

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90013



September 6, 2018

File Number: XREQ 2018080007  
Waterfront Drive  
Eureka, Humboldt County

Miles Slattery  
Director of Parks and Recreation  
City of Eureka  
531 K Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Waterfront Drive Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 104-283.20 and DOT No. 498964E in the City of Eureka, Humboldt County**

Dear Mr. Slattery:

This refers to your letter dated September 24, 2015, received by us on August 14, 2018, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Waterfront Drive at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) track in the City of Eureka (City), Humboldt County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 104-283.20 and DOT No. 498964E.

The two track crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. Waterfront Drive is a two-lane north/south running road. There is no rail traffic over the crossing. The average daily traffic on Waterfront Drive is 1691 vehicles.

This project is part of the City's plan to construct a Caltrans Standard Class I multi-use path within the NCRA right-of way (ROW) throughout the City.

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

- Installing a new striped pedestrian crosswalk across Waterfront Drive north of the crossing with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb, sidewalk landing and detectable warning strips;
- Replacing the existing northern median with a 110-foot long unmountable raised median with a pedestrian refuge on the northern approach of the crossing;
- Paving over the spur track into Schneider Lumber Company and installing an 8-foot wide asphalt pathway on the west side of the crossing;
- Installing California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) W11-15 combined bicycle/pedestrian, W11-15P "TRAIL XING", and W16-9P "AHEAD" signs on the northbound and southbound approaches;
- Installing a W11-15 and a W16-7P (arrow) at the trail mouth on both sides of the street; and

- Installing CA MUTCD W3-1 “STOP AHEAD” signs on both pathway approaches and R1-1 “STOP” signs where the path intersects with the sidewalk at Waterfront Drive.

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

NCRA must also ensure that Emergency Notification Signs are installed to comply with 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 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 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.

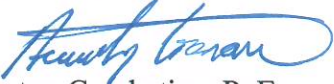
Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Crossings>. This report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

At the conclusion of the project, NCRA 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.

Miles Slattery  
XREQ 2018080007  
September 6, 2018  
Page 3 of 3

If you have any questions, please contact David Stewart at (916) 928-2515 or [atm@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:atm@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anton Garabetian", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

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

(SENT VIA E-MAIL)

C: Mitch Stogner, NCRA  
Greg Sparks, City of Eureka

