

T/SD

Decision 93461 AUG 18 1981

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application of
the Santa Clara County Transit
District to construct a pedestrian
overcrossing at Lawrence Expressway
Station.

Application 60579
(Filed May 20, 1981)

OPINION AND ORDER

The Santa Clara County Transit District requests authority to construct the Lawrence Expressway Station Pedestrian Overcrossing at separated grades over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Coast Route Main Line in Santa Clara County.

Applicant 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. On May 4, 1981, applicant approved a Categorical Exemption Notice which found that the project is categorically exempt from the provisions of CEQA under Class 3: New construction of small structures, under Sections 15103 and 15111 of the Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA.

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

The Lawrence Expressway Station pedestrian overcrossing project is a joint demonstration project between SPT, the California Department of Transportation, and applicant for use by individuals using SPT's commuter train service. The project involves construction of a reinforced concrete pedestrian overcrossing with stairs on either side of SPT's tracks. Construction of the overcrossing will provide a safe and convenient route for pedestrians to cross the tracks between the north and southbound loading platforms of the station.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on May 22, 1981. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

Findings of Fact

1. Applicant requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct the Lawrence Expressway Station Pedestrian Overcrossing at separated grades over the tracks of SPT's Coast Route Main Line Route in Santa Clara County.

2. The proposed overcrossing is required to provide a safe means for pedestrians using commuter trains to cross the railroad tracks between the northbound and southbound loading platforms at the station.

3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the proposed overcrossing.

4. Applicant is the lead agency for this project under CEQA, as amended.

5. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has independently evaluated and assessed the lead agency's Categorical Exemption Notice.

6. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

Conclusion of Law

The application should be granted as set forth in the following order.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Santa Clara County Transit District is authorized to construct the Lawrence Expressway Station Pedestrian Overcrossing at separated grades over the tracks of Southern Pacific Transportation Company's (SPT) Coast Route Main Line in Santa Clara County, at the location and substantially as shown by the plan attached to the application, to be identified as crossing No. E-40.75-AD.

2. Clearance shall be in accordance with General Order 26-D. Walkways shall conform to General Order 118.

3. 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 crossing approved by SPT, shall be filed with the Commission before construction begins. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will apportion the costs of construction and maintenance by further order.

4. Within 30 days after completion, under this order, applicant shall 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.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated AUG 18 1921, at San Francisco, California.

J. G. Bryan
President
Richard D. ...
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Commissioners