

ORIGINAL

Decision No 83 11-123 Nov. 30, 1983

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION )  
 OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR )  
 THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PROPOSED )  
 GRADE CROSSING OF MINES BOULEVARD )  
 OVER THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRANS- )  
 PORTATION COMPANY WHITTIER BRANCH )  
 LINE PROPOSED CROSSING NO. BBK )  
 498.5 IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES )

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Application 83-03-52  
(Filed March 21, 1983)

O P I N I O N

As part of the project to open the Mines Boulevard-Sorensen Avenue route to through traffic between Gretna Avenue and Washington Boulevard, the County of Los Angeles (County) requests authority to construct Mines Boulevard at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Whittier Branch Line in Los Angeles County.

The continuity of traffic flow along the Mines Boulevard-Sorensen Avenue route has long been interrupted by missing segments between Gretna Avenue and Washington Boulevard. Construction of the missing segments, including the proposed Mines Boulevard grade crossing, will substantially improve the convenience and safety of motorists who must now use more circuitous and congested routes. Emergency vehicle response in the area will also be enhanced by the project.

County 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, County issued a Negative Declaration and approved the project. On May 26, 1983, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Los Angeles 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 staff.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on March 23, 1983. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. County requests authority under Public Utilities (PU) Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct Mines Boulevard at grade across the tracks of SPT's Whittier Branch Line in Los Angeles County.

2. The proposed crossing is required to provide improved traffic circulation and emergency vehicle response in the area.

3. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the proposed railroad highway grade crossing.

4. Public safety requires that the protection at the crossing be four Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals (General Order 75-C).

5. County 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 Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

7. The project will have no significant impact on the environment.

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 County of Los Angeles (County) is authorized to construct Mines Boulevard at grade across the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Whittier Branch Line in Los Angeles County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing BBK-498.5.

2. Construction of the crossing shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of General Order (G.O.) 72-B.

3. Clearances shall conform to G.O. 26-D. Walkways shall conform to G.O. 118.

4. Protection at the crossing shall be four Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals (G.O. 75-C).

5. Construction expense of the crossing and installation cost of the automatic protection shall be borne by County.

6. Maintenance of the crossing shall conform to G.O. 72-B. Maintenance cost of the automatic protection shall be borne by County under PU Code Section 1202.2.

7. Construction plans of the crossing, approved by SPT, together with a copy of the agreement entered into between the parties, shall be filed with the Commission prior to commencing construction.

8. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, County shall advise the Commission in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

This authorization shall expire if not exercised within two 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.

A.83-03-52 T/RWS/SR/WPSC

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

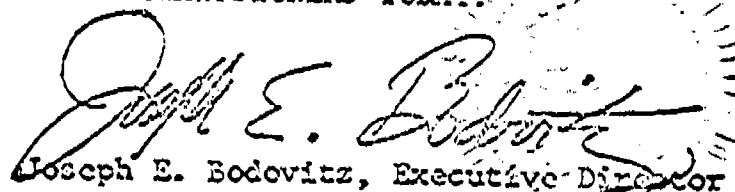
Dated NOV 30 1985, at San Francisco, California.

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.  
President

VICTOR CALVO  
PRISCILLA C. CREW  
WILLIAM T. BAGLEY  
Commissioners

Commissioner Donald Vial, being  
necessarily absent, did not  
participate.

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

  
Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director

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