Mailed: 6/17/97

Decision 97-06-009 June 11, 1997



BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the State of California, Department of Transportation, for an order authorizing the Department to: alter a grade crossing in the City of El Segundo, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

Application 97-03-024 (Filed March 14, 1997)

### OPINION

State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) requests authority to alter State Route (SR) 1 (Sepulveda Boulevard), across the spur track of the Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UP) (formerly the Southern Pacific Railroad Transportation Company's (SPT)) El Segundo Branch Line, in the City of El Segundo, Los Angeles County.

The proposed alterations to widen the roadway on SR-1 one lane in each direction between Rosecrans Avenue and El Segundo Boulevard is needed to provide improved public access and local traffic circulation through the Cities of El Segundo and Manhattan Beach, while improving sight distances and carrying capacity of this major thoroughfare.

The proposed widening project is located on the existing alignment of SR-1 (Sepulveda Boulevard). The project is 1.8 miles in length, from 0.1 mile south of Marine Avenue to 0.3 mile north of El Segundo Boulevard.

Caltrans is the lead agency for this project under the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resources (PR) Code Sections 21000, et seq. Caltrans prepared an Initial Study and submitted a Negative Declaration on this project to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). On

February 24, 1988, the FHWA determined that "The project will not have an adverse effect on the environment."

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA, and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's Initial Study and Negative Declaration. The site of the proposed alterations has been inspected in the field and the proposed plans have been reviewed by the Commission's Rail Safety And Carriers Division, Traffic Engineering staff.

The application was found to be in compliance with the Commission's filing requirements including Rule 39 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure which relate to widening or relocating an existing crossing. Detailed drawings of the proposed construction are included in the appendices of this order.

# Findings of Fact

- 1. Notice of the Application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on March 19, 1997. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.
- 2. Caltrans requests authority under Public Utilities
  Code Sections 1201-1205 to alter State Route (SR) 1 (Sepulveda
  Boulevard), across the spur track of the Union Pacific Railroad
  Company's (UP) (formerly the Southern Pacific Railroad
  Transportation Company's (SPT)) El Segundo Branch Line, in the City
  of El Segundo, Los Angèles County.
- 3. Public convenience and necessity require alteration of the proposed SR-1 crossing.
- 4. Public safety requires that the widened SR-1 (Sepulveda Boulevard) crossing be protected by two Standard No. 9-A automatic gate type signals with cantilevers and two Standard No. 9 automatic gate type signals (General Order (GO) 75-C).
- 5. Caltrans 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 Initial Study and Negative Declaration.

## Conclusion of Law:

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

### ORDER

#### IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is authorized to alter State Route (SR) 1 (Sepulveda Boulevard), across the spur track of the Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UP) (formerly the Southern Pacific Railroad Transportation Company's (SPT)) El Segundo Branch Line, to be identified as Crossing BBF-500.34-C, in the City of El Segundo, Los Angeles County, at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application and this order.
- 2. Walkways shall conform to General Order (GO) 118 and clearances shall be in accordance with GO 26-D.
- 3. Alteration of the grade crossing shall be equal or superior to Standard No. 1 of GO 72-B. Maintenance of the crossing shall conform to GO 72-B.
- 4. Protection at SR-1 (Sepulveda Boulevard) at-grade crossing shall be two Standard No. 9-A automatic gate-type signals with cantilevers, and two Standard No. 9 automatic gate-type signals (GO 75-C).
- 5. Construction and maintenance costs shall be borne by Caltrans. A copy of the agreement approved by UP shall be filed with the Commission's Rail Safety And Carriers Division staff prior to commencing construction.

- 6. Within 30 days after completion of the work under this order, Caltrans shall notify the Commission's Rail Safety And Carriers Division in writing that the authorized work has been completed.
- 7. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within two 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 application is granted as set forth above.
  - 9. Application 97-03-024 is closed.

    This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

    Dated <u>June 11, 1997</u>, at San Francisco, California.

P. GREGORY CONLON
President
JESSIE J. KNIGHT, JR.
HENRY M. DUQUE
JOSIAH L. NEEPER
RICHARD A. BILAS
Commissioners

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