

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102



July 20, 2023

File Number: XREQ 2023060002

16th Street

City of San Francisco, San Francisco County

Stacy Cocke  
Director, Signal and Transmission Power  
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Boards  
1250 San Carlos Avenue  
San Carlos CA 94070-1306

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the 16th Street Rail Crossing**

Dear Stacy Cocke:

This refers to your letter dated May 31, 2023, received by us on June 8, 2023, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the 16th Street rail crossing (crossing) of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain) track, in the City of San Francisco (City), County of San Francisco. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 105E-0.89 and DOT Number 754749Y.

The crossing is an east-west, five-lane roadway that consists of two tracks. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted and two median-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Lights Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices, one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9-A (Commission Standard 9 and Additional Flashing Light Signals over the Roadway on a Cantilevered Arm) warning device, four Commission Standard 9 pedestrian gate warning devices, and traffic pre-signals with advance railroad preemption.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by Caltrain. 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 overhead catenary system.
- Replace the constant warning time crossing activation system with a two-speed check system. The northbound train approach will utilize two train speed zones whereas the southbound train approach will utilize one train speed zone due to low southbound train speeds.
- Replace four of the five fixed length vehicular gate arms with articulated gate arms to ensure safe clearances from the gate arms and the overhead catenary system. The vehicular gates to be replaced are located in the northeast quadrant, westbound median, eastbound median, and the right turn lane from Mississippi Street to 16<sup>th</sup> Street in the southwest quadrant.
- Adjust the programmed visibility of the traffic signal at the 16<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Street intersection for westbound motorists to prevent motorists from seeing the green prior to entering the crossing.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (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. 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 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.
- At least 45 days prior to the date that the new or modified train detection is placed in service, Caltrain shall notify RCEB of the scheduled date of the signal cutover by sending a notification to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).
- Within 30 days after the authorized scope of alterations is complete, 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 web site 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 C.F.R. § 234.411(c).

If you have any questions, please contact Sia Mozaffari at (415) 471-4129 or [siavash.mozaffari@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:siavash.mozaffari@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

cc: Kyle Lima, Jacobs  
Brian Dusseault, SFMTA