

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



July 18, 2017

File Number: XREQ 2017070002
Golf Course Drive
Rohnert Park, Sonoma County

Vanessa Marin Garrett
Civil Engineer
City of Rohnert Park
130 Avram Ave
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Golf Course Drive At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 005-48.50 and DOT No. 498673P in the City of Rohnert Park, County of Sonoma

Dear Ms. Marin Garrett:

This refers to your letter dated July 5, 2017, received by us on July 13, 2017, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Golf Course Drive at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District (SMART) track in the City of Rohnert park (City), County of Sonoma. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 005-48.50 and DOT No. 498673P.

The single track crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9-A (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm and additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm) and one median mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. Golf Course Drive is a two-way east/west running street with sidewalks on both sides of the street. Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company (NWP) runs approximately two freight trains per week at a maximum speed of 15 mph over the crossing. North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) is the State agency charged with bringing freight operations to the Highway 101 corridor. NWP is the freight operator contracted by NCRA. SMART transit passenger service is scheduled to begin in late summer 2017 with a projected 32 trains per day. The average daily traffic on Golf Course Drive is 23,020 vehicles.

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

- Constructing an approximately 12-inch wide and 65-foot long raised concrete median on the eastern approach of the crossing;
- Applying California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant striping on both sides of the tracks to delineate a "KEEP CLEAR" area;
- Applying CA MUTCD compliant "KEEP CLEAR" pavement markings within the area described above;
- Relocating the Americans with Disabilities Act compliant detectable warning strip on the southwest quadrant sidewalk from its current location to adjacent to the railroad warning device; and

- Applying CA MUTCD compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 and W10-9P advance warning signs, and “RXR” and railroad limit pavement markings as shown on plans.

Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) staff has investigated the City’s request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and SMART 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.

SMART 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.

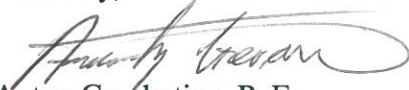
Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Crossings>. This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

At the conclusion of the project, SMART should 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 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.

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If you have any questions, please contact David Stewart at (916) 928-2515 or atm@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: Bill Gamlen, SMART
Mitch Stogner, NCRA
Mary Grace Pawson, City of Rohnert Park

