

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



December 23, 2021

File Number: XREQ 2021110003
Arbor Vitae Street
Cities of Los Angeles & Inglewood
Los Angeles County

Paul Whang
Senior Director, Engineering
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

SENT VIA EMAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Arbor Vitae Street At-Grade Highway-Light Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing Number 084A-1.62 in the Cities of Los Angeles and Inglewood, Los Angeles County

Dear Mr. Whang:

This refers to your letter dated August 3, 2020, received by us electronically on November 16, 2021, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the Arbor Vitae Street highway-light rail at-grade crossing (crossing) of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) Crenshaw-LAX (K) Line in the Cities of Los Angeles and Inglewood (Cities), Los Angeles County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 084A-1.62.

The crossing consists of two tracks and a four-lane north-south roadway, with two lanes in each direction. The crossing is equipped with two Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm), two Commission Standard 9E (Standard 9 installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing), and one median mounted Commission Standard 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning devices. LACMTA will operate 300 light rail trains daily at the crossing, with maximum speeds of 30 miles per hour. The average daily traffic through the crossing is approximately 26,710 vehicles.

With concurrence from both Cities, LACMTA proposes the following alterations at the crossing as shown on the plans:

- Widen Arbor Vitae to the south to accommodate an additional lane in each direction for a total of three lanes in each direction.
- Reconstruct and extend the medians to 100 feet in length east and west of the crossing.
- Reconstruct the sidewalk on the south side of Arbor Vitae.
- Replace two existing curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 with two Commission Standard 9A (Standard 9 with overhead flashing lights on cantilever) warning devices on the vehicular approaches to the crossing.
- Remove and relocate one Commission Standard 9E warning device on the southeast quadrant of the crossing.
- Replace one existing median mounted Commission Standard 8 with two Commission Standard 9 and two Commission Standard 9E warning devices.

- Replace four existing Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gates with GO 75-D compliant in-kind warning devices at all pedestrian sidewalk approaches to the crossing.
- Install 90 feet of precast concrete railroad crossing panels on the south side of the crossing to accommodate a crosswalk across the tracks.
- Install detectable warning surfaces at southern sidewalk approaches, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Install signage and striping per California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD).

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by LACMTA and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As LACMTA and the Cities agree as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the improvements as described in your request letter dated August 3, 2020, and summarized above, are authorized.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs and the current version of CAMUTCD, published by California Department of Transportation. The LACMTA 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."

LACMTA must ensure that Emergency Notification Systems signs are installed on new warning devices to comply with CFR 234.309.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental 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, LACMTA 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 Separation*. 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.

Paul Whang
XREQ 2021110003
December 23, 2021
Page 3 of 3

If you have any questions, please contact Jose Pereyra at (213) 576-7083, or jose.pereyra@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

C: **(SENT VIA EMAIL)**
Fabio Arias, LADOT
Eloy Castillo, City of Inglewood
Jennifer Canning, PCL Construction Services, Inc.