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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 Promenade Circle, Suite 115 SACRAMENTO, CA 95834-2939



July 8, 2010

File Number: G.10-05-005 Pico Station Ped Crossings City of Los Angeles

Eric R. Olson, PE Chief Project Officer Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority 707 Wilshire Boulevard, 34th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90017

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Two At-Grade Pedestrian-Rail Crossings (CPUC No. 84L-0.66D & 84L-0.72D) at the Metro Pico Station along Flower Street between 12th Street and Pico Boulevard, in Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Olson:

This refers to your letter, dated May 19, 2010, received May 20, 2010, requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter two at-grade pedestrian-rail crossings (crossings) of Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) Blue Line Light Rail tracks in City of Los Angeles (City), identified as CPUC Crossing Numbers 84L-0.66D & 84L-0.72D. The two crossings provide access to Metro's Pico Station.

The Pico Station is located on the east side of Flower Street between 12th Street and Pico Boulevard. Crossing No. 84L-0.66D (northern crossing) provides access to the north side of the station platform. The Commission previously authorized modification of this crossing in October 2009 (G.09-09-001). The crossing was modified by closing the vehicular driveway portion while retaining the pedestrian access to the Pico Station.

Now, the Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority (Expo Authority) proposes to modify the northern crossing by modifying the existing K-rail on the east side of Flower Street to permanently close the alley access from Flower Street. Expo Authority also proposes to install additional handrailing between the sidewalk and northbound tracks, along with pedestrian swing gates and Commission Standard No. 8 (flashing light signals, per General Order 75-D) warning devices.

In addition, Expo Authority proposes to modify the southern crossing (Crossing No. 84L-0.72D), located closer to Pico Boulevard, that provides access to the south side of the station platform. Expo Authority proposes to install pedestrian swing gates and Commission Standard No. 8 warning devices, similar to those at the northern crossing, as indicated in plans contained in exhibits B & C attached to your letter. Detectable warning tactile strips to be placed on all crossing approaches, per plan.

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The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by Expo Authority and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As Expo Authority, Metro and the City are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the improvements as described in your letter dated May 19, 2010, and summarized above are authorized. Improvements shall comply with all applicable Commission General Orders and the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices published by the California Department of Transportation.

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. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by involved parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, the Commission's Rail Crossing Engineering Section (RCES) may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, Metro shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G title *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separation*. 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 recs@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page.

If you have any questions, please contact Jose Pereyra at (213-576-7083) or ifp@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Daren Gilbert, Supervisor

Rail Crossings Engineering Section

Consumer Protection and Safety Division

C: John E. Fisher, Los Angeles Department of Transportation

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