

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102



November 17, 2022

File Number: XREQ 2022110001
Churchill Avenue
City of Palo Alto, Santa Clara County

Ruchika Aggarwal
City Manager
City of Palo Alto
250 Hamilton Street
Palo Alto, CA 94301

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Churchill Avenue Rail Crossing

Dear Ruchika Aggarwal:

This refers to your letter dated September 30, 2022, received by us on November 3, 2022, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Churchill Avenue rail crossing (crossing) of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain) tracks in the City of Palo Alto (City), County of Santa Clara. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 105E-30.88 and DOT Number 754998E.

The crossing is a southwest-northeast, three-lane roadway that consists of two main tracks. The crossing is equipped with one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning device, one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9-A (Commission Standard 9 and Additional Flashing Light Signals over the Roadway on a Cantilevered Arm) warning device, and four Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Pedestrian Gate Arm) 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 an extended pedestrian crossing gate arm on the Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate in the southwest quadrant.
- Replace the Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gates in the northwest and southeast quadrants.
- Install a pre-signal traffic signal system serving the adjacent intersection of Churchill Avenue and Alma Street.
- Install new traffic signals and luminaires.
- Revise preemption timing to provide 16 seconds of pedestrian clearance time, resulting in an advance preemption time of 17 seconds.
- Relocate the EXIT swing gates in the northwest and southwest quadrants.
- Widen the west sidewalk.
- Replace the detectable warning surfaces in the northwest and southwest quadrants.
- Widen the concrete panel crossing surface.
- Install solar white edge line markers on both sides of the crossing.

- Replace the curb ramps in all quadrants of the Churchill Avenue and Alma Street intersection, including detectable warning surfaces, and repairing the adjacent concrete sidewalks.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD)-compliant signage and pavement markings, including KEEP CLEAR pavement markings, WAIT HERE pavement markings, green bicycle lanes, R8-8 DO NOT STOP ON TRACKS signs, R13A(CA) NO RIGHT TURN ON RED signs, and R3-1 NO RIGHT TURN ACTIVATED BLANK-OUT 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 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.

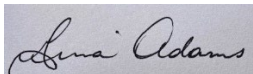
This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code §21084].

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.
- The City and/or Caltrain shall notify RCEB at least 45 days prior to the date that the new or modified interconnection is placed in service by sending a notification to rceb@cpuc.ca.gov.
- 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. 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 (FRA) inventory form (Form F6180.71) to the FRA per 49 CFR § 234.411(c).

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

Sincerely,



Gina Adams
Program and Project Supervisor
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

cc: Ed Shikada, City of Palo Alto

Ruchika Aggarwal
XREQ 2022110001
November 17, 2022
Page 3 of 3

Rick Bartholomew, Caltrain