

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



July 15, 2020

File Number: XREQ 2020060005
17th Street /Colorado Avenue Bikeway
City of Santa Monica, Los Angeles County

Robert Zak
Project Manager
City of Santa Monica
1437 4th Street, Suite 30
Santa Monica, CA 90401

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the 17th Street/Colorado Avenue At-Grade Highway-Light Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 084S-113.00, in City of Santa Monica, Los Angeles County.

Dear Mr. Zak:

This refers to your request dated June 10, 2020, received by us electronically on June 17, 2020, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the 17th Street/Colorado Avenue at-grade highway-light rail crossing (crossing) of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) "E" Line (formerly Expo Line) tracks, in City of Santa Monica (City), Los Angeles County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 084S-113.00.

The crossing consists of two curved light rail tracks oriented along the center of Colorado Avenue, curving slightly to the southwest through the intersection with 17th Street. The crossing coincides with the intersection of 17th Street and Colorado Avenue, and as such, is entirely controlled by traffic signals. Approximately 260 transit trains operate daily at the crossing, with a maximum speed of 30 miles per hour. The average daily traffic at 17th Street and Colorado Avenue is approximately 10,300 vehicles.

The proposed crossing alterations are part of a larger project by City that involves constructing a Class IV bikeway facility along 17th Street that forms a key component of its Bikeway system. City proposes the following modifications to the crossing:

- Modify the southwest corner of 17th Street and Colorado Avenue to reconstruct the sidewalk, provide a Class IV bikeway (one way southbound), and reconstruct the edge between the sidewalk and the station transit area.
- Narrow 17th Street, south of Colorado Avenue, to relocate the northbound bikeway from in-street lanes to a Class IV facility on west side of street, physically separated from the roadway by raised curb.
- Narrow 17th Street, north of Colorado Avenue, to relocate both the northbound & southbound bikeway from in-street lanes to a Class IV facility, physically separated from the roadway by raised curb.
- Modify the traffic signal system by adding bicycle-specific signal heads and integrating bicycle phases.
- 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 City and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As City and LACMTA 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 dated June 10, 2020, and summarized above, are authorized. 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 CA MUTCD, published by California Department of Transportation. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders, Americans with Disabilities Act, and the CA MUTCD.

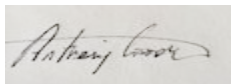
This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Public Resources Code §21084].

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 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, 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Jose Pereyra at (213) 576-7083 or jfp@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

C: **(SENT VIA EMAIL)**
Abdul Zohbi, LACMTA
Sherry Weinmeier, Stantec
Eric Pheifer, Biggs Cardoso