

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



March 7, 2011

File Number: G.11-02-001

Matthew Johns
Project Manager
City of Sacramento
Department of Transportation
915 I Street, Room 2000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Barstow/Baxter Streets Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 083N-2.84, in the City of Sacramento, Sacramento County

Dear Mr. Johns:

This refers to your letter dated February 4, 2011 and received by us on February 7, 2011 requesting authorization by the City of Sacramento (City), pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter an at-grade highway-rail crossing in the City of Sacramento, Sacramento County. The crossing is identified as Barstow/Baxter Streets Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 083N-2.84.

At the crossing location, Sacramento Regional Transit District (SRTD) tracks are street running along Del Paso Boulevard. Del Paso Boulevard currently has two lanes in each travel direction with an SRTD track in the inside travel lane in each direction. Barstow Street and Baxter Street are two lane streets that intersect opposite sides of Del Paso Boulevard and are offset by approximately 40 feet and create a single intersection. The intersection is controlled by traffic signals. Sacramento Regional Transit District (SRTD) runs approximately 130 trains per day at a maximum speed of 35 mph over the crossing.

The proposed alteration as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments shall consist of:

- Modifying the existing traffic signal, including new signal fiber optic connections and a new traffic signal controller;
- Changing the left turn lane from eastbound Del Paso Boulevard to Barstow Street from permissive to protected;
- Changing the left turn lane from westbound Del Paso Boulevard to Baxter Avenue from permissive to protected;
- Eliminating one westbound travel lane from Del Paso Boulevard just west of Barstow Street in the vicinity of the Globe Avenue Regional Transit Station. The lane will be eliminated by creating a "Right Turn Only" trap lane on Del Paso Boulevard just east of Barstow Street, leaving only one through lane along westbound Del Paso Boulevard;
- Traffic signal pre-emption

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All pavement markings and advance warning signs will be placed in accordance with the CAMUTCD.

The City states in its GO88-B request letter that “The public will benefit from the proposed project through improvements to both public safety and convenience. The installation of roadway intersection traffic signals and preemption will allow motorists to more efficiently clear the tracks as a train approaches.”

Staff has investigated the City’s request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and SRTD 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 CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation.

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

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

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three 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 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/static/transportation/crossings/formg.htm> This report may be submitted electronically to rces@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page.

If you have any questions, please contact David Stewart at (916) 928-2515 or atm@cpuc.ca.gov .

Sincerely,



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

C: Darryl Abansado, SRTD