## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

April 3, 2018



File Number: XREQ2018030015 XREQ2018040001

23<sup>rd</sup> Ave and 29<sup>th</sup> Ave at Glascock St.

Oakland, Alameda County

Brian Sukkar Transportation Engineer City of Oakland 250 Frank Ogawa Plaza Oakland, CA 94530

## SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter Two At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossings at 23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue in the City of Oakland, Alameda County.

Dear Mr. Sukkar:

This refers to your letter dated November 27, 2017, and received by us on March 9, 2018, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission or CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the two immediately adjacent 23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue atgrade highway-rail crossings (crossings) of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) in the City of Oakland (City), Alameda County. The crossings are identified as follows:

**Crossing Names and Identification Information** 

Authorization No.	CPUC Crossing Nos.	DOT No.	Street
XREQ 2018030015	001D-10.40-C	749634U	23 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue
XREQ 2018040001	001D-10.39-C	749633M	29 <sup>th</sup> Avenue

23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Avenues are one way roadways consisting of three travel lanes traveling southbound and northbound respectively. The two Avenues meet just south of the crossings and turn into Park Street Bridge, connecting the City of Oakland to the City of Alameda. The crossings are equipped with two Commission Standard 1-R (crossbuck sign installed on a retro-reflectorized wood or metal post) warning devices along with pavement markings. UPRR operates approximately two freight trains per day at maximum speeds of 10 miles per hour. The crossing averages approximately 41,520 vehicles per day traveling at maximum speed of 30 miles per hour.

The proposed alterations for the crossings as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments include:

- Installing two street lamps to improve night time visibility;
- Re-installing hatch markings along the tracks;
- Constructing traffic islands and bulb outs;
- Providing train pre-emption of the traffic signals on each side of the Park Street drawbridge;
- Applying California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including R8-8 "DO NOT STOP ON THE TRACKS"

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signs, R10-6 "STOP HERE ON RED" signs, and R8-10 "STOP HERE WHEN FLASHING" signs.

## For 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue only:

- Installing advanced warning beacons for southbound traffic;
- Installing rail crossing pre signal at crossing
- Installing two Commission Standard No 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning devices, one each in the northeast and northwest quadrants

## For 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue only:

- Installing red curb near the crossing;
- Relocating existing bus stop from nearside of the railroad crossing;
- Installing one Commission Standard 8 warning device in the southeast quadrant;
- Installing one Commission Standard 8-A (Commission Standard 8 with Additional; Flashing Light Signals over the Roadway on a Cantilevered Arm) warning device in the southwest quadrant;

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) has investigated the City's request and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and UPRR 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. The City must complete all of 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 CFR 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 other Commission General Orders and 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. 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 titled Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separation. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the

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Commission web site Form G page at <a href="http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings">http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings</a>. This report may be submitted electronically to <a href="recb@cpuc.ca.gov">recb@cpuc.ca.gov</a>.

At the conclusion of the project, UPRR should electronically submit updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory forms (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. Commission requests concurrent copies of the updated inventory forms be submitted to <a href="mailto:recb@cpuc.ca.gov">recb@cpuc.ca.gov</a>.

If you have any questions, please contact Sia 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: Kevin Yoder, UPRR

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