

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



July 19, 2012

File Number: G.12-02-016

Matthew Johns
Assistant Engineer
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 Elkhorn Boulevard Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 004-146.30, DOT No. 833694G, in the City of Sacramento, Sacramento County

Dear Mr. Johns:

This refers to your letter dated February 24, 2012 and received by us on February 29, 2012 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, Sacramento County. The crossing is identified as Elkhorn Boulevard Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 004-146.30, DOT No. 833694G.

The crossing is currently a single track crossing equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. At this location, Elkhorn Boulevard is a two-lane road running east/west. Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) runs approximately 12 trains per day at a maximum speed of 70 mph and Amtrak runs approximately 1 train per day at a maximum speed of 79 mph over the crossing.

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

- Installing a new 114' 6" long non mountable raised median on the east side of the crossing;
- Installing a new 130' long non mountable raised median on the west side of the crossing.

Both medians will transition from 1' wide at the end nearest the tracks to 2' wide at their farthest end.

The City states in its GO88-B request letter that "The proposed medians will supplement the existing gates and signals at Elkhorn Boulevard by creating vehicular channelization. The new channelization will improve public safety by inhibiting vehicles from driving around and through the closed gates."

Staff has investigated the City's request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and UPRR 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.

At the conclusion of the project UPRR should submit an updated FRA inventory form to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. CPUC requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rces@cpuc.ca.gov.

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

Sincerely,



Daren Gilbert, Manager
Rail Transit and Crossings Branch
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

C: Terrel A. Anderson, UPRR