

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834



May 4, 2012

File Number: G.12-04-002

Ricky Chuck
Senior Engineer
City of Sacramento
915 I Street, Room 2000
Sacramento, CA 95814-2604

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Freeport Shores Trail Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 093-7.91 in the City of Sacramento, Sacramento County

Dear Mr. Chuck:

This refers to your letter dated April 9, 2012 and received by us on April 12, 2012 requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the at-grade crossing of Freeport Shores Trail in the City of Sacramento (City), Sacramento County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 093-7.91. (DOT No. Pending)

The crossing is currently a single track crossing equipped with two California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) R8-9 "Tracks Out of Service" signs as required per Commission Decision D.04-05-035. At this location, Freeport Shores Trail is a one-lane road running east/west. The California State Railroad Museum (CSRM) owns the tracks but there are currently no rail operations on this part of the line.

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

- Installing a 12-foot wide, approximately 70 feet long, bicycle/pedestrian path located approximately 10 feet south of the access roadway over the CSRM tracks;
- Installing a Commission Standard 1-R (crossbuck sign on a post) with a Commission Standard 1-D pedestrian crossing sign on each approach;
- Installing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant detectable warning tactile strips on both approaches. The strips shall be placed across the entire width of the pedestrian pathway a minimum of 12 feet from the nearest rail;
- Installing CA MUTCD D11-1(Bike Route), M6-1(Straight Arrow), R8-9(Tracks Out of Service), W3(Curve Right and Curve Left), and W10-1(RR Advanced Warning) signs at the crossing in both approach directions.

- Installing new pavement markings and signs in both approach directions as shown in the plans.

The City states in its GO88-B request letter that “The proposed project would provide an extension of the existing Sacramento River Bikeway to the Freeport Shores/Bill Conlin Youth Sports Complex. It would provide a means of alternate transportation access from Downtown to the Sports Complex, and provide additional recreational opportunities for the communities in a safe and managed setting that are consistent with the goals established in the Sacramento River Parkway Plan and the 2010 Bikeway Master Plan.

Freeport Regional Water Authority (FRWA) completed development of a water intake structure and related facilities at the site. Safety concerns have been raised due to the frequency of trucks entering FRWA water intake site and potential conflicts with cyclists and pedestrians using the trail. This minor footprint alteration will provide the bike and pedestrian trail a separated crossing of the inactive railroad tracks and a stop prior to sharing the access road.”

Commission staff has investigated the City’s request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and CSRM 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.

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If and when the CSRM brings the line back into service, CSRM should acquire a US DOT crossing number and submit an FRA inventory form to the Federal Railroad Administration, documenting the existence of the crossing. CPUC requests a concurrent copy of any inventory form submitted be provided to rces@cpuc.ca.gov .

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daren Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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

C: Catherine A. Taylor, CSRM