S/ELB/bcy

Decision 91 01 046 JAN 25 1991

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the State of Califor-) nia, Department of Transportation for) an order authorizing the Department) to: (a) Replace the existing East) San Jose Underpass by constructing) a new underpass on existing but) raised alignment to accommodate the) widening of Route 101 beneath the) right-of-way and San Jose Branch) Line Track of the Union Pacific) Railroad Company; (b) Construct and later remove a) tomporary shoofly underpass over) Route 101 on alignment adjacent to) the existing East San Jose Underpass.) The temporary shoofly will replace) the existing track by carrying train) traffic during construction of the) East San Jose Underpass replacement.)



<u>OPINION</u>

As part of the six mile long project to widen U.S. Route 101 from the Route 280/680/101 Interchange to the De La Cruz Boulevard/Trimble Road Interchange, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) requests authority to reconstruct and lengthen the East San Jose Underpass over Route 101 at separated grades under the tracks of Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UPR) San Jose Branch Line in San Jose, Santa Clara County. Authority is also requested to construct a temporary shoofly track and structure at separated grades over Route 101 at a location west of the existing structure.

The proposed freeway widening will provide reduced congestion and safer traffic flow in the San Jose area. The new structure will be longer to carry one track of UPR's San Jose Branch Line over widened Route 101.

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Caltrans 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 initial study, Caltrans issued a Negative Declaration and approved the project. On May 3, 1989, a Notice of Determination was filed with the 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 reviewed and considered the lead agency's Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

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 construction and recommends that authority to construct the crossings be granted as requested.

Caltrans has met 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.

Pindings of Fact

1. Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on November 20, 1990. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

2. Caltrans requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to reconstruct and lengthen the East San Jose Underpass over Route 101 at separated grades under the tracks of UPR's San Jose Branch Line in San Jose, Santa Clara County.

3. Railroad operations require construction of a temporary shoofly track to the west of the existing tracks during reconstruction of the East San Jose Underpass.

4. Construction of the shoofly track requires that a temporary bridge carrying one track be constructed over Route 101

to provide for continued rail service during reconstruction of the East San Jose Underpass.

5. Reconstruction and lengthening of the East San Jose Underpass is required as part of the widening of Route 101 from the Route 280/680/101 Interchange to the De La Cruz Boulevard/Trimble Road Interchange in San Jose, Santa Clara County.

6. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require reconstruction of the East San Jose Underpass.

7. Caltrans is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

8. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

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

Conclusion of Law

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

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans), is authorized to reconstruct and lengthen the East San Jose Underpass over Route 101 at separated grades under the tracks of Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UPR) San Jose Branch Line in San Jose, Santa Clara County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, identified as Crossing 4G-16.1-B.

2. Caltrans is also authorized to construct a temporary shoofly track at separated grades over Route 101 west of the East San Jose Underpass for use during its reconstruction.

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3. Upon completion of the reconstruction of the East San Jose Underpass, the shoofly track and temporary bridge shall be physically removed.

4. Clearances shall be in accordance with General Order (GO) 26-D.

5. Walkways shall conform to GO 118. Walkways adjacent to any trackage subject to rail operations shall be maintained free of obstructions and shall be promptly restored to their original condition in the event of damage during construction.

6. 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 UPR, 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.

7. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, Caltrans shall notify the Commission's Safety Division in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

8. 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.

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The application is granted as set forth above.
This order becomes effective 30 days from today.
Dated <u>JAN 2 5 1991</u>, at San Francisco, California.

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

CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION WAS APPROVED BY THE ADOVE COMMISSIONERS TODAY 1.1. Ś ivo Disocior



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