

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



February 6, 2020

File Number: XREQ 2020010005
Tulare Street
City of Fresno, Fresno County

Steve Delsid, Professional Engineer
Department of Public Works
City of Fresno
2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93737

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Tulare Street At-Grade Highway–Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 002-998.10, and DOT No. 028549N, in the City of Fresno, County of Fresno.

Dear Mr. Delsid:

This refers to your letter, dated December 9, 2019, received by us on January 2, 2020, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Tulare Street at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the BNSF Railway (BNSF) track in the City of Fresno (City), County of Fresno. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 002-998.10, DOT No. 028549N.

The Tulare Street crossing configuration consists of a single-track over a two-lane roadway eastbound and westbound within a Federal Railroad Administration quiet zone.

The proposed alternations, as indicated in the City's request letter and/or shown on its plans, shall consist of:

- Removing the existing unsignalized midblock crosswalk across Tulare Street located to the east of the crossing.
- Installing new traffic signals at the Tulare Street/Q Street intersection.
- Constructing a new crosswalk at the west leg of the Tulare Street/Q Street intersection which will replace the midblock crosswalk. The new traffic signals at this intersection will allow pedestrians to cross Tulare Street with a dedicated signal phase when activated.
- Installing queue loops to work with the new traffic signals at the Tulare Street/Q Street intersection for both the eastbound and westbound approaches to the crossing.
- Installing traffic signal interconnection on Tulare Street to connect the traffic signals at the Tulare Street/Q Street intersection with the adjacent traffic signals at the Tulare Street/P Street and Tulare Street/R Street intersections.
- Installing 13 seconds of advance preemption time for the Tulare Street/Q Street intersection.
- Widening the sidewalk at the northeast quadrant of the crossing.
- Installing one new concrete panel at the north end of the crossing.
- Installing new Americans with Disabilities Act compliant detectable warning tactile strips on the sidewalk approaches in the northeast and southwest quadrants of the crossing.
- Installing new curb ramps and curb and gutter at the northwest and southwest corners of

Tulare Street and Q Street.

- Installing new crosswalk striping on the north and west legs of the Tulare Street/Q Street intersection.
- Protecting in place the existing warning devices and railroad signal house.
- Installing signage, including new “STOP HERE ON RED” (R10-6) signs for both approaches to the crossing and new “NO TRAIN HORN” (W10-9P) signs for pedestrians in all four quadrants of the crossing, striping, a railroad stop line for both approaches to the crossing, and “RXR” pavement markings compliant with the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD).

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by the City and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and BNSF agree as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the City may proceed with the alternations as described in its request letter and attachments and summarized above.

BNSF must also ensure that Emergency Notification System signs are installed to comply with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 234.309.

The City shall provide temporary traffic controls in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CAMUTCD, 2014 Edition, published by the California Department of Transportation.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including 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 Pubic 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 re-evaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City and/or BNSF 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 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, BNSF must submit an updated electronic inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. The Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov. 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 Marvin Kennix at (916) 928-3809 or marvin.kennix@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

cc:

Jesus Avitia, City of Fresno
Kate Kalinosky, BNSF

