

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



October 10, 2022

File Number: XREQ 2022090013  
East 5th Avenue  
City of San Mateo, San Mateo County

Azalea Mitch  
Public Works Director  
City of San Mateo  
330 W 20th Avenue  
San Mateo, CA 94403

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the East 5th Avenue Rail Crossing**

Dear Azalea Mitch:

This refers to your letter dated August 31, 2022, received by us on September 15, 2022, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the East 5th Avenue rail crossing (crossing) of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain) tracks, in the City of San Mateo (City), County of San Mateo. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 105E-17.93 and D.O.T. Number 754904B.

The crossing is a southwest-northeast, two-lane roadway that consists of two main-tracks. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assembly with automatic gate arm) warning devices and four curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning devices.

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

- Install two Commission Standard 9-E (Commission Standard 9 installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing, also known as an exit gate) warning devices, one each in the northwest and southeast quadrants.
- Replace the Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning devices in all quadrants.
- Install a vehicle presence detection system.
- Relocate the EXIT swing gates in all quadrants.
- Replace the detectable warning strips in all quadrants.
- Relocate the pedestrian channelization in all quadrants.
- Install a pre-wired signal house.
- Widen the concrete panel crossing surface.
- Install solar (white) edge-line delineators.
- Reconstruct and install curb ramps in the northwest and southwest quadrants of the Railroad Avenue and 5th Avenue intersection.
- Repave approximately 250 feet on the west side of the road approach, including at least 50 feet onto adjacent roads as transition.

- Install a new Class II bike lane.
- Install pedestrian and motorist street lightning.
- Install detectable warning surfaces on the ramps in all quadrants of the Railroad Avenue and 5th Avenue intersection.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including KEEP CLEAR pavement markings and R8-8 DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS regulatory signs.

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 and/or Caltrain may request a time extension at least 30 days prior to the expiration date. The time extension request shall include evidence of agreement by the involved parties. This authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity, or safety 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 Caltrain shall notify RCEB of the alterations by submitting a Form G to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov). Form G requirements and forms are available on the CPUC website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings>.
- Caltrain shall electronically submit an updated Federal Railroad Administration (F.R.A.) inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the F.R.A. per 49 C.F.R. § 234.411(c).

If you have any questions, please contact Eyitejumade “Ade” Sogbesan at (415) 703-1869 or [ES3@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:ES3@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

cc: Jana Cadiz, City of San Mateo  
Rick Bartholomew, Caltrain