

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102



May 26, 2023

File Number: XREQ 2023040009  
Leigh Avenue  
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 Leigh Avenue 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 (GO) 88-B, to alter the Leigh Avenue 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-5.06 and U.S. DOT Crossing Number 750162W.

The crossing is a north-south, four-lane roadway that consists of two rail transit tracks and one heavy rail freight track. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted and two median-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices, one curb-mounted Commission Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning device, two Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning devices, and a traffic pre-signal for southbound 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 GO 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 pedestrian gate warning device.
- Install an emergency egress swing gate in the southwest quadrant.
- Relocate the detectable warning surface in the southwest quadrant.
- Install pedestrian channelization in the southwest quadrant.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD)-compliant signage and pavement markings, including 12" white pedestrian pathway striping, edgeline striping, R3-1 "NO RIGHT TURN BLANK-OUT" regulatory signs, W82-1 "TROLLEY" regulatory signs, W10-9P "NO TRAIN HORN" 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 [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>.
- 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](mailto:ES3@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew Bond".

Matthew Bond, P.E.  
Program and Project Supervisor  
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch  
Rail Safety Division

cc: Zahi Khattab, City of San Jose