Mailed: September 3, 1999

Decision 99-09-014 September 2, 1999

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

| Application of State of California, Department of  | )                      |
|--|------------------------|
| Transportation for an order authorizing the Department 7 To: widen the Mace Boulevard Overhead (PUC No. A78.1-A) over the Union Pacific Transportation | (Filed May 17, 1999)   |
| Company's main line track located in the City of Davis, Yolo County, State of California.  | (Amended May 24, 1999) |
|  |                        |

#### **OPINION**

As part of the project to reconstruct Mace Boulevard between 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Chiles Road the State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans)) requests authority to widen the existing Mace Boulevard Overhead over the Union Pacific Transportation Company's (UP) main line tracks in Davis.

The existing two lane structure will be widened to four through lanes, two left-turn lanes and an auxiliary lane. The design includes eight-foot shoulders to be used as Class II bike lanes and a five-foot wide sidewalk on the east side.

The State of California, acting by and through the California Transportation Commission 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 14, 1992 Caltrans filed its Categorical Exemption/Exclusion approving this project. The project was found not to 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 Categorical Exclusion Determination. The application meets the filing requirements of the Commissions's Rules of Practice and Procedure, including Rule 39, which relates to widening or relocating an existing crossing. A sketch of the crossing area is set forth as Appendix A.

The site of the proposed project has been inspected by the Commission's Rail Safety and Carriers Division (RSAC) Traffic Engineering staff. The staff examined the need for and safety

of the proposed grade separated crossing widening and recommends that the sought authority be granted. Caltrans has requested that the authorization be granted for a period of three (3) years.

In Resolution ALJ 176-2989 dated March 24, 1998, the Commission preliminarily categorized this application as ratesetting, and preliminarily determined that hearings were not necessary. RSAC recommends that this application be granted. Given these developments, a public hearing is not necessary, and it is not necessary to disturb the preliminary determinations made in Resolution ALJ 176-2989.

This is an uncontested matter in which the decision grants the relief requested. Accordingly, pursuant to PU Code Section 311 (g) (2), the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is being waived.

# **Findings of Fact**

- 1. Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar on May 20, 1999. One amendment was filed on May 24, 1999 and published on May 26, 1999. No protests have been filed.
- 2. Caltrans requests authority, under Public Utilities Code Sections 1201 1205, to widen the existing Mace Boulevard Overhead over the UP's's main line tracks in City of Davis (City), Yolo County.
- 3. The overhead is required to continue to provide access between the northeast and southeast sections of the City .
  - 4. Public convenience and necessity require construction of the overhead.
  - 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 Categorical Exemption/Exclusion.
  - 7. The project will not have a significant effect 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.

### **ORDER**

#### IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. The State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is authorized to widen the existing Mace Boulevard Overhead over the Union Pacific Transportation Company's (UP) main line tracks at the location and substantially as shown by plans attached to the application and to continue to be identified as Crossing A78-1-A.
  - 2. Clearances shall be in accordance with GO 26-D.
- 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 of the crossing approved by UP, shall be filed by Caltrans with the commission's Rail Safety and Carriers Division 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 thirty (30) days after completion of the work under this order, Caltrans shall advise the Commission's Rail Safety and Carriers Division, Traffic Engineering Section in writing that the authorized work has been completed.
- 6. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within three (3) 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. This application is granted as set forth above.

8. Application 99-05-034 is closed.This order becomes effective today.Dated <u>September 2, 1999</u>, at San Francisco, California.

RICHARD A. BILAS
President
HENRY M. DUQUE
JOSIAH L. NEEPER
JOEL Z. HYATT
CARL W. WOOD
Commissioners

