

S&E/BLB

Decision 95-08-046 August 11, 1995

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the City of West )  
Sacramento for an Order authorizing )  
construction of a crossing at )  
separated grades at proposed )  
Industrial Boulevard/Palamidessi )  
Bridge and the track of )  
the Sacramento-Yolo Port District, )  
City of West Sacramento, State of )  
California. )

Application 95-05-011  
(Filed May 3, 1995)

**ORIGINAL**

O P I N I O N

As part of a project to implement a portion of the City of West Sacramento's (City) traffic circulation plan, the City requests authority to construct Industrial Boulevard at separated grade over the Sacramento-Yolo Port District's (SYPD) realigned spur track No. 212 in West Sacramento, Yolo County. SYPD contracts railroad operations on the track to the Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SPT) and Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP).

The proposed construction consists of an extension of Industrial Boulevard via a new bridge (Palamidessi Bridge) over the Sacramento Barge Canal and SYPD's realigned spur track No. 212. The proposed grade separation will improve traffic circulation in the City's Southport Area, reduce travel time, and enhance safety of motorists.

City is the lead agency for this project under California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resources Code Sections 21000, et seq. After preparation and

review of an Environmental Assessment/Initial Study, City issued a Negative Declaration and approved the project. On February 17, 1995, a Notice of Determination was filed with the Yolo 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 Environmental Assessment/Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

Application 95-05-011 meets the filing requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, including Rule 38 which relates to the construction of a public highway across a railroad. A sketch of the crossing site is set forth in Appendix A.

The Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division Traffic Engineering staff has inspected the site of the proposed project. After reviewing the need for and safety of the proposed construction, the staff recommends that the sought authority be granted.

Findings of Fact

1. Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on May 5, 1995. No protests have been filed.
2. City requests authority under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205 to construct Industrial Boulevard at separated grades over SYPD's realigned spur track No. 212 in West Sacramento, Yolo County.
3. Construction of the Industrial Boulevard grade separation is required to improve traffic circulation and safety of motorists.

4. Public convenience, necessity, and safety require construction of the Industrial Boulevard grade separation.

5. City 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 Environmental Assessment/Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

7. The project will not have a significant impact on the environment.

Conclusions of Law

1. The application is uncontested, and a public hearing is not necessary.

2. 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 West Sacramento (City), is authorized to construct Industrial Boulevard at separated grades over Sacramento-Yolo Port District's (SYPD) realigned spur track No. 212 in West Sacramento, Yolo County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application, to be identified as Crossing 89-2.65-AC.

2. Clearances shall be in accordance with General Order (GO) 26-D, except that during the period of construction a clearance of not less than 21 feet, 2 inches above top of rail is authorized. SYPD is authorized to operate with such reduced overhead clearance provided that, SYPD and its railroad operators (Southern Pacific

Transportation Company. (SPT) and Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP)) issue instructions and file them with the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division limiting the height of loads beneath the structure.

3. City shall notify the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division, SYPD, SPT, and UP at least 15, but not more than 30 days in advance of the date when the temporary impaired overhead clearance will be created.

4. Walkways shall conform to GO 118. Walkways adjacent to any trackage subject to rail operations shall be maintained free of obstructions and shall be promptly restored to their original condition in the event of damage during construction.

5. 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 SYPD, SPT, and UP, shall be filed by City with the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division prior to commencing construction. Should the parties fail to agree, the Commission will apportion the costs of construction and maintenance by further order.

6. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, City shall notify the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

7. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within three 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.

8. The Executive Director shall serve a copy of this order on SYPD, SPT, and UP, so that the railroad companies are informed of the obligations herein imposed upon them.

9. The application is granted as set forth above.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated AUG 11 1995, at San Francisco, California.

DANIEL Wm. FESSLER  
President

P. GREGORY CONLON

JESSIE J. KNIGHT, JR.

HENRY M. DUQUE

Commissioners

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

*Wesley Franklin*

Acting Executive Director

