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Decision No. 90133 | MAR 27 1979

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GRADE SEPARATION OF STATE HIGHWAY 12 OVER THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRANSPORTATION COMPANY'S TRACKS, CROSSINGS NO. A49 AND A49.1 IN THE CITY OF SUISUN CITY, COUNTY OF SOLANO.

Application No. 58662 (Filed February 8, 1979)

O P I N I O N

The City of Fairfield requests authority to construct State Highway 12 and a pedestrian crossing at separated grades over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company in the City of Suisun, Solano County.

The priority list of grade separation projects for the fiscal year 1978-79, as set forth in Decision 88956, shows this project as Priority No. 10.

The City of Fairfield is the lead agency for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended, Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.

After preparation and review of an Environmental Impact Report, the City of Fairfield approved the project. On February 7, 1979, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Solano County Clerk, which found that "The project will have a significant impact on the environment."

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has independently evaluated and assessed the lead agency's Environmental Impact Report. The site of the proposed project has also been inspected by the Commission staff.

Construction of these grade separations is part of a larger project of the City of Fairfield. The present street facilities are inadequate, causing traffic congestion and unsafe conditions. The proposed project, when completed, should improve traffic flow and safety in the area and reduce congestion. The project is in an area with a mixture of residential, commercial and agricultural activities.

Anticipated significant environmental impacts are the displacement of businesses and residential dwelling units, change in local traffic patterns, noise and water pollution. Mitigation measures include providing relocation payments and services, providing a pedestrian overpass to enhance movement of pedestrian traffic, constructing noise barriers, and planting ground cover during and after construction.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on February 13, 1979. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

F I N D I N G S

1. Applicant should be authorized to construct State Highway 12 and a pedestrian crossing at separated grades over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company in the City of Suisun, Solano County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing Nos. A-48.9-A and A-49.0-AD, respectively.

2. Upon completion of the overheads, applicant should close and physically remove the existing Union Avenue and Rio Vista Road grade crossings, identified as Crossings A-49.0 and A-49.1, respectively.

3. Clearances should be in accordance with General Order 26-D.

4. Walkway areas should conform to General Order 118. Walkway areas adjacent to any trackage subject to rail operations should be maintained free of obstructions and should promptly be restored to their original condition in the event of damage during construction.

5. Construction and maintenance costs should be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into between the parties relative thereto, and a copy of the agreement, together with plans of the crossing approved by the Southern Pacific Transportation Company, should 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.

6. Applicant is the lead agency for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended.

7. The Commission is the responsible agency and has independently evaluated and assessed the lead agency's Environmental Impact Report.

8. The project may have significant impacts on the environment; however, mitigation measures should adequately offset the adverse impacts.

C O N C L U S I O N S

On the basis of the foregoing findings, we conclude that the application should be granted as set forth in the following order:

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

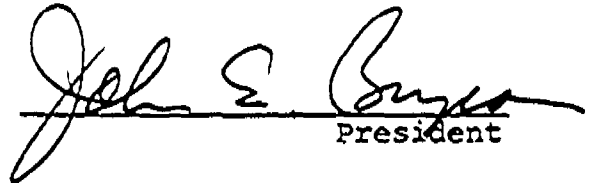
1. The City of Fairfield is authorized to construct State Highway 12 and a pedestrian crossing at separated grades over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company in the City of Suisun, Solano County, as set forth in the findings of this decision.

2. Within thirty days after completion, pursuant to this order, applicant shall so advise the Commission in writing.

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

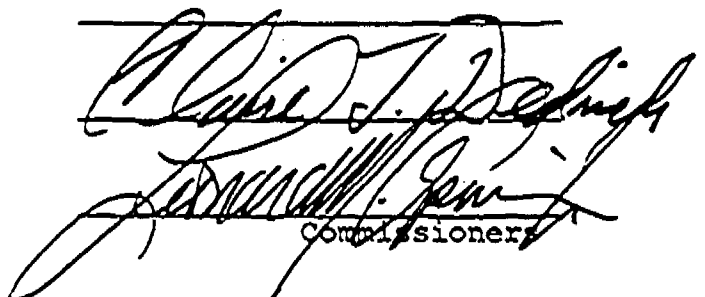
The effective date of this order shall be thirty days after the date hereof:

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 27th day of MARCH 4, 1979.


President

Commissioner Vernon L. Sturgeon, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

Commissioner Richard D. Gravelle, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.


Commissioners