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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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June 1, 2010

Scott Mozier
Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of Fresno
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721-3615

File No. G.10-04-002

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Cedar Avenue Highway–Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 103G-1.90, DOT No. 029361P in the City of Fresno, Fresno County.

Dear Mr. Mozier:

This refers to your letter dated April 11, 2010, and received by us on April 19, 2010, requesting authorization pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter an at-grade highway-rail crossing of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVR) track in the City of Fresno (City), Fresno County. The crossing is identified as Cedar Avenue Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No.103G-1.90, DOT No. 029361P.

Cedar Avenue is a four-through lanes and two-turn lanes minor arterial roadway at the crossing. The Cedar Avenue crossing has a single track frequented by SJVR freight trains. The track at the crossing runs in the parkway of Floradora Avenue, between opposing lanes. At Cedar Avenue there are no crosswalks across the track from one side of Floradora Avenue to the other. Also, there are no sidewalks along Cedar Avenue on the south side of the crossing. The crossing is equipped with two Commission Standard 8-A (flashing light signal assembly with additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm) warning devices.

The City states in its GO 88-B request letter that “The planned street improvements will complement the installation of new crossing signals at locations in the northwest and southeast quadrants of the crossing at the intersection. New crossing signals will be installed behind the outside curb and in the medians to improve crossing protection and safety.” This project is being done in conjunction with the Section 130 Program.

The proposed alterations, as indicated in the request letter and/or shown on the plans, shall consist of:

- installing a raised concrete, 12-foot wide median island beginning 10 feet from the centerline of the track and extending 100 feet on both sides of the crossing per plan;

- replacing the existing Commission Standard 8-A warning devices with a Commission Standard 9-A (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm with additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm) warning devices on the shoulder of the roadway in both the northwest and southeast quadrants;
- installing an additional Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning device on the north median island;
- installing curb and gutter in the southeast quadrant of the crossing beginning 10 feet from the centerline of the nearest track and extending south approximately 25 feet per plan;
- reconstructing the pavement, curb, curb ramp and sidewalk in the northeast quadrant to provide for ADA compliant pedestrian path per plan;
- installing at-grade pavement marking per the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD) and all signage per plan with the addition of a R3-5R (Right Turn Only) sign installed beneath the STOP sign at the Floradora/Cedar Avenue intersection in the northeast and southwest quadrants of the crossing. The NO U TURN (R3-4) sign should be installed per plan (at the south end of the south median island) and not as indicated on the City's GO 88-B request (this was agreed to between the Staff and the City's public works department per telephone conversation on May 6, 2010).

Staff has investigated the request by the City, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and SJVR are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, you may proceed with the improvements as described in your request letter and attachments, and summarized above.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with Section 8A.05, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CAMUTCD, published by Caltrans.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders, and the CAMUTCD.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Pubic Resources Code 21084].

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within two years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to this office, the time to complete the project may be extended. A written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by interested parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, staff from the Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/formg>. This report may be submitted electronically to rces@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page

If you have any questions, please contact Marvin Kennix at (916) 928-3809 or email at mlk@cpuc.ca.gov .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daren Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "D" and "G".

Daren Gilbert, Supervisor
Rail Crossings Engineering Section
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

Cc:

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