

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



March 28, 2022

File Number: XREQ 2022030005
Howard Avenue
Burlingame, San Mateo County

Stacy Cocke
Director, Rail Activation and Start-up
Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
1250 San Carlos Avenue
San Carlos, CA 94070-1306

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Howard Avenue At-Grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 105E-16.30 and DOT No. 754891C, in the City of Burlingame, San Mateo County.

Dear Ms. Cocke:

This refers to your letter dated March 3, 2022, received by us on March 10, 2022, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Howard Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain) tracks in the City of Burlingame (City), County of San Mateo. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 105E-16.30 and DOT No. 754891C.

The double-track crossing is equipped with two Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate) warning devices and four Commission Standard 9-D pedestrian gate warning devices. Howard Avenue is a two-lane street running in the northeast-southwest direction with two main tracks. Caltrain operates 104 passenger trains per day over the crossing at a maximum speed of 79 miles per hour, and Union Pacific Railroad Company operates 4 freight trains per day at the crossing at a maximum speed of 50 miles per hour. The average daily traffic on Howard Avenue is 3,338 vehicles.

The proposed alterations, as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments, shall consist of:

- Installing an overhead catenary system as part of the Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project.
- Replacing the constant warning time crossing activation system with a two-speed check system.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) staff investigated Caltrain's request and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As Caltrain and the City agree to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, Caltrain may proceed with the improvements as described in your request letter, attachments, and summarized above. Caltrain must complete all the proposed alterations described above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

Caltrain must ensure that Emergency Notification System signs are installed to comply with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 234.309.

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Caltrain shall provide temporary traffic controls in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), published by the California Department of Transportation.

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

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Public Resources Code 21084].

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

At the conclusion of the project, Caltrain 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.

Within 30 days after the completion of this project, Caltrain shall notify RCEB that the authorized work is complete by submitting a Commission Standard Form G. Form G requirements and forms 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.

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not complete within three years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to this office, 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, the RCEB may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

If you have any questions, please contact Eyitejumade 'Ade' Sogbesan at (415) 703-1869 or es3@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

cc:

Peggy Ygbuhay, UPRR
Syed Murtuza, Director of Public Works, City of Burlingame