

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320W 4th Street, Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90013



January 21, 2014

File Number: XREQ 2013120008
Tasman Drive & Patrick Henry Drive
Santa Clara, Santa Clara County

Mark Robinson
Chief Engineering & Construction Officer
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
3331 North First Street
San Jose, CA 95134-1927

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Tasman Drive and Patrick Henry Drive At-Grade Highway-Light Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 082B-6.80, SCL-1401, In The City of Santa Clara, Santa Clara County.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

This refers to your letter, dated December 2, 2013, received by us on December 5, 2013, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the Tasman Drive and Patrick Henry Drive at-grade highway-light rail crossing (crossing) of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) track in the City of Santa Clara (City), Santa Clara County (County). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 082B-6.80, SCL-1401.

The crossing consists of a double-track located within the median of Tasman Drive and is controlled with the traffic signals at the Tasman Drive and Patrick Henry Drive intersection. Patrick Henry Drive provides access to numerous businesses from Tasman Drive. VTA operates 106 trains per day at the crossing with a maximum speed limit of 35 MPH. The proposed alterations to the crossing are part of VTA's Light Rail Efficiency project.

The proposed alterations as indicated in the request letter and/or shown on the plans shall consist of:

- Widening the existing light rail median on Tasman Drive;
- Widening Tasman Drive;
- Replacing and relocating the traffic signals to accommodate the widened Tasman Drive and Patrick Henry Drive intersection;
- Installing a new third track on the north side of the crossing with a concrete panel crossing surface;
- Installing a new overhead catenary system to accommodate the new track;
- Reconfiguring the Tasman Drive travel lanes to accommodate the widened median;
- Installing fencing on the north side of the Tasman Drive light rail median from the Patrick Henry Drive to Old Ironside Drive;
- Installing a semi-circular island of pavement markings on both the east and west ends of the crossing, adjacent to the light rail median on Tasman Drive, to deter vehicles from entering the light rail right of way;

- Installing new striping as a lane extension to direct motorists turning left from northbound Patrick Henry Drive through the intersection to Tasman Drive.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) investigated the request by VTA and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and VTA 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.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD), 2012 Edition, published by the California Department of Transportation.

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

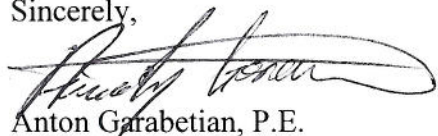
This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Public Resources Code 21084].

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 re-evaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, VTA and/or the 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 Commission web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/safety/Rail/Crossings/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 Felix Ko at (415) 703-3722 or felix.ko@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Anton Garabetian, P.E.
Program and Project Supervisor
Rail Crossings Engineering Section
Safety and Enforcement Division

cc: **(SENT VIA EMAIL)**

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