

S/RRT/lc

Decision 92 04 073 April 22, 1992

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 (1) the construction of an additional track at grade across Tyler Avenue, PUC number B-494.8; across Cypress Avenue, PUC number B-495.0; across Ramona Boulevard, PUC number B-495.1; and across Cogswell Road, PUC number B-496.0 and (2) the construction of an additional track at separated grade across and above Peck Road, PUC number B-495.3-B; across and above Garvey Avenue, PUC number B-496.2-B; and across and above Durfee Avenue B-496.4-B all in the City of El Monte, and across and above Rio Hondo bike path, PUC number B-496.73-BD in the City of Industry.

Application 92-01-048
(Filed January 22, 1992,
Amended February 10, 1992)

O P I N I O N

Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC), a member agency of Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA), requests authority to construct additional track at grade across four streets and at separated grade over three streets in City of El Monte, Los Angeles County. LACTC also requests authority to construct an additional track at separated grade over a bike path in City of Industry, Los Angeles County.

By amendment filed February 10, 1992, LACTC corrected its application to show that two tracks, rather than one, would be added to the Tyler Avenue crossing. Otherwise, one track will be added at the Cypress Avenue, Ramona Boulevard and Cogswell Road grade crossings and the Peck Road, Garvey Avenue, Durfee Avenue and Rio Hondo bikepath grade separations.

The amendment also corrected language regarding SPT, SCRRA and local agency maintenance responsibilities for track, crossing surfaces, and protective devices at the crossing.

Location and drawing detail from the application for each of these crossings and grade separations are shown in Appendix A.

SCRRA is the five-county joint powers authority created under Public Utilities (PU) Code § 130255. By 1993 SCRRA commuter trains will operate from Union Station in downtown Los Angeles to Moorpark (Ventura County), Santa Clarita (north Los Angeles County), Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. SCRRA calls its commuter rail system "Metrolink". Metrolink will provide an alternative for motorists dependent upon Southern California's freeways. Improved home-to-work travel times, reduced traffic, and reduced automotive air pollution are expected benefits. Metrolink is the regional rail program created in accordance with Senate Bill 1402 of 1990, PU Code §§ 130450 - 130455.

Metrolink operating equipment will consist of microprocessor-controlled diesel locomotives and double-decked passenger cars designed for quiet, efficient and safe commuter rail service. Train movements will be governed by automatic block signal systems with centralized traffic control.

LACTC has right-of-way adjacent to right-of-way owned and used by Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SPT) at the eight locations.

SCRRA is the lead agency for this project under the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resources (PR) Code §§ 21000, et seq. SCRRA filed a Notice of Exemption with the Los Angeles County Clerk on September 18, 1991. The Metrolink projects, which institute passenger services on rail rights-of-way already in use, are statutorily exempt from the reporting requirements of CEQA under PR Code § 21080(b)(11). Alteration of existing grade separations is statutorily exempt from CEQA under PR Code § 21080.13, while alteration of existing grade

crossings is categorically exempt under Rule 17.1.h.1.A, §§ 5, 6, and 7, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

The sites of the proposed projects have been inspected by the Commission's Safety Division staff - Traffic Engineering Section. Staff examined the need for and the safety of the altered crossings and grade separations, and recommends that the alterations be approved.

The application was found to be in compliance under the Commission's filing requirements, including Rule 39 of Rules of Practice and Procedure which relates to the alteration of public highways across railroads. A location map and details from the project plans are shown in Appendix A.

Findings of Fact

1. Notice of the application was published in the Commission's daily calendar on January 30, 1992. Notice of the amendment was published in the calendar February 25, 1992. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

2. LACTC requests that SCRRA be granted authority under PU Code §§ 1201-1205 to construct additional track at grade across four streets and at separated grade over three streets in City of El Monte, and at separated grade over a bike path in City of Industry, in Los Angeles County, as set forth in Appendix A.

3. LACTC is a member of SCRRA and is representing the joint-powers authority in this matter.

4. SCRRA and LACTC have purchased right-of-way for use in the Metrolink commuter service adjacent to right-of-way owned and used by SPT.

5. Construction of the additional tracks are essential elements for the operation of commuter trains between Los Angeles and San Bernardino.

6. Public convenience and necessity require alteration of the crossings and grade separations as indicated on Appendix A attached to this order.

7. Public safety requires that the altered grade crossings be protected with automatic flashing light signals with gates.

8. SCRRA is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

9. The Commission has reviewed and considered the lead agency's determination that the project is statutorily exempt from the environmental reporting requirements of CEQA.

Conclusions of Law

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

2. The project is statutorily exempt from the environmental reporting requirements of CEQA.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA), as requested by member agency Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC), is authorized to construct two additional tracks at the Tyler Avenue grade crossing, and one additional track at the Cypress Avenue, Ramona Boulevard and Cogswell Road grade crossings, and one additional track at separated grades over Peck Road, Garvey Avenue, Durfee Avenue and the Rio Hondo bikepath, in El Monte and Industry, Los Angeles County, at the locations and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application and Appendix A of this order.

2. The crossings and grade separations will retain their identification numbers, as shown in Appendix A.

3. Clearances shall conform to General Order (GO) 26-D. Walkways shall conform to GO 118.

4. Construction of the grade crossings shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 8 of General Order (GO) 72-B.

5. Maintenance of the crossings shall conform to GO 72-B.

6. Protection at the Tyler Avenue, Cypress Avenue, Ramona Boulevard and Cogswell Road grade crossings shall be automatic gate-type signals as shown in Appendix A.

7. Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SPT) and LACTC will each maintain the automatic crossing protection on the approaches to their respective tracks at the grade crossings.

8. Construction cost of the additional track, grade crossing alterations and grade separation structures shall be borne by LACTC. Maintenance cost of the grade separation structure over the Rio Hondo bikeway shall be borne by LACTC.

9. LACTC, City of El Monte and SPT will share maintenance costs of the crossings in accordance with GO 72-B. Maintenance costs for the automatic protection will be apportioned by agreement between LACTC, SPT and the City of El Monte. A copy of the signal maintenance agreement shall be filed with the Safety Division staff. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will apportion costs by further order, pursuant to PU Code § 1202.2.

10. Maintenance cost for the three new grade separation structures at Peck Road, Garvey Avenue and Durfee Avenue will be shared by LACTC and City of El Monte in accordance with an agreement to be entered into between the parties. A copy of the agreement shall be filed with Safety Division staff. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will apportion the costs of maintenance by further order.

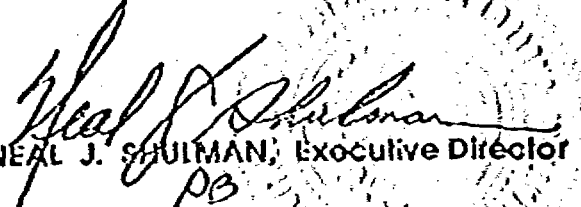
11. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, SCRRA shall notify the Safety Division in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

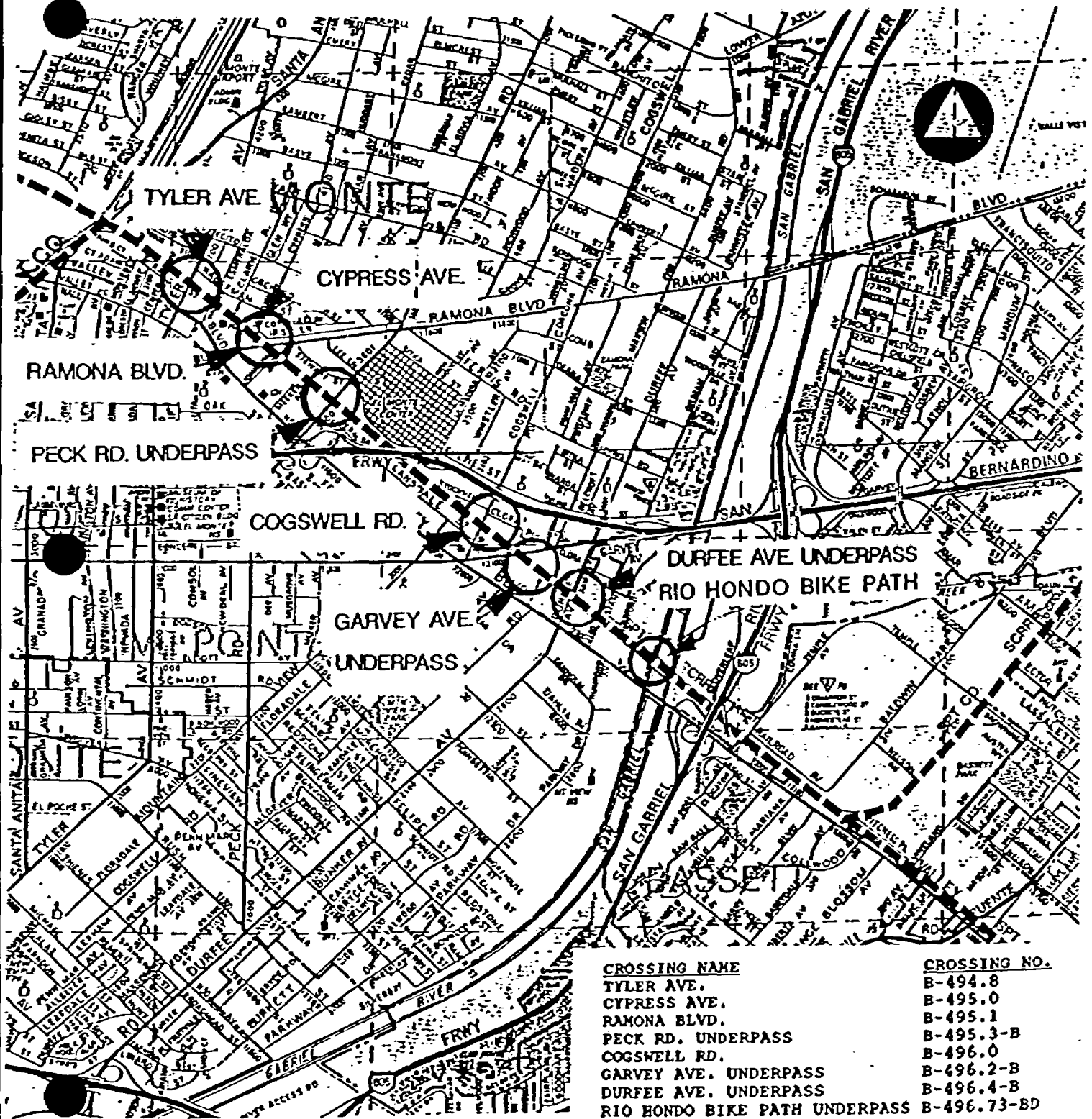
12. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within three years unless time is extended or if the above conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity or safety so require.

13. The application is granted as set forth above.
This order becomes effective 30 days from today.
Dated APR 22 1992 at San Francisco, California.

DANIEL Wm. FESSLER
President
JOHN B. CHANLAN
PATRICIA M. ECKERT
NORMAN D. SHUMWAY
Commissioners

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


NEAL J. SHULMAN, Executive Director
PB

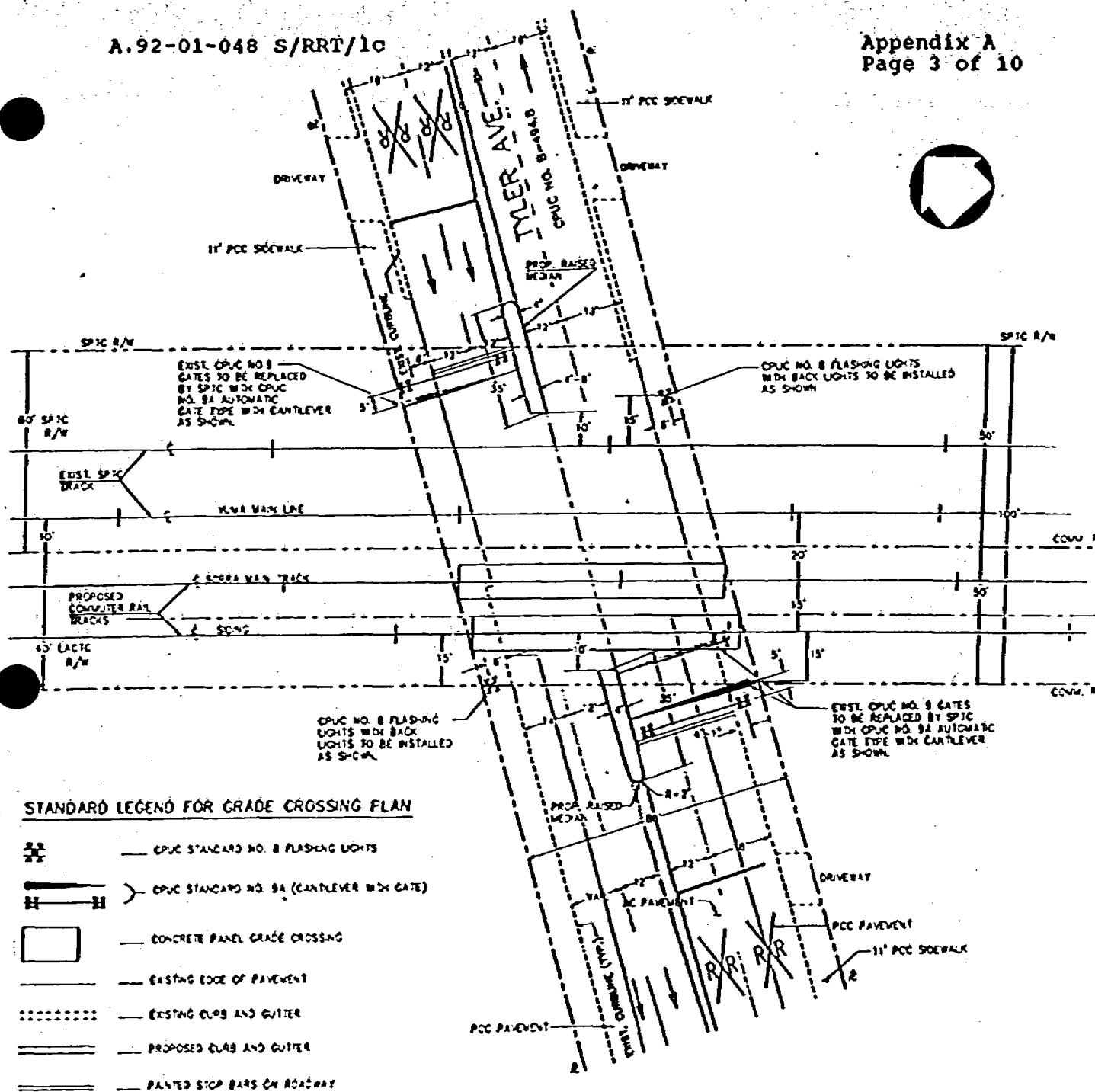


APPLICATION 92-01-048; SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY (SCRRA); REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY
TO CONSTRUCT ADDITIONAL TRACK AT THE FOLLOWING EXISTING GRADE CROSSINGS AND GRADE SEPARATIONS

<u>PUC Grade Crossing or Grade Separation Number and Street Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Across/Over SCRRA Metrolink and SPT line Names</u>	<u>Description of alteration; proposed and existing protection (if grade crossing); proposed structural changes (if grade separation); other information</u>
B - 494.8 Tyler Avenue	El Monte	across Metrolink Los Angeles - San Bernardino "East" line, and SPT Yuma main line	LACTC will add two tracks; SPT will have two tracks; Crossing will be protected by two Standard No. 9-A cantilevered flashing light signals with gates, and two Standard No. 8 flashing light signals mounted at the northeast and southwest quadrants; raised median islands will be provided.
B - 495.0 Cypress Avenue	El Monte	"	LACTC will add one track; SPT will have one track; Crossing will be protected by two Standard No. 9 flashing light signals with gates.
B - 495.1 Ramona Blvd	El Monte	"	LACTC will add one track; SPT will have one track; Crossing will be protected by two Standard No. 9-A cantilevered flashing light signals with gates; raised median islands will be provided.
B - 495.3-B Peck Road	El Monte	"	LACTC will construct new steel girder concrete deck bridge over Peck Road south of and parallel to SPT bridge. LACTC will construct one track.
B - 496.0 Cogswell Road	El Monte	"	LACTC will add one track; SPT will have one track; Crossing will be protected by two Standard No. 9 flashing light signals with gates; raised median islands will be provided.
B - 496.2 Garvey Avenue	El Monte	"	LACTC will construct new steel girder bridge over Garvey Avenue south of and parallel to SPT bridge. LACTC will construct one track.
B - 496.4-B Durfee Avenue	El Monte	"	LACTC will construct new concrete girder bridge. LACTC will construct one track.
B - 496.73-BD Rio Hondo bikepath	Industry	"	Under San Gabriel Flyover (see A.91-11-025).

A.92-01-048 S/RRT/lc

Appendix A
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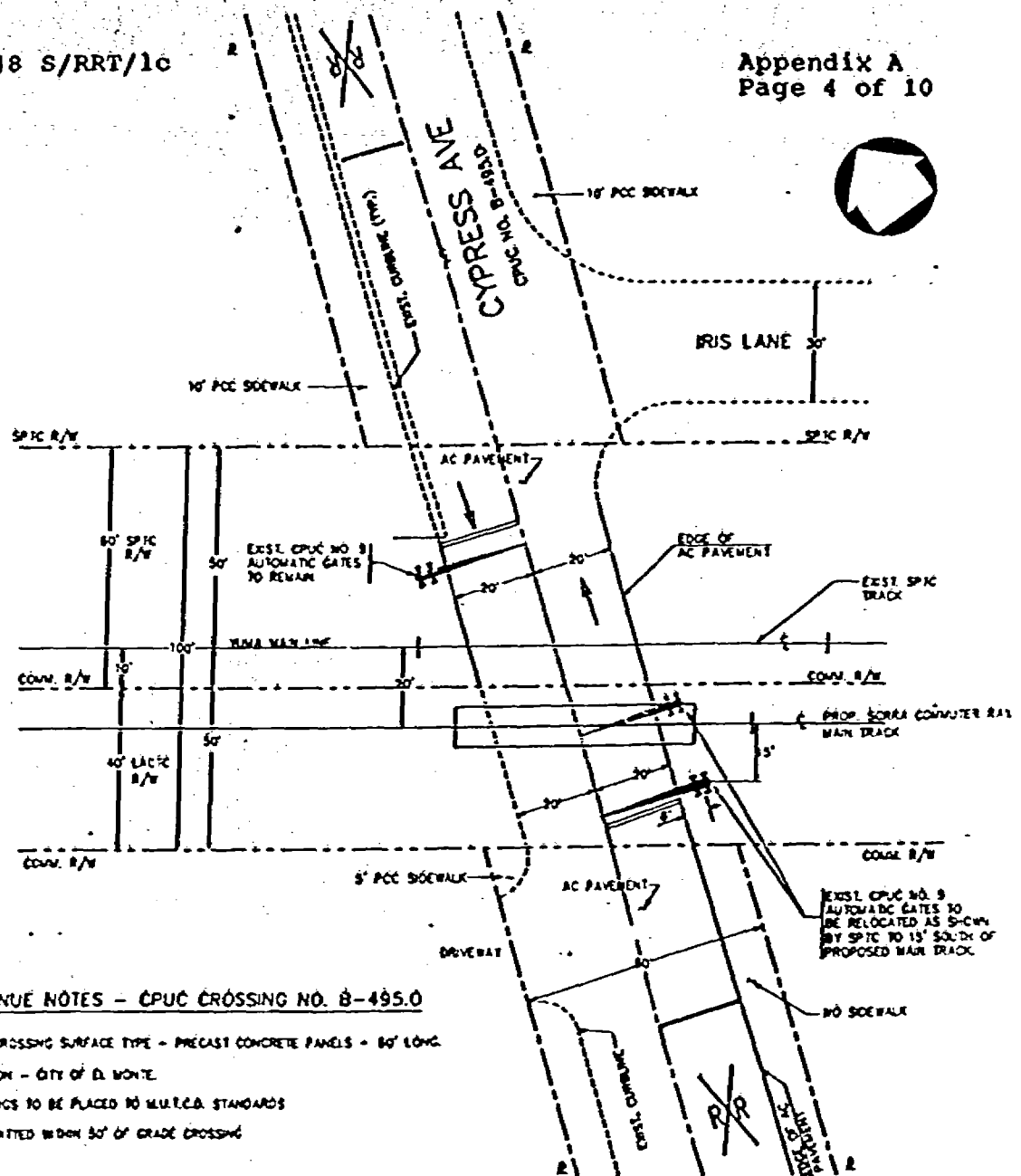


SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY

WILLDAN ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERS AND PLANNERS

FREDERICK R. HARRIS, INC.

PROPOSED GRADE CROSSING IMPROVEMENT
AND INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL TRACK
AT TYLER AVE.CPUC CROSSING NO. B-494.8
CITY OF EL MONTE

**CYPRESS AVENUE NOTES - CPUC CROSSING NO. B-495.0**

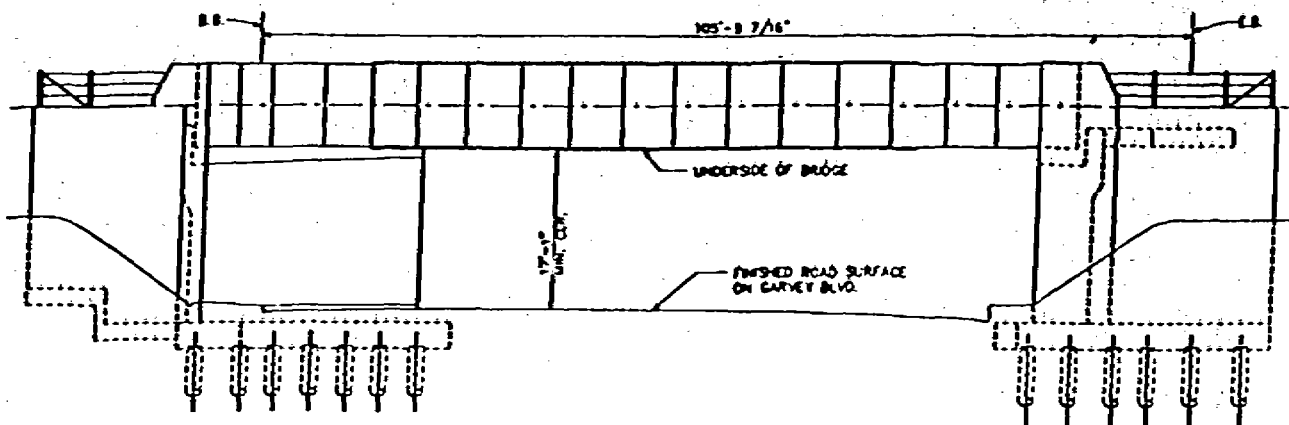
1. COMPUTER RAIL CROSSING SURFACE TYPE - PRECAST CONCRETE PANELS - 80' LONG
2. CROSSING LOCATION - CITY OF EL MONTE
3. PAVEMENT MARKINGS TO BE PLACED TO MEET C.D. STANDARDS
4. NO PARKING PERMITTED WITHIN 50' OF GRADE CROSSING



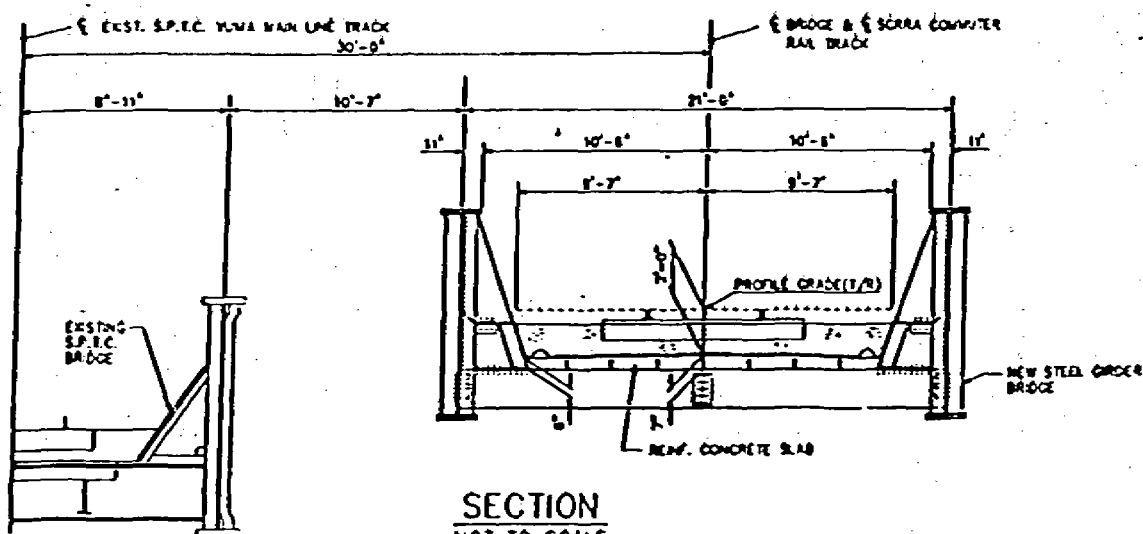
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY

WILLDAN ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERS AND PLANNERSFugro
Frederick R. Harris, Inc.

**PROPOSED GRADE CROSSING IMPROVEMENT
AND INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL TRACK
AT CYPRESS AVE.
CPUC CROSSING NO. B-495.0
CITY OF EL MONTE**



ELEVATION



SECTION
NOT TO SCALE



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY

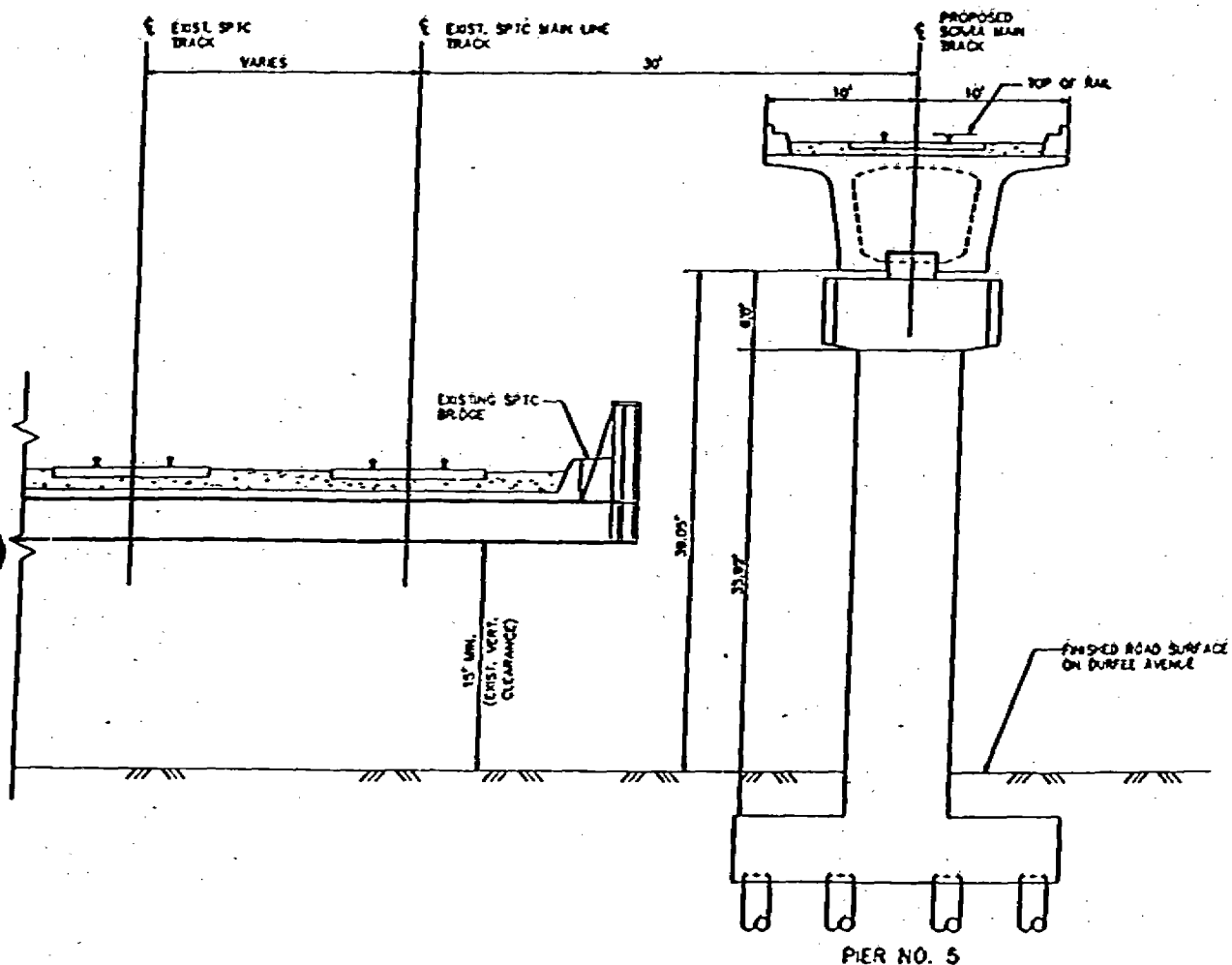


WILDAN ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERS AND PLANNERS



HARRIS
Frederick R. Harris, Inc.

**PROPOSED GRADE SEPARATION
FOR COMMUTER RAIL TRACK
AT GARVEY AVE. UNDERPASS**
CPUC CROSSING NO. B-496.2-B
CITY OF EL MONTE



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY



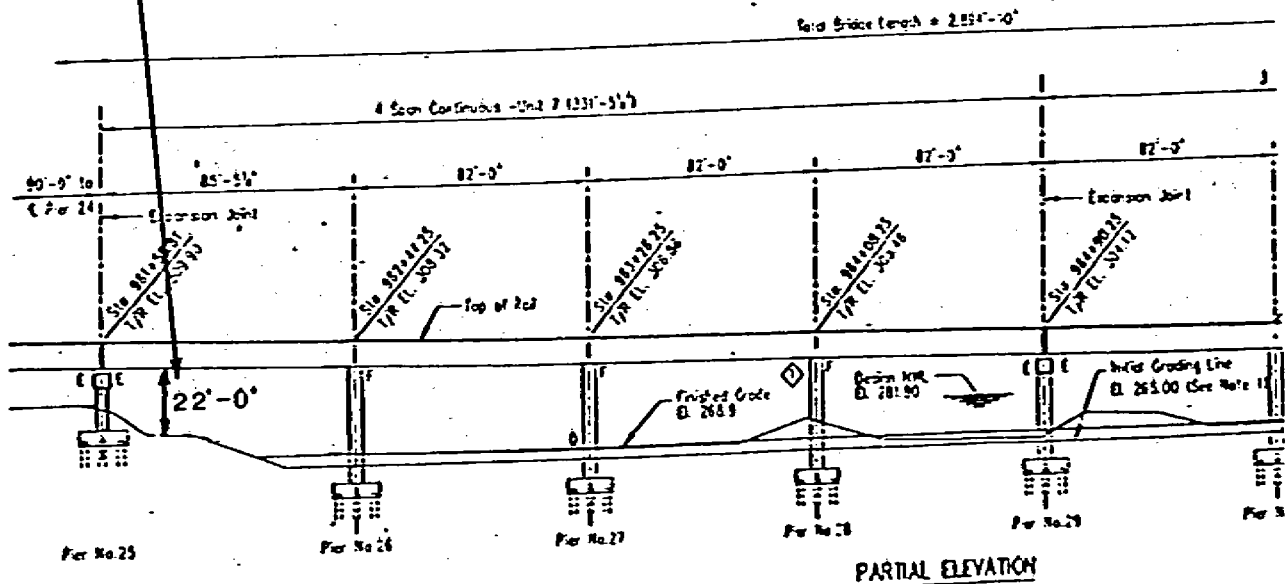
WILLDAN ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERS AND PLANNERS



HARPERT
Frederick R. Harpert, Inc.

**PROPOSED GRADE SEPARATION
FOR COMMUTER RAIL TRACK
AT DURFEE AVENUE**
CPUC CROSSING NO. B-496.4-B
CITY OF EL MONTE

RIO HONDO BIKE PATH
CPUC CROSSING NO. B-496.73-BD



PARTIAL ELEVATION

RIO HONDO BIKE PATH**SAN GABRIEL RIVER FLYOVER**

MIN. VERT. CLEARANCE 22'-0"

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY COMMITTEE FOR ENGINEERING, SPACE AND GRADE CROSSING INVENTORY	
PROJECT: Rio Hondo Bike Path DRAWN: [Signature] CHECKED: [Signature]	APPROVED: [Signature] DATE: [Date]

INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL TRACK
RIO HONDO BIKE PATH
CPUC CROSSING NO. B-496.73-BD