

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



September 15, 2016

File Number: XREQ 2016080004

David Cisneros
Project Administrator
City of Fresno
2600 Fresno Street, 4th Floor
Fresno, CA 93721

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Fresno Street (and Floradora Street) At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 103G-0.40 and DOT No. 029352R, in the City of Fresno, County of Fresno.

Dear Mr. Cisneros:

This refers to your letter received by us via email on August 12, 2016, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC/Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Fresno Street (and Floradora Street) at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVR) track in the City of Fresno (City), County of Fresno. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 103G-0.40 and DOT No. 029352R.

The crossing has a single track and is equipped with two Commission Standard 1-R (crossbucks assembly) passive warning devices. SJVR operates two freight trains per day at a maximum speed of 10 mph. At the crossing, Fresno Street is a major collector roadway with an average daily vehicle traffic (ADT) of 11,680. The crossing has two through lanes and one left turn lane on both approaches.

This project is being done in conjunction with the Section 130 Program. The proposed alterations as indicated in the City's request letter and/or shown on the plans shall consist of work to be performed by the City and SJVR.

Performed by the City:

- In the northwest quadrant:
 - Reconstructing the driveway approach to commercial standards and relocating it 10 feet to the north in order to allow installation of the proposed warning device on the shoulder in this quadrant.
 - Reconstructing approximately 100 feet of concrete sidewalk.
- In the southwest quadrant:
 - Reconstructing the sidewalk.
 - Installing a pedestrian ramp.
 - Reconstructing the curb radii.
 - Reconstructing the curb and gutter.
 - Reconstructing the far south side corner to include a pedestrian curb ramp.

- In the southeast quadrant:
 - Relocating the light pole.
 - Reconstructing the sidewalk around the railroad warning device.
 - Restriping the crosswalk to align with the pedestrian ramp.
- Installing detectable warning (tactile strips) on all sidewalk approaches.
- Installing a 9 foot wide raised concrete median on both sides of the crossing, approximately 100 feet to the north and 100 feet to the south.
- Reconstructing and extending the east median pork chop island.
- Reconstructing/repaving the roadway on all approaches within the project limits.
- Installing signage and striping.

Performed by SJVR:

- Installing one combination CPUC Standard 9-A (flashing light signal assembly with an automatic gate arm with additional lights on a cantilevered arm) warning device, using a single combined mast, on the north median island.
- Installing one combination CPUC Standard 9-A warning device, using a single combined mast, on the south median island.
- Installing one CPUC Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) in the northwest quadrant at a minimum clearance of 4 feet 3 inches from the face of curb to the center of the warning device mast.
- Installing one CPUC Standard 9 in the southeast quadrant at a minimum clearance of 4 feet 3 inches from the face of curb to the center of the warning device mast with a pair of sidelights directed at pedestrians approaching the crossing from the east.
- Installing one CPUC Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning device on the east island at a minimum clearance of 2 feet 3 inches east from the back of sidewalk to the center of the warning device mast.
- Installing one CPUC Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning device in the southwest quadrant at a minimum clearance of 2 feet 3 inches west from the back of sidewalk to the center of the warning device mast.
- Installing 120 feet of concrete panel surfacing.
- Performing track work within 500 feet of each approach for warning devices' functionality.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) staff has investigated the request by the City, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and SJVR (Parties) are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the City may proceed with the improvements as described in its request letter and attachments, and summarized above.

All Parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including other Commission General Orders and the latest version of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD). Temporary traffic controls shall be in compliance with the latest version of the CAMUTCD.

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. A written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by interested Parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, RCEB may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site at

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings/>.

This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

At the conclusion of the project, SJVR should submit an updated electronic inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. 49 CFR 234 Section 234.409 requires the railroads to submit periodic crossing inventory updates a minimum of once every three years. The Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Marvin Kennix at (916) 928-3809 or email at mlk@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

 Marvin Kennix for Anton Garabetian

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

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Cc: Andrew Benelli
Joseph Evans
John Mollart
Bree Arnett