

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



February 18, 2022

File Number: XREQ 2022020002  
Alley s/o Gardena Blvd  
City of Gardena, Los Angeles County

Jun De Castro  
Associate Engineer  
City of Gardena  
1717 West 162nd Street  
Gardena, CA 90247

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Alley South of Gardena Blvd At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing Number 001BBG-496.82-D and DOT Number 760498V in the City of Gardena, Los Angeles County**

Dear Mr. De Castro:

This refers to your letter, dated January 4, 2022, received by us on January 18, 2022, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to modify the Alley south of Gardena Blvd highway-rail at-grade crossing (crossing) of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Wilmington Subdivision, Torrance Industrial Lead, in the City of Gardena (City), Los Angeles County. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 001BBG-496.82-D and DOT No. 760498V.

The crossing consists of a single track and a two-lane east-west alleyway. The tracks curves at the alley crossing between a street-running segment along Vermont Avenue to the northeast and a rail corridor to the southwest. The crossing is located approximately 10 feet west of the intersection of the alley and Vermont Avenue. The crossing is equipped with one Commission Standard 1-R (Crossbuck sign installed on a retroreflectorized wood or metal post) sign. UPRR operates two freight trains daily at the crossing with maximum speed of 10 miles per hour. The average daily traffic through the crossing is approximately 200 vehicles.

With concurrence from UPRR, the City proposes the following alterations at the crossing, as shown on the plans:

- Restrict the flow of traffic to a one-way westerly direction at the crossing.
- Install one additional Commission Standard 1-R sign.
- Install an additional emergency lane west of the crossing.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) standard signage and pavement markings.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) investigated the request by the City and finds that it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and UPRR 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 letter dated January 4, 2022, and summarized above, are authorized.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission GOs and the current version of the CAMUTCD, published by 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.”

UPRR 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, 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 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](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).

If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Cervantes at (213) 266-4716, or [mci@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:mci@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Anton Garabetian, PE  
Program Manager  
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch  
Rail Safety Division

C: **(SENT VIA EMAIL)**  
Kenneth Tom, UPRR