

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 500  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



May 23, 2017

File Number: XREQ 2017050003

Hellman Avenue

City of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino County

Jason Welday  
City Engineer  
City of Rancho Cucamonga  
10500 Civic Center Drive  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Hellman Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 101SG-39.60 and DOT Crossing No. 026164R in the City of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino County.**

Dear Mr. Welday:

This refers to your letter dated and received by us on April 17, 2017, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Hellman Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) San Gabriel Subdivision track in the City of Rancho Cucamonga (City), San Bernardino County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 101SG-39.60 and DOT Number 026164R.

The crossing is comprised of a single track and a two lane divided roadway, with one traffic lane for each direction. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. Hellman Avenue and East 8<sup>th</sup> Street form a stop sign controlled intersection approximately 40 feet south of the crossing. Approximately ten BNSF Railway Company freight trains at a maximum speed of 55 mph and 42 SCRRA passenger trains operate per day at a maximum speed of 79 mph over the mainline. The average daily traffic at the crossing is approximately 5,835 vehicles.

The City, in cooperation with SCRRA, proposes the following alterations as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments:

- Widen Hellman Avenue by up to 17 feet through the crossing, with the addition of sidewalks on both sides of Hellman Avenue;
- Install a 120 inch storm drain line;
- Install one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device in the northwest quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one curb-mounted and one median-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning devices in the southeast quadrant of the crossing;

- Install new traffic signals at the intersection of East 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Hellman Avenue south of crossing;
- Install an interconnection between the traffic signal equipment and railroad equipment;
- Install advance preemption;
- Install additional concrete panels along the track to accommodate sidewalks;
- Construct eight-inch high raised medians on both sides of the crossing. The medians will be nine feet wide, and extend 100 feet to the north of the tracks and 19 feet to the south.;
- Construct a six-foot, six-inch wide American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalk on the north side of Hellman Avenue including detectable warning strips on both approaches to the crossing;
- Install one Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate and one emergency swing gate at each of the four sidewalk approaches;
- Repave Hellman Avenue and construct curb and gutter and;
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings; including W10-1 advance warning signs, “RXR” and railroad limit pavement markings.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by the City and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As SCRRA and the 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 letter received by us on April 17, 2017, and summarized above, are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and the current version of the CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation. The City and SCRRA must complete all the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

SCRRA must ensure that Emergency Notification Signs are installed to comply with CFR 234.309.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with 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 proposed project 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, the City 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 CPUC web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings/>. This report may be submitted electronically to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).

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At the conclusion of the project, SCRRA should electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) 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. Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).

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

Sincerely,



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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**  
Kim Chan, SCRRA

