

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



April 9, 2020

File Number: XREQ 2020030005
2nd Street
City of San Rafael, Marin County

Bill Gamlen, P.E.
Chief Engineer
Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District
5401 Old Redwood Hwy, Suite 200
Petaluma, CA 94954

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. Gamlen:

This refers to your letter, dated March 26, 2020, received by us on March 30, 2020, 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-Marín Area Rail Transit District (SMART) tracks 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. SMART runs 38 passenger trains per day at a maximum speed of 25 miles per hour through the crossing. The average daily traffic on 2nd Street is 30,942 vehicles.

The proposed alterations, as indicated in SMART's request letter and/or shown on its plans, shall consist of replacing the existing Commission Standard 8 warning device in the northeast quadrant with one Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning device in combination with an emergency exit swing gate with fencing.

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

SMART must also ensure that Emergency Notification System signs are installed to comply with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 234.309.

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SMART 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 CAMUTCD.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Public Resources Code 21084].

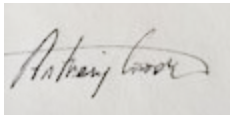
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to RCEB, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence 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, SMART shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed by submitting a Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission 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, SMART 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.

If you have any questions, please contact David Stewart at (916) 928-2515 or atm@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

cc:

Bill Guerin, City of San Rafael