

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



June 16, 2022

File Number: XREQ 2022050003  
Leigh Avenue  
San Jose, Santa Clara County

Zahi Khattab  
Principal Engineer  
City of San Jose  
200 E. Santa Clara Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Leigh Avenue At-grade Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 82D-5.06 and DOT No. 750162W, in the City of San Jose, Santa Clara County.**

Dear Mr. Khattab:

This refers to your email application dated April 25, 2022, and received by us on April 27, 2022, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Leigh Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) tracks in the City of San Jose (City), County of Santa Clara. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing No. 82D-5.06 and DOT No. 750162W.

Due to a large number of applications received by the Commission just prior to the City's submittal, the Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) required additional time to review the City's request.

The triple-track crossing is equipped with two curb mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices, two median mounted Commission Standard 9 warning devices, two Commission Standard 9 automatic pedestrian gate warning devices, one Commission Standard 8 (automatic flashing light signal assembly) warning device, and pre-signals with simultaneous preemption at the intersection. Leigh Avenue is a four-lane street running north-south. VTA operates 116 transit trains per day over the crossing at a maximum speed of 55 miles per hour (MPH). Union Pacific Railroad runs two freight trains per week at a maximum speed of 10 MPH over the crossing. The average daily traffic on Leigh Avenue is 7,727 vehicles.

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

- Installing 100 feet of channelizers with a yellow retroreflective stripe at the top of the posts on the north approach median.
- Replacing the R10-11 "No Turn on Red" sign on the sidewalk with R13A(CA) "No Right Turn on Red" sign.
- Replacing the existing diagonal stop bar with a horizontal stop bar.
- Installing double-sided W10-9P "No Train Horns" and W82-1CA "Look both Ways" signs at the pedestrian approaches to the tracks.
- Removing the triangular island on the Cheney Drive approach to Leigh Avenue.

- Relocating the vehicle detection loops to new stop bar locations.
- Installing delineators and striping on the south corner of Cheney Drive.
- Installing a new crosswalk across Cheney Drive.
- Replacing the Yield sign with a Stop sign at Cheney Drive/Leigh Avenue.
- Replacing the right turn arrow markings with a Stop pavement marking ahead of the crosswalk on Cheney Drive.
- Applying California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1 advance warning signs, W48 "3 TRACKS" advance warning signs, and RXR and railroad limit pavement markings as shown on plans.

The RCEB staff investigated the request by the City and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and VTA agree 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, attachments, and summarized above. The City must complete all the proposed alterations described above for RCEB to consider this GO 88-B application closed.

VTA must also ensure that Emergency Notification Signs are installed to comply with Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 234.309.

The City shall provide temporary traffic controls in compliance with Section 8A.08, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CAMUTCD, 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 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, VTA must submit an updated 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).

Within 30 days after the completion of this project, the City 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](mailto: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 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, 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](mailto:es3@cpuc.ca.gov).

Zahi Khattab  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anton Garabetian".

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

**CC:** Susan Lucero, VTA  
Peggy Ygbuhay, UPRR