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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 Promenade Circle, Suite 115
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July 9, 2010

File Number: G.10-06-001

E Street

City of San Bernardino, San Bernardino County

Susan Robinson
Right-of-Way & Utility Manager
Omnitrans
201 N. E Street, Suite 202
San Bernardino, CA 92401

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the E Street Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 002U-1.00 and DOT No. 027210T, in the City of San Bernardino, San Bernardino County.

Dear Ms. Robinson:

This refers to your letter, dated May 28, 2010 (received June 2, 2010), requesting authorization, pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the existing at-grade crossing of San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) Redlands Branch railroad tracks and E Street in the City of San Bernardino (City), San Bernardino County, identified as CPUC Crossing Number 002U-1.00 and DOT Number 027210T.

The double track crossing is currently a divided roadway, four lanes, two lanes in each direction. The E Street crossing is equipped with two median mounted Commission Standard 9 warning devices (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with automatic gate arm) and two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 warning devices. The E Street Crossing is owned by SANBAG, but BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) operates freight trains on this line. This line currently experiences approximately 2 BNSF trains per week at approximately 10 mph.

The City indicates the modifications are necessary to implement a bus rapid transit (BRT) project in the City of San Bernardino. The crossing will generally remain in the current configuration with some minor modifications to pavement markings and sidewalks in the vicinity of the crossing.

Omnitrans proposes the following alterations as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments:

- Convert one of the two mixed flow lanes in each direction of E Street to exclusive bus lanes;
- Install detectable warning surface (tactile strips) for all quadrants;
- Construct a BRT station on E Street, between Rialto Avenue and the BNSF railroad tracks.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request filed by Omnitrans, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As Omnitrans, City, SANBAG

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and BNSF 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 28, 2010 and summarized above are authorized.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with Section 8A.05, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), published by the California Department of Transportation.

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

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, RCES may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, Omnitrans 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 Bill Lay at (213-576-1399) or bll@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

C: Melvin Thomas, Public Project Manager, BNSF Railway Company
Mitch Alderman, Director of Transit and Rail Programs, San Bernardino Associated Governments
Robert Eisenbeisz, City Engineer, City of San Bernardino