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MAR 17 1981

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 92846

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO FOR
AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT A
GRADE SEPARATION OF EAST
GRAND AVENUE OVER THE SOUTHERN
PACIFIC TRANSPORTATION COMPANY'S
RAILROAD TRACKS, REPLACING
CROSSING NO. E-9.3, IN THE CITY
OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO,
SAN MATEO COUNTY.

Application No. 60255
(Filed February 10, 1981)

O P I N I O N

The City of South San Francisco requests authority to construct East Grand Avenue at separated grades over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Coast Route Main Line in the City of South San Francisco, San Mateo County.

The priority list of grade separation projects for the fiscal year 1980-81, as set forth in Decision No. 91887, dated June 3, 1980, shows this project as Priority No. 7.

The City of South San Francisco is the lead agency for this project pursuant to the California Environmental Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.

After preparation and review of an Expanded Initial Study, the City of South San Francisco issued a Negative Declaration and approved the project. On February 24, 1981, a Notice of Determination was filed with the San Mateo County Clerk which found that: "The project will not have a significant affect on the environment."

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has independently evaluated and assessed the lead agency's Expanded Initial Study and Negative Declaration. The site of the project proposed has been inspected by the Commission staff.

The project site is located in the eastern section of the City of South San Francisco, an area which has been developed

for industrial usage. East Grand Avenue, a major east-west arterial which serves as the principal access to the industrial areas, has to transverse six railroad tracks at grade. In addition, the close proximity of Airport Boulevard, Bayshore Freeway off-and on-ramps, and the passenger train station all add to the severe traffic congestion in this area. ✓
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Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on February 18, 1981. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. Applicant requests authority pursuant to Section 1201-1205 of the Public Utilities Code to construct East Grand Avenue at separated grades over the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Coast Route Main Line in the City of South San Francisco, San Mateo County.

2. The proposed grade separation is required to improve the flow of vehicular traffic to industrial properties east of the railroad's tracks.

3. Public convenience and necessity require the construction of the proposed East Grand Avenue railroad-highway grade separation project.

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

5. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has independently assessed the lead agency's Expanded Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

6. This 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 City of South San Francisco is authorized to construct East Grand Avenue overcrossing at separated grade across the tracks of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company's Coast Route Main Line in the City of South San Francisco, San Mateo County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing E-9.22-A.

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 promptly be 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 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, 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.

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5. 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 MAR 17 1981, at San Francisco, California.

John E. Byrne
President
Robert W. Gladdy
Stanley J. King
Victor Caber

Commissioners