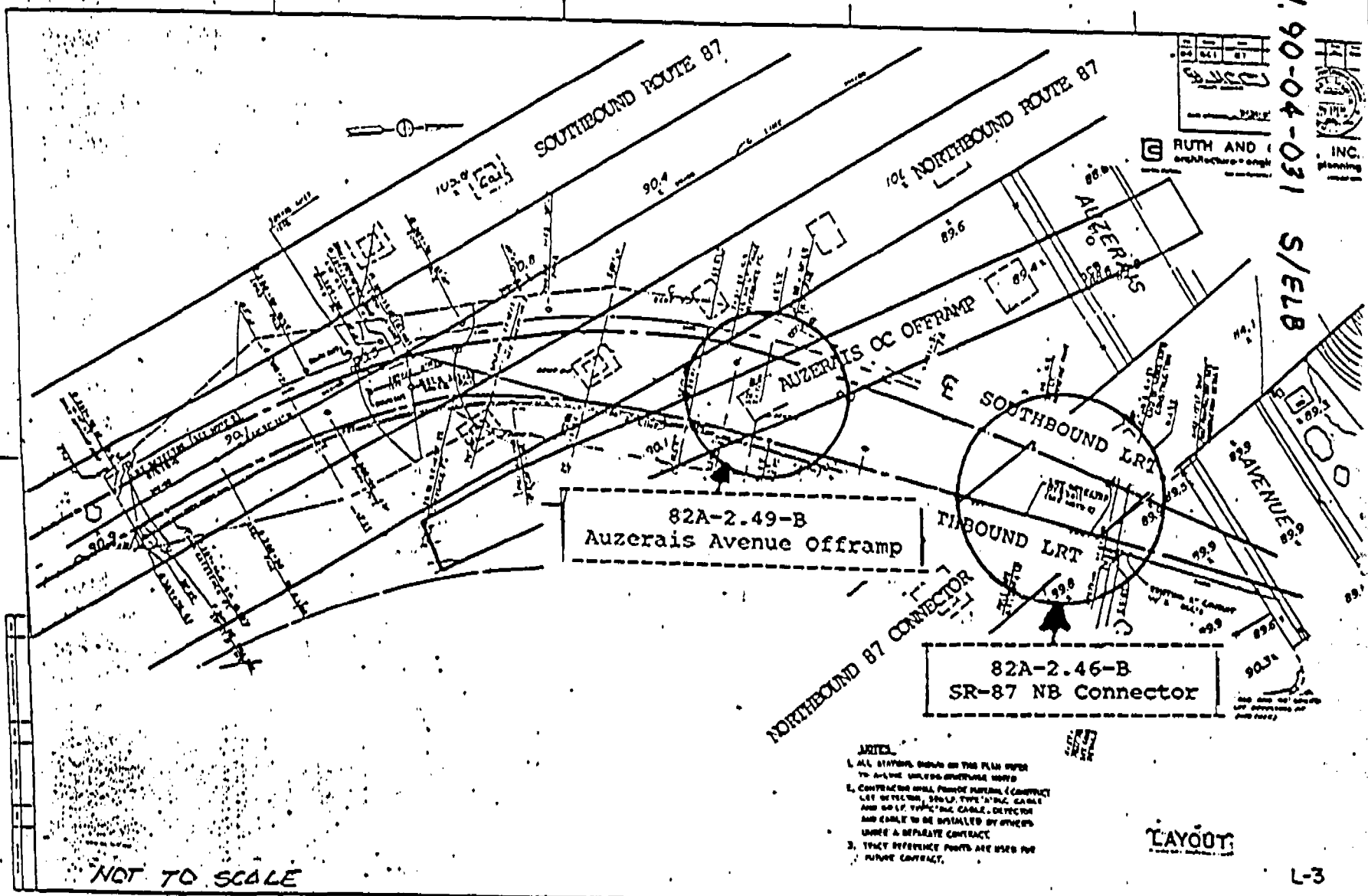
I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION  
WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE  
COMMISSIONERS TODAY

  
NEAL J. SHULMAN, Executive Director

A. 90-04-031 S/ELB

NO.	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION
1			
2			
3			

RUTH AND  
ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS  
INC.



- NOTES**
1. ALL STATIONS SHOWN ON THIS PLAN MUST BE LOCATED USING THE STRUCTURE MAPS
  2. CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE PAPERWORK (CONTRACT LEE DETECTION, 300 LB. TYPE "A" CABLE AND 50 LB. TRAFFIC CABLE, DETECTOR AND CABLE TO BE INSTALLED BY OTHERS UNDER A SEPARATE CONTRACT
  3. TRUCK REFERENCE POINTS ARE USED FOR FUTURE CONTRACT.

LAYOUT

APPENDIX A