

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90013



April 9, 2020

File Number: XREQ 2020030006  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 005-16.90, and DOT No. 863521Y, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. 005-16.90, and DOT No. 863521Y.

The double track crossing is equipped with one 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 device, one curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning device, one Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning device for pedestrians in the southwest sidewalk approach, and Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning devices in combination with an emergency exit swing gate in the northwest and northeast sidewalk approaches. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is a three-lane, one-way westbound 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is 23,840 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 southwest quadrant with one Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning device in combination with an emergency exit swing gate with fencing.
- Add an auxiliary pedestrian gate arm to the existing Commission Standard 9 in the southeast quadrant in combination with an emergency exit swing gate with fencing with Americans with Disabilities Act compliant detectable warning strips.

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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, Section 234.309.

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

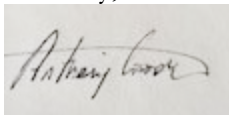
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to RCEB, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence 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 completed 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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