

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



December 5, 2016

File Numbers: XREQ 2016110007, 2016110008,
2016110009 and 2016110010

City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County

Samuel Mayman
Executive Officer, Engineering
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Four At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossings at 41st Street, Vernon Avenue, 48th Place and 55th Street in City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Mayman:

This refers to your letter, dated December 8, 2015, and received by us on September 9, 2016, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify four at-grade highway-rail crossings (crossings), identified in the table below, over the shared rail corridor tracks of the Union Pacific Railroad Company's (UPRR) Wilmington Subdivision and light rail tracks of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) Blue Line in City of Los Angeles (City), Los Angeles County.

Crossing Names and Identification Information

Authorization No.	CPUC Crossing Nos.	DOT No.	Street
XREQ 2016110007	84L-3.90/BBH-486.13	747835D	41 st Street
XREQ 2016110008	84L-4.20/BBH-486.42	747836K	Vernon Avenue
XREQ 2016110009	84L-4.50/BBH-486.73	747837S	48 th Place
XREQ 2016110010	84L-5.00/BBH-487.17	747838Y	55 th Street

Metro proposes the following alterations as part of its pedestrian safety improvement project. These improvements are discussed in greater detail and shown on the plans submitted with Metro's request:

- Install concrete crossing panels to improve pedestrian walking surface;
- Install Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) pedestrian gate warning devices in combination with swing gates on all sidewalk approaches to the crossings;
- Install handrails and fencing to deter trespassing;
- Widen the pedestrian sidewalks across the tracks to at least 13 feet (south side) and 8 feet (north side) of 41st Street;
- Widen the pedestrian sidewalks across the tracks to at least 12 feet (south side) and 10 feet (north side) of Vernon Avenue;
- Widen the pedestrian sidewalks across the tracks to at least 14 feet (south side) and 11 feet (north side) of 48th Place;

- Widen the pedestrian sidewalks across the tracks to at least 10 feet on the south and north sides of 55th Street;
- Install Qwick Kurb on both sides of the street between the curb extension of the cross street and the marked sidewalk to deter vehicles from entering the pedestrian crossing area;
- Install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant detectable warning tactile strips on all sidewalk approaches to the crossings;
- Install new curb and gutter, and ADA compliant wheelchair access ramps at all approaches to the crossings;
- Install continental-stripped crosswalks across Long Beach Ave West and Long Beach Avenue East;
- Replace/relocate traffic signals as approved by the City.

The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by Metro and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As Metro, UPRR and City 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 December 8, 2015, and summarized above, are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs, ADA, and the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), published by California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Metro must complete all the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the current version of 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 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 reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, Metro shall notify RCEB 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 Commission 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, Metro should electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the FRA, reflecting the changes. 49 CFR 234 Section 234.409 requires the railroads submit periodic crossing inventory updates a minimum of once every three years. Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

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If you have any questions, please contact Jose Pereyra at (213) 576-7083 or jfp@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Anton Garabetian for

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

(SENT VIA EMAIL)

C: Sean Skehan, DOT, City of Los Angeles
Lawrence Hsu, BOE, City of Los Angeles
Chris Keckeisen, UPRR
Morteza Ghandehari, JL Patterson