

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4TH STREET, SUITE 500
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



March 7, 2016

File Number: XREQ 2016020002
Monte Vista Avenue
City of Montclair, San Bernardino County

Michael C. Hudson
Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of Montclair
5111 Benito Street
Montclair, CA 91763

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Monte Vista Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossings, Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001B-517.40 and DOT No. 746936L and CPUC Crossing No. 003-35.00 and DOT No. 810896P in the City of Montclair, San Bernardino County.

Dear Mr. Hudson:

This refers to your letter dated January 5, 2016, received by us on February 12, 2016, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to grade-separate the two Monte Vista Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossings (crossings) on the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Mainline B Alhambra Subdivision track and Los Angeles Subdivision track in the City of Montclair (City), San Bernardino County. The crossings are identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001B-517.40 and DOT No. 746936L, CPUC Crossing 1. No. 003-35.00 and DOT No. 810896P, respectively.

The Monte Vista Avenue is a divided roadway with four lanes, two southbound and two northbound that cross over three UPRR tracks (two Alhambra Subdivision tracks, one Los Angeles Subdivision track). The crossings are approximately 120-feet apart. The Alhambra Subdivision crossing is 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. The Los Angeles Subdivision crossing is 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.

In addition to UPRR approximately 59 daily freight trains with a maximum speed of 65 miles per hour (MPH), the National Passenger Railroad Corporation (Amtrak) and Southern California Regional Railroad Authority (SCRRA/Metrolink) operate approximately 14 passenger trains daily with a maximum speed of 70 MPH, over this line.

City proposes to construct a four lane overhead roadway bridge structure crossing and a pedestrian sidewalk for each direction for the UPRR Alhambra Subdivision and Los Angeles Subdivision

tracks. The grade-separation project was nominated by City to the state Section 190 Grade Separation Program for the fiscal years 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.

During construction, the crossing will be closed to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic and the at-grade crossing will be removed including all railroad warning devices. As part of the project, construction will be in stages. Stage 1 consists of construction Earnhardt Way and Greenwood Avenue, both new roadways to re-establish circulation between Monte Vista Avenue and State Street in the ultimate condition. Stage 2 will be construction after the grade-separation.

All proposed permanent and temporary clearances, as shown per submittal plans, comply with Commission GO 26-D minimum clearance requirements.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by City 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, the improvements as described in your request dated January 5, 2016, and summarized above are authorized.

The following requirements pertain to this authorization:

- The new grade separated structure will be identified as CPUC Crossing Number 001B-517.36-A and DOT Number 441145C;
- The existing at-grade crossing shall be closed to public access and UPRR will maintain controlled access from State Street to the tracks. The at-grade crossing shall be eliminated by removing the pavement approaches, traffic signals, crossing panels, all warning devices, signage and railroad signal equipment; and
- UPRR shall provide railroad flagging during construction for the safety of the public, construction workers, train operators and train operations.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the current version of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), published by the California Department of Transportation. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs, Americans with Disabilities Act, and the CA MUTCD.

This project is statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code 21080.13]

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, RCEB may re-evaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, City and/or UPRR shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled

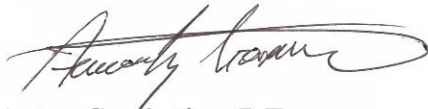
Michael Hudson
XREQ 2016020002
March 7, 2016
Page 3 of 3

Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings/>. This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

At the conclusion of the project, UPRR shall submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form to the FRA, reflecting the changes of the closure of the at-grade crossing and retirement of that DOT number, and the construction of the grade separation and assignment of the new DOT number. Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Sergio Licon at (213) 576-7085 or sal@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

C: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Chris Keckeisen, Manager Public Projects, UPRR

