

ORIGINAL

Decision 83 11 084 NOV 22 1983

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: (1) Reconstruct the existing Western Avenue Overhead (P.U.C. No. BBF-494.92-A) as the Western Avenue Overcrossing, which will cross over Southern Pacific Transportation Company's existing El Segundo Branch Line (at a location southerly of its present location) and over the proposed Route 105 Freeway; (2) Construct and later remove the Western Avenue Detour Overhead over the existing El Segundo Branch Line track of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company; (3) Relocate the El Segundo Branch Line track to cross beneath the proposed Western Avenue Overcrossing at a location about 106 feet southerly of its present location in Los Angeles County.

Application 83-04-29
(Filed April 11, 1983)

O P I N I O N

As part of the project to construct the Century Freeway (Interstate Route 105) between 0.8 mile west of Sepulveda Boulevard in the City of El Segundo and Interstate Route 605 in the City of Norwalk, the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans), requests authority to: (1) Reconstruct the Western Avenue Overhead as the Western Avenue Overcrossing over the tracks

of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) El Segundo Branch Line; (2) Construct and later remove the Western Avenue Detour Overhead over the tracks of SPT's El Segundo Branch Line, at a location approximately 200 feet westerly of the existing Western Avenue Overhead; and (3) Relocate the tracks of SPT's El Segundo Branch Line about 106 feet southerly under the completed Western Avenue Overcrossing in Los Angeles County.

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 September 19, 1977, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Secretary for Resources which found that "The project will have a significant effect on the environment." However, no significant impacts were found to be specifically associated with the project for reconstruction of the Western Avenue Overhead as the Western Avenue Overcrossing.

The construction of Interstate Route 105 will have a variety of natural and cultural impacts on the environment both beneficial and adverse. Adverse impacts have been adequately addressed in the EIR with appropriate mitigation measures provided where deemed necessary.

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's EIR and Notice of Determination. The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission staff.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on April 13, 1983. 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: (1) Reconstruct the Western Avenue Overhead as the Western Avenue Overcrossing over the tracks of SPT's El Segundo Branch Line; (2) Construct and later remove the Western Avenue Detour Overhead over the tracks of SPT's El Segundo Branch Line at a location approximately 200 feet westerly of the existing Western Avenue Overhead; and (3) Relocate the tracks of SPT's El Segundo Branch Line about 106 feet southerly under the completed Western Avenue Overcrossing in Los Angeles County.

2. Reconstruction of the Western Avenue Overhead as the Western Avenue Overcrossing and relocation of the tracks of SPT's El Segundo Branch Line are required as part of the construction of the Interstate Route 105 Freeway.

3. Construction and later removal of the Western Avenue Detour Overhead is required to permit reconstruction of the Western Avenue Overhead.

4. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require reconstruction of the Western Avenue Overhead, track relocation, and construction and later removal of the Western Avenue Detour Overhead.

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

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

7. The Century Freeway construction 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.

8. The EIR identifies no significant impacts that will be caused by construction of the overcrossings and the track relocation.

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: (1) Reconstruct the Western Avenue Overhead as the Western Avenue Overcrossing over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) El Segundo Branch Line, identified as Crossing BBF-494.92-A; (2) Construct and later remove the Western Avenue Detour Overhead over the tracks of SPT's El Segundo Branch Line, to be identified as Crossing BBF-494.97-A; and (3) Relocate the tracks of SPT's El Segundo Branch Line about 106 feet southerly under the completed Western Avenue Overcrossing in Los Angeles County.

2. Clearances shall be in accordance with General Order 26-D.

3. 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.

4. 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 was attached to Caltrans Motion for Ex Parte Order which was filed with the Commission on September 30, 1983.

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

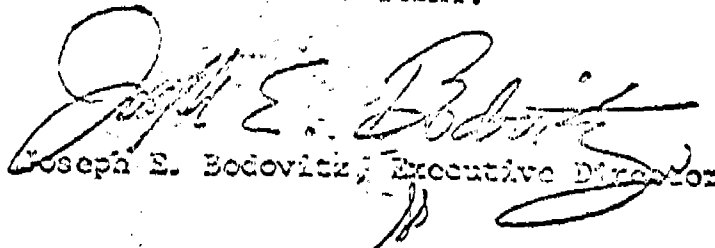
This authorization shall expire if not exercised within three years unless time is extended or if the above conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated NOV 22 1983, at San Francisco, California.

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.
President
VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C. CREW
WILLIAM T. BAGLEY
Commissioners

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


Joseph E. Bodovick, Executive Director