File Number: XREQ 2016110004

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



December 19, 2016

Wladimir Wlassowsky Transportation Services Division Manager City of Oakland 250 Frank H Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4314 Oakland, CA 94612

SENT VIA E-MAIL

General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter 5th Ave Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001D-7.60, DOT No. 749616W in the City of Oakland, Alameda County

Dear Mr. Wlassowsky:

This refers to your letter dated November 21, 2016, received by us on November 28, 2016, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the 5th Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks in the City of Oakland (City). The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001D-7.60, DOT No. 749616W.

The three track crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard No 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. Approximately 24 passenger and 6 freight trains operate per day at a maximum speed of 79 mph over the crossing. The average daily traffic on 5th Ave is 7,500 vehicles.

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

- Widening the roadway to accommodate a dedicated left turn lane for southbound traffic in the southwest quadrant;
- Relocating the existing active warning devices to accommodate for the widening;
- Installing new traffic signals at 5th Avenue and Embarcadero Road that is interconnected to the crossing warning devices;
- Installing pre-signals for the south bound traffic, equipped with louvers ensuring that the pre-signals are not visible to motorists on the tracks;
- Program the visibility for traffic lights at the intersection of Embarcadero and 5th Ave, serving southbound traffic on 5th Ave to ensure that the intersection traffic lights are only visible to the motorists after they have passed the pre signals;
- Installing advanced preemption for the traffic lights at the intersection of Embarcadero and 5th Ave;
- Installing a raised curb median on each side of the crossing;
- Installing an exit swing gate on the northwest quadrant to prevent pedestrian entrapment;
- Installing detectable warning strips in the northwest and southwest quadrants;
- Replacing the asphalt in the eastern quadrants with ballast and additional pedestrian barriers to keep pedestrian traffic on the western quadrants;

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- Installing a Commission Standard 8 (Flashing light signal assembly mounted on mast) in the southwest quadrant; and
- Applying California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including "KEEP CLEAR" pavement markings, R10-6 "STOP HERE ON RED" signs, a R3-3 "NO TURNS" sign, and R9-3 "NO PEDESTRIANS" signs.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) staff investigated the City's request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As UPRR and the City 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, attachments, and summarized above. The City must complete all the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

UPRR must ensure that emergency notification signs are installed to comply with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 234.309.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CA MUTCD, 2014 Edition, 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 Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Pubic 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, the 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 Commission web site Form G page at http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Crossings. This report may be submitted electronically to reeb@cpuc.ca.gov.

At the conclusion of the project, UPRR should electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the FRA, reflecting the changes. Title 49 CFR Section 234.409 requires the railroads to 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 reb@cpuc.ca.gov.

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If you have any questions, please contact Siavash Mozaffari at (415) 703-1815 or siavash.mozaffari@cpuc.ca.gov .

Sincerely,

Anton Garabetian, P.E.

Program and Project Supervisor

Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch

Safety and Enforcement Division

(SENT VIA E-MAIL)

C: Natalina Bernardi, BKF Engineering Peggy Ygbuhay, Union Pacific Railroad