## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



January 22, 2021

File Number: XREQ 2020120002 Mary Avenue Sunnyvale, Santa Clara County

Dennis Ng Transportation and Traffic Manager City of Sunnyvale 456 West Olive Avenue Sunnyvale, CA 94088

## SENT VIA E-MAIL

## Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Mary Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 105E-37.82, and DOT No. 755037B, in the City of Sunnyvale, Santa Clara County.

Dear Mr. Ng:

This refers to your letter dated November 23, 2020, received by us on December 18, 2020, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Mary Avenue, at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain) track in the City of Sunnyvale (City), County of Santa Clara. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 105E-37.82 and DOT No. 755037B.

The double-track crossing is equipped with two median mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm), two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9-A (Commission Standard 9 with additional flashing light signals over the roadway on a cantilevered arm), and four Commission Standard 9-D automatic pedestrian gate warning devices. Ninety-two passenger trains and four freight trains operate per week over the crossing at maximum speeds of 79 and 50 miles per hour, respectively. The crossing average daily traffic is 10,600 vehicles.

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

- Extending the north median filling in the gap.
- Reconstructing the sidewalk in the northwest quadrant for approximately 100 feet to provide smoother pedestrian approach.
- Constructing curb extensions on the northwest, southwest, and southeast quadrants of West Evelyn Avenue and Mary Avenue to shorten pedestrian crossing distance.
- Installing Americans with Disabilities Act compliant curb ramps on the northwest, southwest, and southeast quadrants of the West Evelyn Avenue and Mary Avenue intersection.
- Installing pedestrian detectable warning surface at the existing pedestrian gate on the northwest quadrant of West Evelyn Avenue and Mary Avenue intersection.
- Relocating the crosswalk on the west leg of the West Evelyn Avenue and Mary Avenue intersection to be more perpendicular to West Evelyn Avenue.
- Relocating the crosswalk on the south leg of the West Evelyn Avenue and Mary Avenue intersection to be more perpendicular to Mary Avenue.

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- Relocating the traffic signal poles in the southwest quadrant of the West Evelyn Avenue and Mary Avenue intersection to be adjacent to the new curb ramps.
- Installing new pedestrian push button posts in the southwest quadrant of the West Evelyn Avenue and Mary Avenue intersection to be adjacent to new curb ramps.
- Installing a 12-wire interconnect cable between the City traffic signal cabinet and Caltrain for the train advance signal preemption.
- Modifying traffic signal phasing to utilize advance preemption.
- Installing an advance signal preemption circuit into the signal house and providing advance preemption warning time.

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 and Caltrain 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.

Caltrain must also ensure that Emergency Notification Signs are installed to comply with CFR 234.309. Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), 2014 Edition, published by the California Department of Transportation.

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

Within 30 days after the 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 <u>http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Crossings</u>. This report may be submitted electronically to <u>rceb@cpuc.ca.gov</u>.

At the conclusion of the project, Caltrain 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.

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If you have any questions, please contact Eyitejumade 'Ade' Sogbesan at (415) 703-1869 or es3@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

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

cc:

Rick Bartholomew, Caltrain