

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 500  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



March 4, 2021

File Number: XREQ 2021020006  
Mission Ave  
City of Oceanside, San Diego County

Brian K. Thomas  
City Engineer  
City of Oceanside  
300 N. Coast Highway  
Oceanside, CA 92054

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Mission Ave At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, Identified as CPUC Crossing Number 106-226.20, and DOT Crossing Number 027062B, in the City of Oceanside, San Diego County.**

Dear Mr. Thomas:

This refers to your letter dated and received by us on February 24, 2021, requesting authorization pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC/Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B to modify the Mission Street at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) at the North County Transit District (NCTD) Coaster tracks in the City of Oceanside (City), San Diego County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 106-226.20 and DOT Crossing Number 027062B.

The crossing is comprised of two sets of tracks and a four-lane roadway, with two lanes in each direction. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm), two median-mounted Commission Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly), and four sidewalk-mounted Standard 9 warning devices. Approximately 68 passenger trains and six freight trains operate through the crossing daily with a maximum speed of 55 miles per hour. The average daily traffic at the crossing is approximately 9,206 vehicles.

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

- Construct a new pathway from the Oceanside Transit Center (OTC) Main Track 1 platform, extending parallel to the tracks with minimum 10 feet minimum clearance from the nearest track center, connecting to Mission Avenue sidewalk outside the active warning gates in the south east (SE) quadrant.
- Install four-foot-high fencing/railing along the pathway on the track side with 10 feet minimum clearance from track center.
- Remove and relocate fencing, railing, emergency exit swing gate, and tactile warning in SE quadrant of Mission Avenue to provide pathway access opening to and from OTC.
- Install additional fencing, channelization, and signage with minimum clearance of 8.5 feet from nearest track centerline, to notify, direct and channelize pathway users ().
- Add a new side flasher directed at the pathway on the Commission Standard 9 at the SE quadrant of Mission Avenue.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by the City, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and NCTD 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 February 24, 2021, and summarized above are authorized. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs and 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.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the 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].

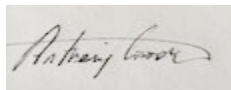
This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with, or if proposed project is not completed, within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to RCEB, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by involved parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, RCEB may re-evaluate 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 Crossing and Separations*. 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, NCTD shall 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. RCEB request a concurrent copy of the updated inventory from the submitted to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).

If you have any questions, please contact Howard Huie at [howard.huie@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:howard.huie@cpuc.ca.gov) or (415) 308-0533.

Sincerely,



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

cc: **(SENT VIA E-MAIL)**  
David Toschak, City of Oceanside  
Scott Loeschke, NCTD