

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



December 9, 2021

File Number: XREQ 20211100043
Surfrider Way
City of Oceanside, San Diego County

Tim DeWitt
Senior Engineer
San Diego Association of Government
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Surfrider Way At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, Identified as CPUC Crossing Number 106-225.90 and DOT Crossing Number 026813M, in the City of Oceanside, San Diego County.

Dear Mr. DeWitt:

This refers to your letter dated and received by us on November 12, 2021, requesting authorization pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC/Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B to modify the Surfrider Way at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) at the North County Transit District (NCTD) track in the City of Oceanside (City), San Diego County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 106-225.90, and DOT Crossing Number 026813M.

The crossing is comprised of one set of track and a two-lane roadway, with one lane in the eastbound direction and one in the westbound 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) warning devices, and four Commission Standard 9 active pedestrian gates with emergency exit gates in each quadrant. Approximately 68 passenger trains and 6 freight trains operate through the crossing daily at a maximum speed of 55 miles per hour for both passenger and freight trains. The total average daily vehicular traffic at the crossing is approximately 7,953 in both directions.

The San Diego Association of Government (SANDAG) proposes to make the following alterations as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments:

- Construct a second mainline railroad track (MT2) with concrete crossing panels on the west side of the existing Mainline Track (MT1).
- Provide 18-feet between the railroad tracks centerlines.
- Extend existing concrete panels on MT1 to line up with the end of the MT2 panels.
- Provide 10-foot horizontal clearance between the edge of the sidewalk on the west side and the new MT2 track.
- Relocate Commission Standard 9 warning device with gate on the southwest (SW) quadrant of the crossing to accommodate the second track on the west side.
- Relocate Commission Standard 9 warning devices with pedestrian gate arm and swing gates on the northwest (NW) and SW quadrants of the crossing to accommodate the second track.
- Construct stamped concrete in the median in the median of Surfrider Way on the west side of the track.

- Modify the existing median on the west side of crossing to be approximately 100-feet.
- Replace existing sidewalk, handrails, and construct curb ramps on NW quadrant of the rail crossing.
- Replace existing sidewalk, handrails and construct a curb ramp along with curb and gutter on SW quadrant of rail crossing.
- Provide a separate walkway connection at the SW quadrant of crossing to reconnect the private gate entrance to the public sidewalk.
- Rebuild the driveway from the City public parking lot at the NW quadrant to channelize and limit vehicles to a right turn “out” only movement.

The Commission’s Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request filed by SANDAG, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City, NCTD, and SANDAG 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 November 12, 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. SANDAG 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 California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (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, SANDAG 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.

Tim DeWitt
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If you have any questions, please contact Howard Huie at 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)**
Brian Thomas, City of Oceanside
Scott Loeschke, NCTD