

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



April 6, 2020

File Number: XREQ 2020030004
South College Avenue
City of Dinuba

Jason Watts, P.E.
Dinuba City Engineer
2985 North Burl Ave., Suite 101
Fresno, CA 93727

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the South College Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing Number 103BC-235.40 and DOT Number 756836J in the City of Dinuba, Tulare County

Dear Mr. Watts:

This refers to your letter, received by us on March 26, 2020, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the South College Avenue highway-rail at-grade crossing (crossing) of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad (SJVR) Exeter Subdivision, in the City of Dinuba (City), Tulare County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 103BC-235.40 and DOT No. 756836J.

The single-track crossing consists of a north-south roadway with one through lane in each direction. The crossing is equipped with two Commission Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning devices. Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) owns the crossing right-of-way (ROW). SJVR operates two freight trains daily over the crossing with a maximum speed of 25 miles per hour. The average daily traffic at South College Avenue is approximately 2,000 vehicles. The crossing is located approximately 100 feet north of "YIELD" sign controlled South Uruapan Way intersecting South College Avenue.

The City proposes safety improvements within the UPRR ROW as indicated in the request letter and shown in the attachments to include:

- Replace existing roadway warning devices with Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices on both roadway approaches.
- Install an additional pair of flashing lights on the Commission Standard 9 at the southeast quadrant of the crossing, aimed at eastbound traffic on Uruapan Way.
- Construct Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalks and pathways, and install detectable warning tactile strips on all pedestrian pathway approaches.
- Install two Commission Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning devices, one for each pathway crossing.
- Install four feet high wrought iron ADA handrail along the pathways for northbound and southbound pedestrians on both sides of South College Ave.
- Install concrete crossing panels to be tied into the new pathways both sides of the crossing.
- Install ADA compliant curb ramps along with new crosswalk striping across South Uruapan Way.

- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) standard signage and pavement markings.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by the City and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City, SJVR and UPRR 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 on March 26, 2020, and summarized above, are authorized.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs and the current version of CAMUTCD, published by California Department of Transportation. The City 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 the 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."

SJVR must ensure that Emergency Notification Systems signs are installed on new warning devices 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.

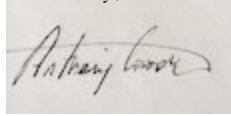
Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separation*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site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

At the conclusion of the project, SJVR should electronically 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. 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 Oliver Garcia at (213) 369-4674, or og1@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Anton Garabetian".

Anton Garabetian, P.E.
Acting Program Manager
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

C: **(SENT VIA EMAIL)**
Jerry Haar, SJVR
Ismael Hernandez, City of Dinuba
Peggy Ygbuhay, UPRR