

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



December 3, 2018

File Number: XREQ 2018110003
2nd Street
City of San Rafael

Kevin McGowan
Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of San Rafael
111 Morphew Street
San Rafael, CA 94901

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter 2nd Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 005-16.89 and DOT No. 863522F in the City of San Rafael, County of Marin

Dear Mr. McGowan:

This refers to your letter dated October 26, 2018, received by us on November 15, 2018, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the 2nd Street at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of Sonoma-Marina Area Rail Transit District (SMART) track in the City of San Rafael (City), County of Marin. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 005-16.89 and DOT No. 863522F.

The double 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) warning devices, one Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning device for pedestrians in the northeast sidewalk approach and one Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) pedestrian gate warning device in combination with an emergency exit swing gate in the northwest sidewalk approach. 2nd Street is a five-lane, one-way eastbound running street. There is no rail traffic over the crossing. SMART transit passenger service is scheduled to begin in 2019 with a projected 34 trains per day. The average daily traffic on 2nd Street is 30,942 vehicles.

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

- Installing a pre-signal, that includes new signal poles, conduits, and pull boxes, that will be incorporated into the traffic signal at the intersection of 2nd Street and Hetherington Street and 2nd Street and Tamalpais Avenue;
- Installing advance railroad pre-emption for the 2nd Street and Hetherington Street intersection;
- Installing California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant R3-1, no right turn Activated Blankout Signs (ABS) on northbound Francisco Boulevard West and the southeast corner of southbound Tamalpais Avenue and R3-2, no left turn ABS on the south side of 2nd Street for use during pre-emption; and

- Applying CA MUTCD compliant signage and pavement markings, as shown on plans.

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 SMART 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.

SMART 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.

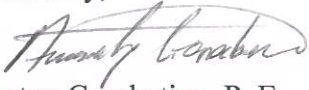
Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Crossings> . This report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

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.

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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

