

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



November 6, 2012

File Number: G.12-08-038
Broadway/Brazil Street
City of Glendale, Los Angeles County

Patricia Watkins
Assistant Director of Public Projects
Southern California Regional Rail Authority
279 E. Arrow Highway, Suite A
San Dimas, CA 91773

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Broadway/Brazil Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing Number 101VY-7.51 and DOT Number 746805H in City of Glendale, Los Angeles County

Dear Ms. Watkins:

This refers to your letter, dated July 9, 2012, received by us on August 7, 2012, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the at-grade crossing of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority's (SCRRA) Valley Subdivision railroad tracks and Broadway/Brazil Street, in the City of Glendale (City), Los Angeles County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 101VY-7.51 and DOT No. 746805H.

The approach on the west side of the crossing is in the City of Los Angeles, who will be submitting a separate project to signalize the adjacent intersection of Brazil and West San Fernando Road and otherwise improve that approach. Improvements identified herein are all within the SCRRA right-of-way or are in the City of Glendale.

Broadway/Brazil Street is a two-lane roadway with one lane in each direction that crosses two SCRRA tracks. The crossing is currently equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices with advance warning signage and pavement markings.

San Fernando Road East and San Fernando Road West run parallel to the tracks, on the east and west sides, respectively. San Fernando Road East forms a traffic signal controlled intersection with Broadway/Brazil Street approximately 50 feet east of the crossing. San Fernando Road West forms a Stop sign controlled intersection with Broadway/Brazil Street approximately 40 feet west of the crossing. The current annual average daily traffic for the crossing is 1,900 vehicles. In addition SCRRA operating passenger trains, the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) also operates freight trains over this line. Approximately 17 UPRR freight trains and 64 Metrolink trains operate over this line per day at 55 and 79 miles per hour, respectively.

In cooperation with UPRR and the City of Glendale, SCRRA proposes to modify the Broadway/Brazil Street at-grade crossing as follows:

- Remove the existing two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 warning devices;
- Widen Broadway/Brazil Street through the crossing, between San Fernando Road East and San Fernando Road West to include one westbound and two eastbound lanes;
- Construct new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complaint sidewalk to include new access ramps and new concrete crossing panels at the north quadrants of the crossing;
- Construct a new raised median 38-feet in length on westbound approach to the crossing, as shown on the plans;
- Construct a new raised median 24-feet in length on eastbound approach to the crossing, as shown on the plans;
- Construct a new raised median island on southwest quadrant for northbound San Fernando Road West to eastbound Broadway/Brazil Street right turn approach to the crossing, as shown on the plans;
- Install one new curb-mounted and one median-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device for westbound Broadway/Brazil Street, on the northeast quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one new curb-mounted and one median-mounted Commission Standard 9-E (Commission Standard 9 installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing, also known as an exit gate) warning device for eastbound Broadway/Brazil Street, on the southeast quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one new median-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device for eastbound Broadway/Brazil Street, on the southwest quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one new curb-mounted and one median-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device for northbound San Fernando Road West to eastbound Broadway/Brazil Street right turn approach, on the southwest quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one new curb-mounted and median-mounted Commission Standard 9-E warning device for westbound Broadway/Brazil Street, on the northwest quadrant of the crossing;
- Install pedestrian treatments consisting of one Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning device, emergency swing gate and hand railing for channelization at each of the north quadrants of the crossing, as shown in plans;
- Install ADA compliant detectable warning tactile strips on all sidewalk approaches to the crossing;
- Modify the traffic signal system at the intersection of Broadway/Brazil Street and San Fernando Road East to accommodate the new crossing configuration and include advance preemption, protected left turns and limited service, as shown in plans;
- Install street lighting along the northern quadrants of the crossing, as shown on plans; and
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1, W10-2 and W48(CA) advance warning signs, Type N, R3-1 “No Right Turn” Activated Blank Out, R3-4 “No U-Turn”, R4-7 “Keep Right“, R8-8 “DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS”, R9-3a “No Pedestrian Crossing”, R9-3b “Use Crosswalk”, and R13A(CA) “No Right Turn on Red“ signs, and RxR and railroad limit pavement markings as shown on the plans.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by SCRRA and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As SCRRA, the City and UPRR 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 request dated July 9, 2012 and summarized above are authorized.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with 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 Environmental 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 RCES, 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, SCRRA and/or City 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 rces@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page.

At the conclusion of the project, SCRRA 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 me at 916-928-6858 or dar@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

- C: Harry Steelman, Amtrak, 810 N. Alameda Street, 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Kenneth Tom, UPRR, 2015 S. Willow Avenue, Bloomington, CA 92316
- Don Sepulveda, LACMTA, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Wayne Ko, City of Glendale, 633 E. Broadway, Room 300, Glendale, CA 91206
- Jose Hernandez, City of Los Angeles, 100 S. Main St. 9th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012