

Decision 97-10-023 October 9, 1997

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of the Orange County
 Transportation Authority for an order
 authorizing construction of the
 widening and retrofitting of the
 grade separation bridges between State
 Route 91 and Southern California
 Regional Rail Authority's Orange
 Subdivision main line at Railroad
 Crossing No. 101(OR)-166.6-A centerline
 of the existing overhead, sometimes
 referred to as the "North Anaheim
 Overhead Crossing" in the City of
 Anaheim, County of Orange.

ORIGINAL

Application 97-06-010
 (Filed June 9, 1997
 Amended July 14, 1997)

O P I N I O N

Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) requests authority to widen and retrofit State Route 91 (SR-91) Freeway- "North Anaheim" Overhead grade separation bridge structure over Southern California Regional Rail Authority's (SCRRA) Orange Subdivision Main Line tracks in the City of Anaheim, Orange County.

OCTA, which has jurisdiction over the reconstruction of the SR-91 Freeway, proposes to widen the existing overhead grade separation bridge structure by the addition of steel girder on cast-in-place column extension bridges on the north and south sides of the existing overhead, and to undertake retrofitting of certain columns and bent caps. The proposed widening will allow the construction of one High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane in each direction to provide for additional capacity. The SR-91 widening project limits are from Interstate Route 605 (I-605) Freeway in the City of Cerritos to State Route 57 (SR-57) Freeway in the City of Anaheim.

In addition to SCRRA's Metrolink commuter rail service, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK) operates intercity rail passenger service and The Burlington Northern Santa

Fe Railway Company (BNSF) operates freight service over SCRRRA's tracks.

State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is the lead agency, under the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (CEQA), as amended, Public Resources (PR) Code Section 21000, et seq., has prepared an Initial Study/Environmental Assessment regarding this project under PR Code Section 21080.13. A Negative Declaration was issued on April 1, 1992 stating that the project will have no significant effect upon the environment, except for construction noise which will be mitigated by sound barriers. On April 23, 1992, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued a Finding of No Significant Impact for the SR-91 project.

The Commission is a responsible agency for this project under CEQA and has reviewed and considered the lead agency's Initial Study/Environmental Assessment and Negative Declaration. The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission's Rail Safety and Carrier Division staff - Traffic Engineering Section. Staff examined the need for and the safety of the widening, and recommends that the alteration be approved.

On July 14, 1997, OCTA filed an amendment to the application correcting the name of SCRRRA's subdivision main line from Olive to Orange.

The application was found to be in compliance under the Commission's filing requirements, including Rule 39 of Rules and Practice and Procedure which relates to the widening of existing crossings and separations over railroad tracks. A location map and details from the project plans are shown in Appendix A.

Findings of Fact

1. Notice of the application and amendment were published in the Commission Daily Calendar on June 11, 1997 and July 14, 1997, respectively. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

2. OCTA requests authority, under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1205, to widen and retrofit the SR-91 Freeway- "North Anaheim" Overhead at separated grade over SCRRRA's Orange Subdivision Main Line tracks in Anaheim, Orange County.

3. Widening and retrofitting of the North Anaheim Overhead are essential elements for the improvement of vehicular traffic flow in Orange County.

4. Public convenience, necessity and safety require widening and retrofitting of SR-91 Freeway- North Anaheim Overhead, grade separation structure, to improve traffic flow.

5. Caltrans is the lead agency for environmental documentation of this project and OCTA is the lead agency for construction scheduling of the widening, seismic retrofitting and any other contract items which may be required to complete the project.

6. The Commission is a responsible agency for this project and has reviewed and considered Caltrans's Initial Study/Environmental Assessment and Negative Declaration.

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. Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is authorized to widen and retrofit State Route 91 (SR-91) Freeway-North Anaheim Yard Overhead over Southern California Regional Rail Authority's (SCRRA) Orange Subdivision Main Line tracks, identified as Crossing No. 101OR-166.6-A in Anaheim, Orange County at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the Application and Appendix A of this order.

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 6 inches above top of rail and not less than 10 feet of horizontal clearance shall be authorized, and SCRRA, Amtrak and BNSF shall be authorized to operate with such reduced overhead and side clearances provided that instructions are issued by the railroads and filed with the Commission's Rail Safety and Carriers Division forbidding employees to ride on tops of cars beneath the structure.

3. 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.

4. 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 approved by SCRRA shall be filed with the Commission's Rail Safety and Carriers Division Staff 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 of the work under this order, OCTA shall notify the Commission in writing that the authorized work has been completed.

6. 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.

7. The application is granted as set forth above.

8. Application 97-06-010 is closed.

This order is effective 30 days from today.

Dated OCT 9, 1997, at San Francisco, California.

P. GREGORY CONLON

President

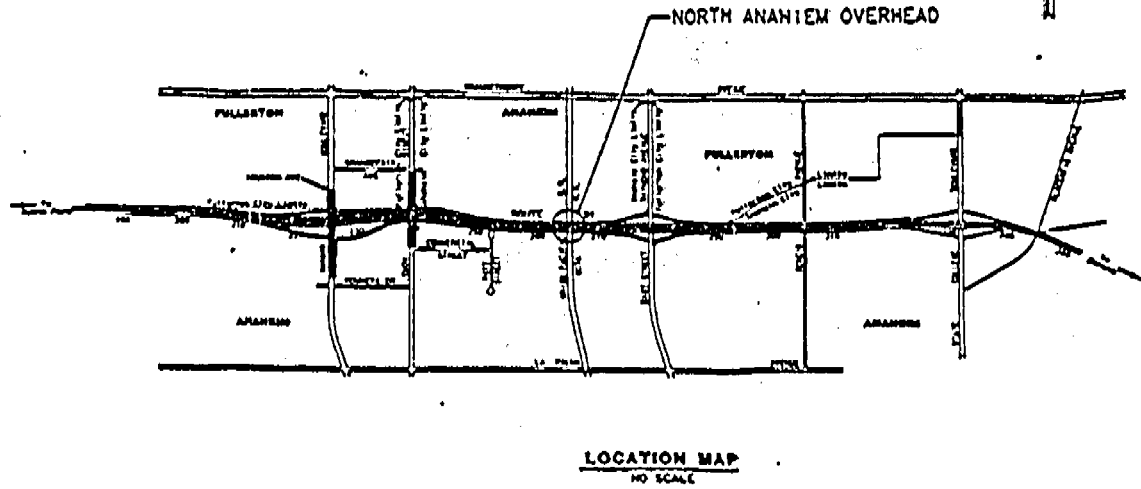
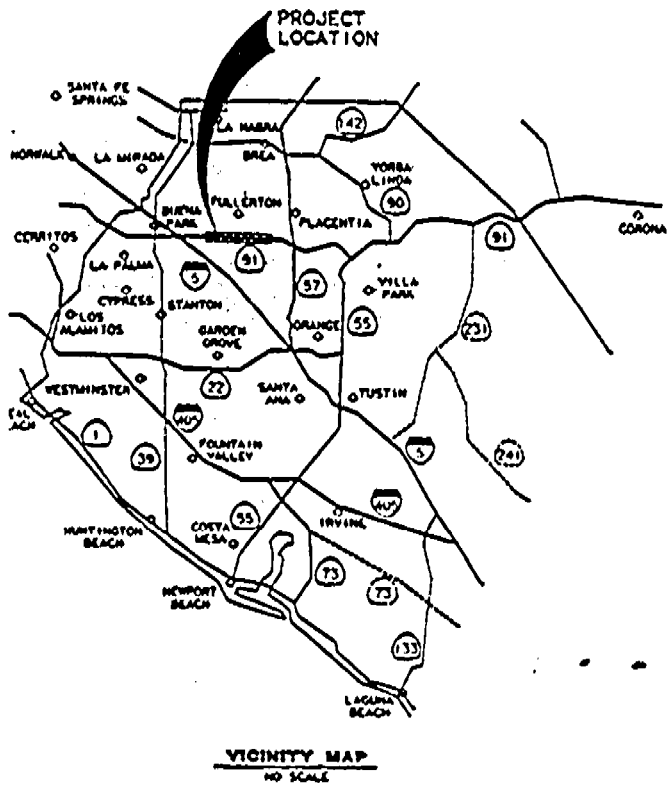
JESSIE J. KNIGHT, JR.



HENRY M. DUQUE

JOSIAH L. NEEPER

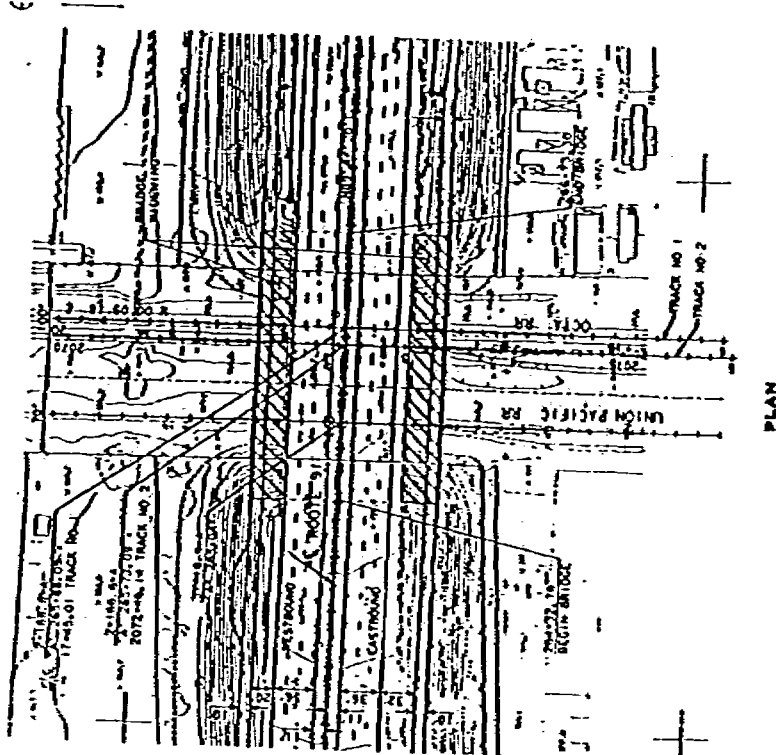
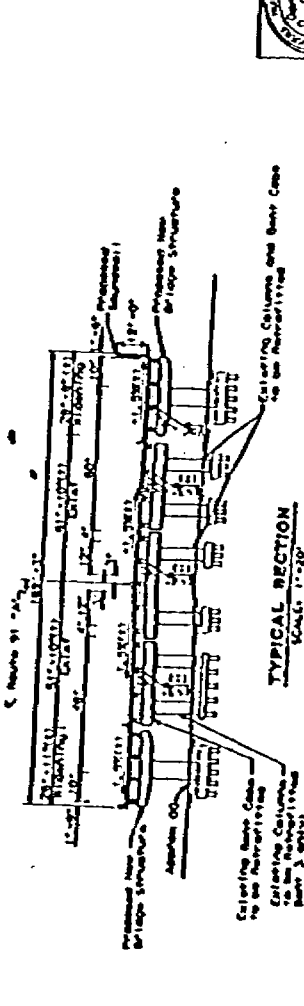
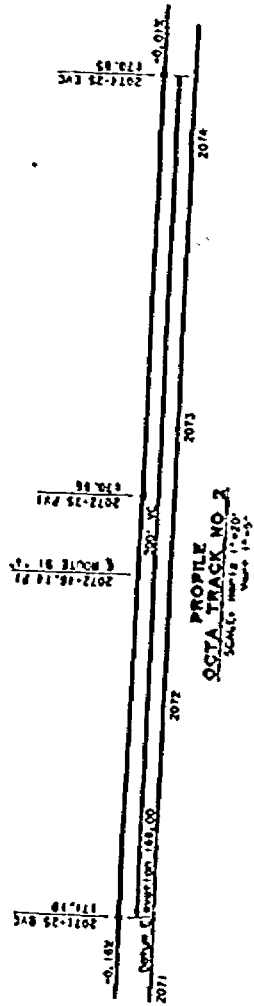
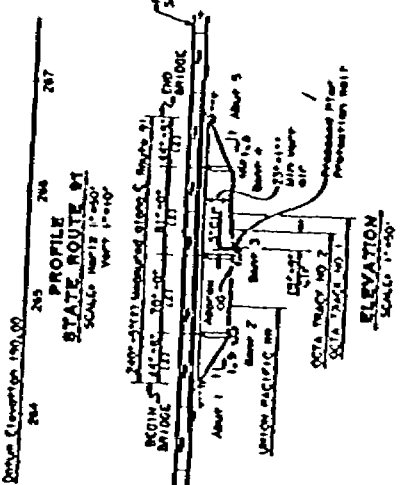
RICHARD A. BILAS

Commissioners



	PREPARED BY: Greiner 1244 EAST OYER ROAD, SUITE 250 SANTA ANA, CA 92705-3605 SEPTEMBER 27, 1998	PREPARED FOR: ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY 530 S. MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 14184 ORANGE, CA 92613-1884  DISTRICT 12 2501 PALMAN STREET SANTA ANA, CA 92705	STATE ROUTE 91 HOV PROJECT EXHIBIT "B" RAILROAD CROSSINGS LOCATION AND VICINITY MAP

Station	Elevation	Grade
155.68	155.68	0.00
156.17	156.17	0.00
156.72	156.72	0.00
157.27	157.27	0.00
157.82	157.82	0.00
158.37	158.37	0.00
158.92	158.92	0.00
159.47	159.47	0.00
160.02	160.02	0.00
160.57	160.57	0.00
161.12	161.12	0.00
161.67	161.67	0.00
162.22	162.22	0.00
162.77	162.77	0.00
163.32	163.32	0.00
163.87	163.87	0.00
164.42	164.42	0.00
164.97	164.97	0.00
165.52	165.52	0.00
166.07	166.07	0.00
166.62	166.62	0.00
167.17	167.17	0.00
167.72	167.72	0.00
168.27	168.27	0.00
168.82	168.82	0.00
169.37	169.37	0.00
169.92	169.92	0.00
170.47	170.47	0.00
171.02	171.02	0.00
171.57	171.57	0.00
172.12	172.12	0.00
172.67	172.67	0.00
173.22	173.22	0.00
173.77	173.77	0.00
174.32	174.32	0.00
174.87	174.87	0.00
175.42	175.42	0.00
175.97	175.97	0.00
176.52	176.52	0.00
177.07	177.07	0.00
177.62	177.62	0.00
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178.72	178.72	0.00
179.27	179.27	0.00
179.82	179.82	0.00
180.37	180.37	0.00
180.92	180.92	0.00
181.47	181.47	0.00
182.02	182.02	0.00
182.57	182.57	0.00
183.12	183.12	0.00
183.67	183.67	0.00
184.22	184.22	0.00
184.77	184.77	0.00
185.32	185.32	0.00
185.87	185.87	0.00
186.42	186.42	0.00
186.97	186.97	0.00
187.52	187.52	0.00
188.07	188.07	0.00
188.62	188.62	0.00
189.17	189.17	0.00
189.72	189.72	0.00
190.27	190.27	0.00
190.82	190.82	0.00
191.37	191.37	0.00
191.92	191.92	0.00
192.47	192.47	0.00
193.02	193.02	0.00
193.57	193.57	0.00
194.12	194.12	0.00
194.67	194.67	0.00
195.22	195.22	0.00
195.77	195.77	0.00
196.32	196.32	0.00
196.87	196.87	0.00
197.42	197.42	0.00
197.97	197.97	0.00
198.52	198.52	0.00
199.07	199.07	0.00
199.62	199.62	0.00
200.17	199.62	0.00



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STATE ROUTE 91 HOV PROJ
EXHIBIT "D"
 RAILROAD CROSSINGS
 2-186, 6-A AND 3Y-18.5-9