

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



June 17, 2019

File Number: XREQ 2019050004
Hubbard Avenue
City of San Fernando, County of Los Angeles

Anh Truong
Principal Engineer
Southern California Regional Rail Authority
2558 Supply Street Building A
Pomona, CA 91767

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Hubbard Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing Number 101VY-21.81 and DOT Number 746045U in the City of San Fernando, County of Los Angeles

Dear Mr. Truong,

This refers to your letter, received by us on May 28, 2019, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the Hubbard Avenue highway-rail at-grade crossing (crossing) of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA/Metrolink) Valley Subdivision track, in the City of San Fernando (City), County of Los Angeles. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 101VY-21.81 and DOT No. 746045U.

The crossing consists of a single track and a four-lane roadway. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted and one median-mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices, and one median-mounted Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning devices for vehicular traffic. There are sidewalks along the east and west curbs of Hubbard Avenue. The San Fernando Road Bike Path and the Mission City Trail terminate at the southwest and northeast quadrants of the crossing respectively. The Sylmar Metrolink Station is located 450 feet northwest of the crossing. Approximately 30 SCRRA passenger commuter trains and four Union Pacific Railroad Company freight trains operate over this line daily. The maximum speeds for the passenger and freight trains are 60 and 50 miles per hour respectively. The annual average daily traffic at the crossing is approximately 23,500 vehicles.

SCRRA, with the cooperation from the City, proposes the following alterations at the crossing as indicated in the request letter and as shown in the plans:

- Install one curb-mounted Commission Standard 8 warning device at the southwest quadrant of the crossing;
- Install one curb-mounted Commission Standard 8 warning device at the northeast quadrant of the crossing;
- Install detectable warning surfaces on all quadrants of the sidewalk approaches, including pathway approach from the Sylmar Metrolink Station;

- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 signs, R9-3bP “USE CROSSWALK” signs, and “RXR” and railroad limit pavement markings as shown on the plans.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by SCRRA and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and SCRRA 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 dated May 28, 2019, and summarized above, are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs 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.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with current version of the CA MUTCD. Refer to CA MUTCD Section 6G.18 and Figure 6H-46 regarding “Work in the Vicinity of a Grade Crossing.”

SCRRA must ensure that Emergency Notification Systems signs are installed to comply with CFR 234.309.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental 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 RCEB, 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, City and/or SCRRA shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G title *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separation*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC 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, SCRRA should electronically submit an updated 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. 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 Chi Cheung To at (213) 576-5766 or cct@cpuc.ca.gov .

Sincerely,



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

C: **(SENT VIA EMAIL)**
Justin Fornelli, SCRRA
Nick Kimball, City of San Fernando
