

ORIGINAL

Decision 93879 DEC 15 1981

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the San Diego)
 Metropolitan Transit Development)
 Board, herein sometimes referred)
 to as "MTDB", for an order author-)
 izing the construction of Coronado)
 Avenue Bridge (Br. No. 36-11.8))
 over Coronado Avenue in the City)
 of San Diego and construction of)
 Coronado underpass under said)
 bridge, in accordance with the)
 MTDB objective to improve safety)
 conditions at grade crossings.)

Application 61005
 (Filed October 23, 1981)

O P I N I O N

The San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board (MTDB) requests authority to construct Coronado Avenue at separated grades under San Diego and Arizona Eastern Transportation Company's (SD&AE) tracks in San Diego, San Diego County.

The priority list of grade separation projects for fiscal year 1981-82, as set forth in Decision 93160, dated June 2, 1981, shows this project as Priority No. 8.

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. After preparation and review of an Initial Study, MTDB issued a Negative Declaration and

approved the project. On October 7, 1981, a Notice of Determination was filed with the San Diego County Clerk which found that "this project will not have a significant effect on the environment."

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

The project will replace the existing Coronado Avenue grade crossing with an underpass that will accommodate two travel lanes in each direction. Construction of the underpass will reduce vehicular traffic delay and improve safety for rail transit operations. Land uses in the area are a combination of mixed use residential and commercial development and vacant land.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on October 26, 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 Coronado Avenue at separated grades under SD&AE's tracks in San Diego, San Diego County.

2. Construction of the Coronado Avenue underpass is required to reduce vehicular traffic delay and improve safety for rail transit operations.

3. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the Coronado Avenue underpass.

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 Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

6. 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 San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board is authorized to construct Coronado Avenue at separated grades under San Diego and Arizona Eastern Transportation Company's (SD&AE) tracks in San Diego, San Diego County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing 36-11.8-B.
2. Upon completion of the underpass and its opening to vehicular traffic, the existing Coronado Avenue grade crossing, Crossing 36-11.8, shall be closed and physically removed.
3. Clearances shall be in accordance with General Order 26-D, Walkways shall conform to General Order 118.
4. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne in accordance with an agreement to be entered into among the parties. A copy of the agreement, together with plans of the crossing approved by SD&AE, 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.

5. Within 30 days after completion, under this order, applicant shall advise the Commission in writing.

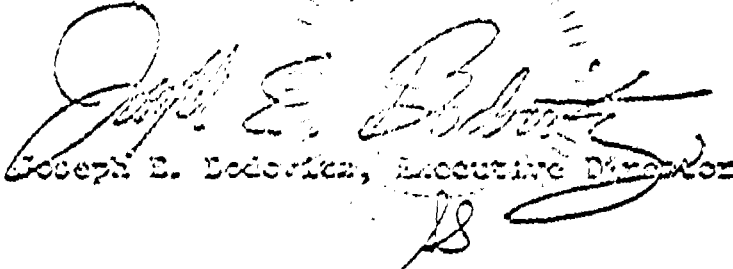
This authorization shall expire if not exercised within 3 years unless time be extended or if the above conditions are not complied with. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so require.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated DEC 15 1981, at San Francisco, California.

JOHN E. BRYSON
President
RICHARD D. GRAVELLE
LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.
VICTOR CALVO
FRISCILLA C. GREW
Commissioners

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


Joseph E. Dodorica, Executive Director