STATE OF CALIFORNIA Gavin Newsom, Governor

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

January 9, 2019

File Number: XREQ 2018120007 New York Street City of Redlands, San Bernardino County

Paul Toor Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director City of Redlands 35 Cajon Street, Suite 15-A Redlands, CA 92373

## SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the New York Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 101SG-64.82 and DOT Crossing No. 027237C in the City of Redlands, San Bernardino County.

Dear Mr. Toor:

This refers to your letter dated and received by us on November 2, 2018, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the New York Street at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) Redlands Branch track in Redlands (City), San Bernardino County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 101SG-64.82 and DOT Number 027237C.

The crossing is part of the Redlands Passenger Rail Project (Project). The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) is reviewing the other Project crossings modifications altogether. Accordingly, the approval of the requested crossing modifications exceeds the GO 88-B mandated 45-day period.

The crossing roadway was previously removed and there is no current vehicular access. This location is the site of the proposed New York Street Station, that will include a pedestrian only station crossing, as detailed in the proposed plans. The adjacent Stuart Street crossing is being permanently closed as part of this project.

Currently there is no rail traffic at the crossing. However, once the Project is complete, it is expected that the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA/Metrolink) will operate approximately four trains per day at a maximum speed of 50 miles per hour (MPH). An additional 50 trains are expected to travel through the crossing by the Redlands Passenger Rail Project at a maximum speed of 50 MPH. The new rail service will be operated by Omnitrans.

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

- Remove existing single track and replace with new track;
- Install concrete panels along the track;
- Construct station platform south of track with pedestrian access to the platform from Redlands Boulevard;
- Construct paved pedestrian pathway to the crossing from New York Street on the north;
- Install Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning devices, with front and back flashing lights, in combination with emergency egress swing gates, tactile warning strips, and pedestrian channelization at each approach;
- Replace existing signal house with a new signal house;
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings.

The RCEB investigated the request filed by the City and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As SCRRA, SBCTA 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 November 2, 2018, 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.

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 <a href="http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings/">http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings/</a>. This report may be submitted electronically to <a href="mailto:reeb@cpuc.ca.gov">reeb@cpuc.ca.gov</a>.

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. RCEB 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 Sergio Licon at (213) 576-7085 or 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)

Justin Fornelli, SCRRA Andres Ramirez, SBCTA Trischelle Baysden, Omnitrans