

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4TH STREET, SUITE 500
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



January 21, 2021

File Number: XREQ 2021010002
Palm Avenue
City of Riverside, Riverside County

Gilbert Hernandez
Deputy Public Works Director/City Engineer
City of Riverside
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92522

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Palm Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing Identified as CPUC Crossing No. 003-54.80 and DOT Crossing No. 811009B in the City of Riverside, Riverside County.

Dear Mr. Hernandez:

This refers to your email received by us on December 21, 2020, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Palm Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Los Angeles Subdivision tracks in the City of Riverside (City), Riverside County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 003-54.80 and DOT Number 811009B.

The crossing is comprised of two sets of tracks and a two-lane roadway, with one traffic lane in each direction. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9A (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm and Additional Flashing Light Signals over the Roadway on a Cantilevered Arm) warning devices. Approximately 10 UPRR freight trains and 12 passenger trains operate through the crossing daily, with a maximum speed of 60 miles per hour (MPH). The average daily traffic at the crossing is approximately 7,284 vehicles.

The City proposes the following alterations as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments:

- Install double yellow center line within 10 feet of the centerline of the tracks.
- Install delineators along the full length of the double yellow center line.
- Paint edge of roadway markings through the crossing.
- Install pedestrian barricades on the east side of Palm Avenue.
- Repair west side of Palm Avenue sidewalk to be Americans with Disabilities Act compliant and free of tripping hazards and install detectable warning strips on both sidewalk approaches.
- Install California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs, "RXR" and railroad limit pavement markings.

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The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by the City and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and UPRR 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 email and as summarized above are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs and the current version of the CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation. The City must complete all the proposed alterations mentioned above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

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

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with current version of the CA MUTCD. Refer to CA MUTCD Section 6G.18 and Figure 6H-46 regarding "Work in the Vicinity of a Grade Crossing."

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

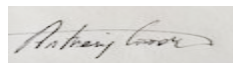
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with, or if the proposed project is not completed, within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to RCEB, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include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

At the conclusion of the project, UPRR should electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) 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. RCEB requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Sergio Licon at (213) 576-7085 or sal@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**
Ken Tom, Union Pacific Railroad