

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



May 17, 2021

File Number: XREQ 2021050001
65th Street
Emeryville, Alameda County

Mary Grace Houlihan
Director of Public Works
1333 Park Ave
Emeryville, CA 94608

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the 65th Street At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001A-4.75 and DOT No. 751151M, in the City of Emeryville, Alameda County.

Dear Ms. Houlihan:

This refers to your letter dated February 15, 2021, received by us on April 27, 2021, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the 65th Street at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks in the City of Emeryville (City), Alameda County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001A-4.75 and DOT No. 751151M.

The three-track crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices and one Commission Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning device. 65th Street is a three-lane street running east-west. The west-bound traffic has two lanes with one lane dedicated for a left-hand turn onto the immediately adjacent Shellmound Street. UPRR runs 15 freight trains per day at a maximum speed of 40 miles per hour (MPH) and Amtrak operates 45 passenger trains at 50 MPH over the crossing. The average daily traffic on 65th Street is approximately 5,000 vehicles.

The proposed alterations, as indicated in the City's request letter and/or shown on its plans, shall consist of:

- Replacing the Commission Standard 9 warning devices in the northeast and southwest quadrants with new Commission Standard 9 warning devices with additional flashing light signals pointed at both Overland Avenue and Shellmound Street.
- Installing Commission Standard 9-E (Commission Standard 9 installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing, also known as an exit gate) warning devices in the southeast and northwest quadrants with additional flashing light signals pointed at Shellmound Street.
- Removing the Commission Standard 8 warning device in the southeast quadrant.
- Installing Commission Standard 9 pedestrian automatic gates and emergency exit swing gates in all quadrants.
- Installing a sidewalk through the north side of the crossing that will connect the existing sidewalk in the northeast and northwest quadrants.
- Installing Americans with Disabilities Act compliant detectable warning devices prior to the active warning devices on all four quadrants.

- Replacing the median east of the crossing with a 19-foot-long raised curb median.
- Installing fencing in all four quadrants to channelize pedestrians.
- Widening the concrete panel crossing surface to accommodate the pedestrian treatments.
- Adding 22 seconds of advance preemption for a total of 55 seconds approach time with a 14-second pedestrian phase to the traffic signals at 65th Street and Overland Avenue, and 65th Street and Shellmound Street, and reconfiguring the phasing according to the plans.
- Installing a new signalized crosswalk east of the crossing for Overland Avenue.
- Removing the existing crosswalk on the east leg of the 65th Street and Shellmound Street intersection.
- Replacing the railroad signal house.
- Applying the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1, W10-2, W10-4, W48 (CA) “2 TRACKS”, R15-8 “LOOK”, and R8-8 “DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS” signs and “RXR” and railroad limit pavement markings.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by the City and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and UPRR agree as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the City may proceed with the alterations as described in its request letter and attachments and summarized above. 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 Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 234.309.

The City shall provide temporary traffic controls in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CAMUTCD, published by California Department of Transportation.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and the latest version of the CAMUTCD.

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, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements can be obtained at the Commission website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Crossings>. This report may be submitted electronically to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.

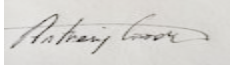
Mary Grace Houlihan
XREQ 2021050001
May 17, 2021
Page 3 of 3

At the conclusion of the project, UPRR must submit an updated electronic inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the Federal Railroad Administration, reflecting the changes. The Commission requests a concurrent copy of the updated inventory form be submitted to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov. 49 CFR 234 Section 234.409 requires the railroads to submit periodic crossing inventory updates a minimum of once every three years.

UPRR shall notify RCEB of the approximate schedule for the signal cutover a minimum of 45 days prior to the scheduled cutover date. Notification can be made to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov and the local RCEB utilities engineer.

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