## S/RRT/jae \*

### Decision <u>90-09-033</u> September 12, 1990

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In The Matter Of The Application Of ) The County Of Los Angeles For An ) Order Authorizing The County To ) Relocate The Existing Bike Path Along) The Rio Hondo (Lario) Bikeway Under ) The Southern Pacific Transportation ) Company (SPTC) La Habra Branch Line ) Crossing BBJ-494.21 BD And Under The ) Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway ) (AT&SF RY) Company Crossing ) 2-150.0 BD

Application 90-02-035 (Filed February 13, 1990)

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As part of the project to enhance riding conditions and improve the safety for bicyclists, the County of Los Angeles (County) requests authority to relocate portions of an existing bike path along the Rio Hondo (Lario) Bikeway in order to separate bicycle traffic and Flood Control véhicular traffic. County proposes to construct ramps under the existing railroad bridges of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) La Habra Branch Line and The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company's (AT&SF) Main Line at separated grades in Pico Rivera, Los Angeles County.

At the existing LARIO Bikeway undercrossings sight distance is restricted. County believes that the proposed modification and improvements will increase the capacity and safety of parallel streets by attracting bicyclists from the streets to the relocated bike path.

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County 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. County has determined that the project is categorically exempt from CEQA under Section 15304 (h) of the CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Admin. Code-Div. 6). Section 15304 applies to activities involving the minor alterations to land with subsection (h) being applicable to the creation of bicycle paths on existing rights-of-way.

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

The sites of the proposed Bike Path undercrossings have been inspected by the Commission's Traffic Engineering staff. After a review and analysis of future train traffic and bikeway geometrics of the area, the staff recommends that approval be granted to construct the bikeway crossings at separated grades.

The County has met the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure including Rule 38, which relates to the construction of public highways across railroad tracks.

Notice of the application and amendment were published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on February 22, 1990. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

### Findings of Pact

1. County requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to relocate the existing bike path by constructing ramps, as indicated in the application and the Appendix, under the tracks of SPT's La Habra Branch Line and

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AT&SF's Main Line, at separated grades, in Pico Rivera, Los Angeles County.

2. Construction of the Rio Hondo (Lario) Bike Path Undercrossings is required to enhance riding conditions for bicyclists, and will also help to improve the capacity and safety of parallel streets by attracting bicyclists from streets to the bike path.

3. Public convenience and necessity require the relocation of the bike path undercrossings at separated grades.

4. County 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 exemption determination.

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

### Conclusions of Law

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

2. The activity is not covered by the requirements set forth in CEQA and, therefore, the Guidelines (14 Cal. Admin. Code-Div. 6) concerning the evaluation of projects and the preparation and review of environmental documents do not apply.

### <u>ORDBR</u>

### IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The County of Los Angeles (County) is authorized to relocate the existing bike path undercrossings at separated grade under the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) La Habra Branch Line and The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company's (AT&SF) Main Line in Pico Rivera, Los Angeles County, at the location and substantially as shown on plans attached to the

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Plication and the Appendix of this order, to be identified as
Crossings BBJ-494.21-BD (SPT) and 2-150.0-BD (AT&SF).

2. Clearances shall conform to 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 between the parties. A copy of the agreement, together with plans approved by SPT and AT&SF, shall be filed with the Commission's Safety Division 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, the County shall notify the Commission's Safety Division in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

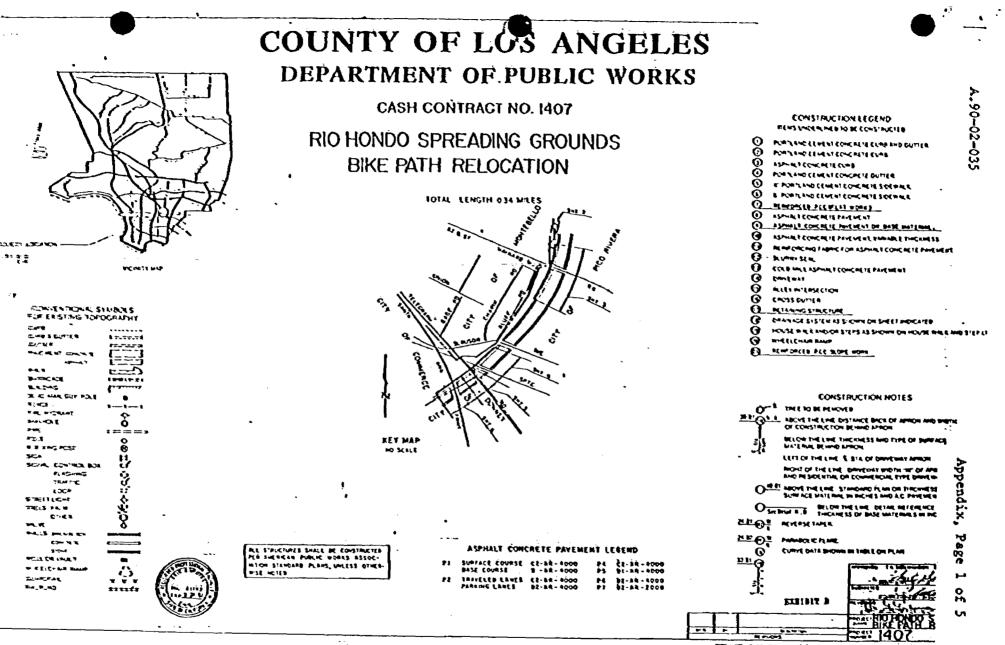
5. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within two years unless time is extended or if the above conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require.

> > G. MITCHELL WILK President FREDERICK R. DUDA STANLEY W. HULETT PATRIGIA M. ECKERT Commissioners

Commissioner John B. Ohanian, being necessarily absent, did not participate.

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

dAN, Executive Director



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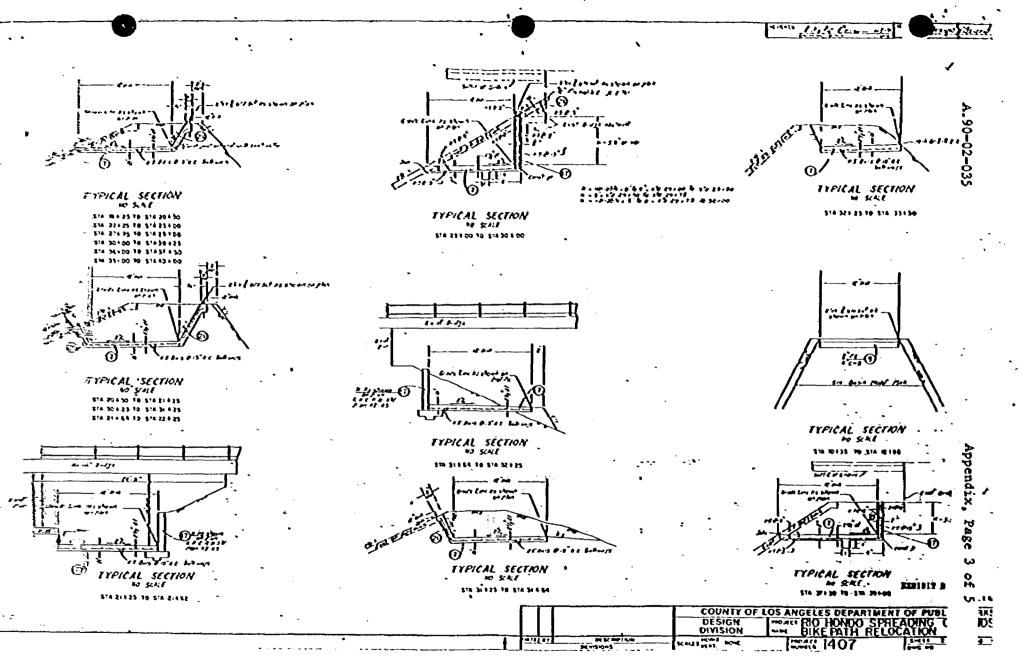


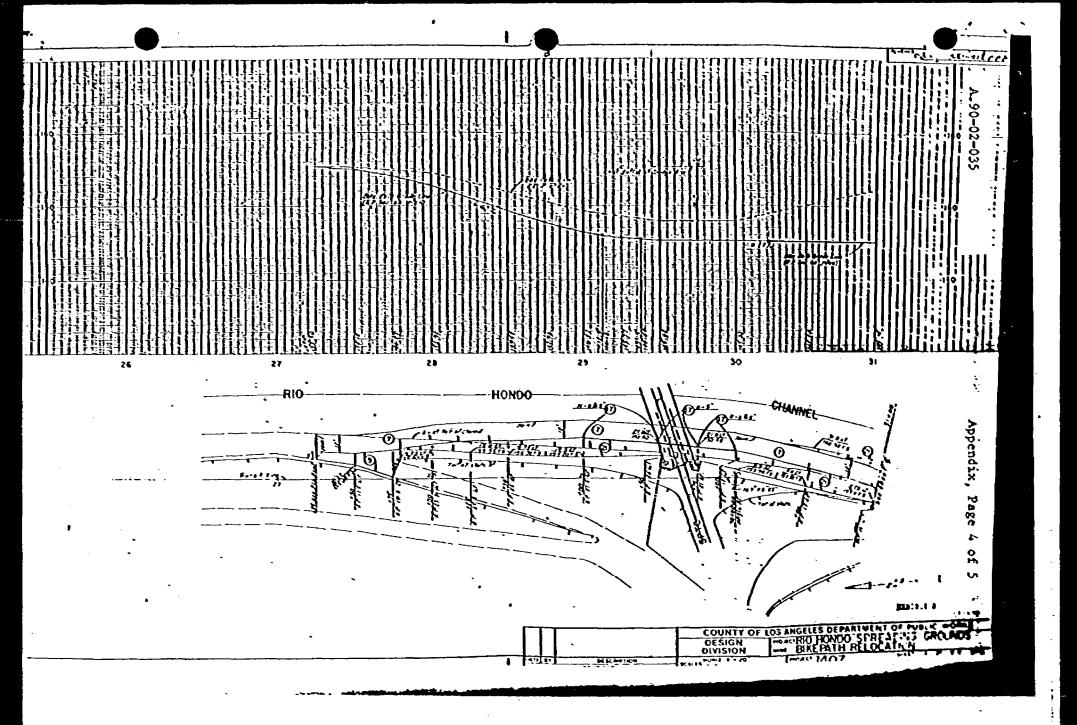
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