

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90013



August 18, 2021

File Number: XREQ 2021070007  
Washington Ave  
San Leandro, Alameda County

John O'Driscoll  
Associate Engineer  
835 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
San Leandro, CA 94577

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Washington Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001D-16.50 and DOT No. 749743X, in the City of San Leandro, Alameda County.**

Dear Mr. O'Driscoll:

This refers to your letter dated July 1, 2021, and received by us on July 20, 2021, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC/Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Washington Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) track in the City of San Leandro (City), Alameda County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001D-16.50 and DOT No. 749743X.

The Washington Avenue crossing is a single-track crossing equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9-A (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm and additional flashing light signals over the roadway on cantilevered arm) warning devices and one Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning device. Washington Avenue is a four-lane street running north-south with two lanes in each direction of travel. A total of 14 passenger and 10 freight trains run daily through the crossing at a maximum speed of 79 miles per hour. The average daily traffic on Washington Avenue is approximately 20,858 vehicles.

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

- Installing one Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning device on each pedestrian approach for a total of 4 additional automatic warning devices.
- Installing new sidewalks on both sides of the crossing.
- Installing concrete panel crossing surfaces at the sidewalk locations.
- Installing new fencing along the proposed sidewalks to channelize pedestrians to cross at the designated pedestrian crossing location.
- Installing American with Disabilities Act compliant detectable warning surfaces on all sidewalk approaches.
- Installing new curb ramps at the Chapman Road and Washington Avenue intersection.
- Extending the northern median island in both directions.
- Extending the center medians towards the tracks.
- Realigning and extending the southern medians to channelize the northbound vehicles turning onto Chapman Road.

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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 California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (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].

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](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov). 49 CFR 234 Section 234.409 requires each primary operating railroad to submit periodic crossing inventory updates a minimum of once every three years.

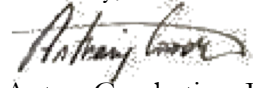
Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is completed by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements can be obtained at the Commission website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Crossings>. This report may be submitted electronically to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).

This authorization shall expire if any party does not comply with the above conditions 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.

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If you have any questions, please contact Sia Mozaffari at (415) 471-4129 or [sm4@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:sm4@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

Cc: Peggy Ygbuhay, UPRR  
Cliff Cessna, UPRR  
Carlos Ruiz, Caltrans