

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



August 17, 2020

File Number: XREQ 2020060004
Nursery Ave.
Fremont, Alameda County

Jeanne Suyeishi
Senior Civil Engineer
City of Fremont
39550 Liberty Street
Fremont, CA 94538

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Nursery Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001D-28.50 and DOT No. 749787X, in the City of Fremont, Alameda County.

Dear Ms. Suyeishi:

This refers to your letter received by us on August 14, 2020, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Nursery Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) track in the City of Fremont (City), County of Alameda. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001D-28.50 and DOT No. 749787X.

The single-track crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices. Fourteen passenger trains and 29 freight trains operate daily over the crossing at a maximum speed of 79 miles per hour. The average daily traffic at the crossing is 10,591 vehicles.

The proposed alterations, as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments, shall consist of:

- Widening asphalt pavement along Nursery Avenue on the south side of the crossing.
- Installing new raised curb medians.
- Installing sidewalks on both sides of the crossing.
- Installing American with Disabilities Act detectable warning strips in all quadrants.
- Removing the driveway immediately adjacent to the crossing in the northwest quadrant.
- Renewing the existing asphalt surface near the crossing and replacing the traffic detection loops.
- Installing emergency back-up power supply for the traffic signals.
- Interconnection of both Niles and Mission Blvd with railroad preemption timing.
- Upgrading the existing interconnection to a multiple wire connection to include traffic control relay, crossing relay, and gate down information.
- Installing R3-1 active "NO RIGHT TURN" blank out light emitting diode signs preventing right turns into the crossing while trains occupy the crossing.

- Applying California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs, R8-8 “DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS” signs, R5-2 “NO TRUCKS” signs, and “RXR” and railroad stopbar pavement markings.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) staff has investigated the City's request and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and UPRR are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, you may proceed with the improvements as described in your request letter, attachments, and summarized above.

UPRR must also ensure that Emergency Notification System signs are installed to comply with 49 CFR 234.309.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CA MUTCD, 2014 Edition, published by Caltrans.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and CA MUTCD.

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 this office, 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, the RCEB may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

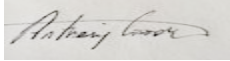
Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the Commission web site at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Crossings>. This report may be submitted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

At the conclusion of the project, UPRR 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.

Jeanne Suyeishi
XREQ 2020060004
August 17, 2020
Page 3 of 3

If you have any questions, please contact Sia Mozaffari at (415) 703-1815 or sm4@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

cc:

Peggy Ygbuhay, UPRR
Gabbie Sefranek, Alfred Benesch & Company
Einar Acuna, Caltrans