

T/RWS/SR/WPSC

Decision 83 OS 071 AUG 17 1983

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the State of  
 California, Department of  
 Transportation for an order  
 authorizing the following project;  
 construction of Broadway Over-  
 crossing (BR. NO. 55-615) over  
 the Southern Pacific Transporta-  
 tion Company's tracks; relocate  
 existing Broadway Offramp Grade  
 Crossing, PUC No. BK-515.30  
 approximately 120 feet west of  
 its present location in Santa Ana,  
 California, from 0.4 mile south  
 to 0.4 mile north of Santiago  
 Creek.

Application 82-12-03  
 (Filed December 1, 1982)

O P I N I O N

As part of a project to improve the Santa Ana Freeway (Interstate Route 5) between 1/2 mile south and 1/2 mile north of Main Street, the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans), requests authority to construct the Broadway Overcrossing over and to relocate the existing Broadway Offramp Crossing at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Santa Ana Branch Line in Santa Ana, Orange County.

This is a cooperative project between Caltrans and the City of Santa Ana for the construction of a new freeway overcrossing and for modification of the Main Street Interchange of the

Santa Ana Freeway. The project will provide additional capacity for vehicles to cross over the Santa Ana Freeway in the vicinity of Main Street about one and one-half miles north of the Santa Ana Civic Center.

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 Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Caltrans approved the project. On December 15, 1978, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Secretary for Resources which found that "The project will 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 EIR. The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission staff.

Major impacts of the project result from right-of-way acquisition. Thirty-one privately owned parcels will be affected as well as a minor amount of park land. In addition, the removal of homes along Broadway to permit construction of the overcrossing will expose the presently shielded homes on the east side of Riverside Drive to noise from the freeway as well as to noise from the overcrossing. Mitigation measures include relocation

assistance to all displaced residents from the parcels to be acquired, provision of replacement park land, and construction of sound barriers.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on December 7, 1982. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. Caltrans requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct the Broadway Overcrossing over the tracks of SPT's Santa Ana Branch Line in Santa Ana, Orange County.

2. Authority is also requested to relocate the existing Broadway Offramp Grade Crossing to a point 120 feet westerly of its present location.

3. Construction of the overcrossing is required to provide additional capacity for vehicles to cross over the Santa Ana Freeway.

4. Upon completion of the relocated Broadway Offramp and its opening to vehicular traffic, the existing offramp grade crossing should be closed and physically removed.

5. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the Broadway Overcrossing and relocation of the Broadway Offramp Grade Crossing.

6. Public safety requires that protection at the relocated Broadway Offramp Grade Crossing should be one Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signal (General Order 75-C).

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 EIR.

9. The Santa Ana Freeway improvement project will have a significant impact on the environment; however, the adopted mitigation measures will either eliminate or 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 State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is authorized to construct the Broadway Overcrossing over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Santa Ana Branch Line in Santa Ana, Orange County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing BK-515.3-A.

2. Caltrans is also authorized to relocate the existing Broadway Offramp Grade Crossing, Crossing BK-515.3, 120 feet westerly of its present location, to be identified as Crossing BK-515.28.

3. Upon completion of the relocated Broadway Offramp Grade Crossing and its opening to vehicular traffic, the existing offramp grade crossing shall be closed and physically removed.

4. Clearances, except overhead clearances, shall be in accordance with General Order 26-D. During the period of construction, a clearance of not less than 21'-6" above top of rail shall be authorized and SPT shall be authorized to operate with such reduced overhead clearance provided that instructions are issued by the railroad and filed with the Commission forbidding employees to ride on tops of cars beneath the structure. Upon completion of the structure, minimum clearance above top of rail shall be 24'-0".

5. Caltrans shall notify the Commission and SPT at least 15, but not more than 30, days in advance of the date when the temporary impaired overhead clearance will be created.

6. Walkways shall conform to General Order 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.

7. Construction of the relocated grade crossing shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of General Order 72-B.

8. Protection at the relocated grade crossing shall be one Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signal (General Order 75-C).

9. 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 SPT, 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.

10. Within 30 days after completion, under this order, Caltrans shall notify the Commission in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

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.

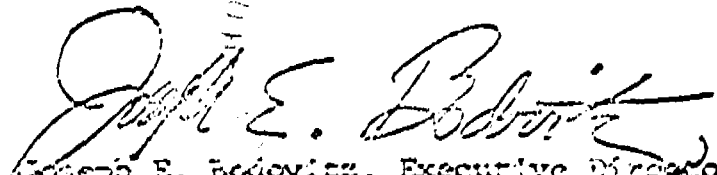
This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated     AUG 17 1983    , at San Francisco, California.

VICTOR CALVO  
FRISCILLA C. CREW  
DONALD VIAL  
WILLIAM T. BAGLEY  
Commissioners

Commissioner Leonard M. Grimes, Jr.,  
being necessarily absent, did not  
participate.

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

  
Joseph E. Bedovitz, Executive Director