

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



August 17, 2022

File Number: XREQ 2022070002
Ash Street
City of Ventura, Ventura County

Jeff Hereford
Principal Transportation Engineer
City of Ventura
501 Poli Street
Ventura, CA 93001

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Ash Street Rail Crossing

Dear Mr. Hereford,

This refers to your letter dated and received by us on July 22, 2022, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Ash Street rail crossing (crossing) of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) track, in the City of Ventura (City), County of Ventura. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 001E-394.80 and DOT Number 745654S.

The crossing is a north-south, two-lane roadway that consists of one track. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by the City. As the City and UPRR agree on the alterations and apportionment of cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, the following crossing alterations as described and specified in the request letter and its attachments are authorized:

- Remove two Commission Standard 9 warning devices at the northwest and southeast quadrants.
- Install two new Commission Standard 9 warning devices with additional side flashers at the northwest and southeast quadrants.
- Construct Americans with Disabilities Act compliant sidewalk on all four quadrants.
- Install pedestrian fencing and channelization on all four quadrants.
- Install four Commission Standard 9 Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Pedestrian Gate Arms, emergency egress swing gates and detectable warning surfaces on all quadrants.
- Install crosswalks per plan at the intersection of Ash Street and Front Street.
- Install fencing along the westerly boundary of the railroad right-of-way.
- Re-construct the roadway to reduce approach grade.
- Construct curb and gutter at approaches.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings.

In addition, RCEB authorizes the following interim alterations as described and specified in the request:

- Remove R1-1 STOP sign and associated pavement markings at the northbound approach to the intersection of Ash Street and Front Street.
- Install R1-1 STOP signs at the southbound, westbound, and eastbound approaches to the intersection of Ash Street and Front Street.
- Install delineators along the west end of Front Street.
- Apply CA MUTCD compliant signage and pavement markings, including truck route and “LOW CLEARANCE” signage.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the CA MUTCD, published by the California Department of Transportation. All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and CA MUTCD.

This authorization shall expire if the full scope of alterations is not complete within three years of the date of this letter. The City may request time extension to complete the project at least 30 days prior to the expiration date. The time extension request shall include evidence of agreement by involved parties. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety so requires.

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

The following requirements pertain to this authorization:

- The crossing shall have the configuration and operational characteristics as described and specified in the request letter and its attachments.
- Within 30 days after the authorized scope of alterations is complete, City and/or UPRR shall notify RCEB of the alterations by submitting a Form G to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov. Form G requirements and forms are available on the CPUC web site at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings>.
- UPRR shall electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the FRA per 49 C.F.R. § 234.411(c).

If you have any questions, please contact Matt Cervantes at (213) 440-5125 or matthew.cervantes@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



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

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cc: **(SENT VIA EMAIL)**
Kenneth Tom, UPRR
Neda Zayer, City of Ventura
Robert Williams, RailPros
Nick Vineyard, Benesch