PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

May 12, 2023



File Number: XREQ 2023040008 Stokes Street City of San Jose, Santa Clara County

Kenneth Ronsse Deputy Director, Rail & Facilities Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority 3331 North First Street San Jose, CA 95134

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Modify the Stokes Street Rail Crossing

Dear Kenneth Ronsse:

This refers to your letter dated March 20, 2023, received by us on April 24, 2023, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (G.O.) 88-B, to alter the Stokes Street 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 Number: 82D-5.57 and U.S. DOT Crossing Number: 750163D.

The skewed crossing is an east-west, three-lane roadway that consists of one rail transit track and one heavy rail freight track. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm), one median-mounted Commission Standard 9, one Commission Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly), one pedestrian gate (Commission Standard 9) warning devices, and a traffic pre-signal for eastbound motorists with railroad preemption.

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

- Replace the Commission Standard 8 warning device in the southeast quadrant with a Commission Standard 9-E (Commission Standard 9 installed on the departure side of the at-grade crossing, also known as an exit gate) warning device.
- Install vehicle detection loops.
- Install pedestrian gate (Commission Standard 9) warning devices in the northeast, southeast, and southwest quadrants.
- Install emergency egress swing gates in the northeast, southeast, and southwest quadrants.
- Relocate the detectable warning surfaces in the northeast, southeast, and southwest quadrants.
- Install pedestrian channelization in the northeast, southeast, and southwest quadrants.
- Reconstruct the sidewalks in the northeast, southeast, and southwest quadrants.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD)-compliant signage and pavement markings, including "KEEP CLEAR" pavement markings, "STOP HERE" pavement markings, 12" white pedestrian pathway striping, edgeline

striping pavement markings, W82-1 "TROLLEY" regulatory signs, W10-9P "NO TRAIN HORN" regulatory signs, R3-1 "NO RIGHT TURN" blank-out regulatory signs, and Type G white retroreflective markers.

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. VTA 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, VTA shall notify RCEB of the alterations by submitting a Form G to <u>rceb@cpuc.ca.gov</u>. Form G requirements and forms are available on the CPUC website at <u>http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings</u>.
- VTA 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.

Sincerely,

Ama adams

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

cc: Zahi Khattab, City of San Jose