S/RRT/dt

Decision

91 05 006

MAY 8 1991

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 a pedestrian grade crossing at Imperial Light Rail Station across Southern Pacific Transportation Company, Wilmington Branch track at its MP 491.66 and across two Los Angeles County Transportation Commission tracks at M.P. 9.46 in the County of Los Angeles, California.



Application 91-02-081 (Filed February 19, 1991)

OPINION

As part of the project to construct a light rail transit (LRT) system, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) requests authority to construct a pedestrian crossing at grade across two light rail vehicle tracks and one Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SPT) Wilmington Branch Line track at Imperial Station-Blue Line in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County. LACTC also requests authority to perform other related crossing work as more fully described in the text of the application and by attached engineering construction drawings identified as Exhibit B of the application.

The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project is part of an on-going transit development process in which the Long Beach-Los Angeles corridor and thirteen other corridors have been identified as candidates for transit improvements. The project is a conventional LRT system from downtown Los Angeles to downtown Long Beach to serve between 25,000 and 76,000 passengers per day. A variety of impacts were identified, both beneficial and adverse. Mitigation measures will either eliminate or reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels. LACTC 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 Environmental Impact Report (EIR), LACTC approved the project. On March 29, 1985, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Secretary for Resources and with the Los Angeles County Clerk which found that "The project will have a significant impact on the environment." A Statement of Overriding Considerarations was adopted for the project.

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

An additional segment of LACTC's system, called the Metro Green Line, is under construction in the median of the I-105 freeway. The Metro Green Line will operate between the Cities of Norwalk and Hawthorne. LACTC plans to build an elevated passenger station for the Metro Green Line above the existing Metro Blue Line Imperial Station. To serve the two passenger stations, a large parking lot and bus transfer area will be constructed, adjacent to and to the west of the SPTC track and partially beneath the I-105 freeway structure.

The Metro Green Line as well as the future grade separation at Imperial Highway in the vicinity of Imperial Station will be the subject of other applications filed by LACTC at such at time as the various LRT projects become more finalized.

The site of the project has been inspected by the Commission's Safety Division Traffic Engineering staff. The staff examined the need for and the safety of the pedestrian crossing and recommends that approval be granted.

LACTC 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 track. Detailed drawings of the pedestrian grade crossing and crossing station geometrics are in Appendix A attached to this order. LACTC wishes to complete construction of this portion of its LRT system at the earliest possible date. It is therefore requested that the usual 30-day effective date on an order be waived. We will make our order effective immediately. Pindings of Pact

1. Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on February 25, 1991. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

2. LACTC requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct a pedestrian crossing at grade across two light rail vehicle tracks and one SPT Wilmington Branch Line track at Imperial Station in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.

3. Construction of the new Imperial Station-Metro Blue Line pedestrian crossing at-grade is an essential element in completion of the LRT system.

4. Public convenience, and necessity require construction of the new at-grade pedestrian crossing as set forth in Appendix A attached to this order.

5. Public Safety requires that the pedestrian at grade crossing be protected by three Standard No. 10 pedestrian type signals (General Order (GO) 75-C), as indicated on pages 2 and 3 of Appendix A.

6. LACTC is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

7. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's EIR.

8. The Long Beach-Los Angeles Rail Transit Project will have a significant impact on the environment; however, mitigation measures will either eliminate or reduce the severity of the adverse impacts to acceptable levels.

9. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for the project.

Conclusions of Law

1. The application 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 complete construction of the Imperial Station project at the earliest possible date.

<u>ORDER</u>

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) is authorized to construct a pedestrian crossing at grade across the tracks of LACTC's Long Beach-Los Angeles Line and Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Wilmington Branch Line to be identified as crossing BBH-491.66-D (SPT) and 84L-9.46-D (LACTC) in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, at the location and substantially as shown on Appendix A attached to this order.

2. Clearances shall be in accordance with General Order (GO) 26-D and walkways shall conform to GO 118 for SPT.

3. Clearances shall be in accordance with GO-143 for LACTC.

4. Protection at the Metro Blue Line-Imperial Station pedestrian at grade crossing shall be three Standard No. 10 pedestrian type automatic signals, as indicated on pages 2 and 3 of Appendix A attached to this order.

5. 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.

6. 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.

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7. This authorization will 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.

8. The application is granted as set forth above. This order is effective today. Dated <u>MAY</u> 8 1991 at San Francisco, California.

> PATRICIA M. ECKERT President G. MITCHELL WILK JOHN B. OHANIAN DANIEL Wm. FESSLER NORMAN D. SHUMWAY Commissioners

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

Exocutive Director





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APPENDIX A

As part of the project to construct a light rail transit system, the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC) proposes to construct a pedestrian crossing at grade across two light rail vehicle tracks and one Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SPT) Wilmington Branch Line track at the Metro Blue Line-Imperial Station in Los Angeles County. The proposed pedestrian crossing will serve to facilitate pedestrian access between Metro Blue Imperial Station and nearby business establishments.

LACTC in page 6, paragraph IX of the application states:

"The existing flashing lights now installed east of the northbound LRT track will be supplemented with CPUC number 10 automatic flashing lights to be installed west of the SPTC track. LACTC will relocate the existing flashing lights at the base of the Metro Blue Line passenger platform ramps and install an additional set of flashing lights at this location to warn eastbound pedestrians."

Full details of the pedestrian at grade crossing are indicated on plans attached to the application and this order and more particularly as set forth on page 4 of this Appendix.

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	Item and	Pedestrian	
	Location	<u>Signal</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1.	East of NB-LRT	Existing Std.	Add additional
	tracks	No. 10	flashing lights
2.	Base of platform	Existing Std.	Relocate signal
	ramp	No. 10	northwesterly
3.	Westerly of SPT tracks	New Std. No. 10	Install new signal

Note: The item numbers refer to signals indicated on page 2 of Appendix A.