

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



November 16, 2023

File Number: XREQ 2023100005

Ely Road  
Sonoma CountyBill Gamlen  
Chief Engineer  
Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit  
5401 Old Redwood Highway  
Suite 200  
Petaluma, CA 94954**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Ely Road Rail Crossing**

Dear Bill Gamlen:

This refers to your letter dated and received by us on September 29, 2023, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Ely Road rail crossing (crossing) of the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) track, in the County of Sonoma. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 005-42.20 and DOT Number 498680A.

The crossing is a southeast-northwest two-lane roadway that consists of one track. The crossing is equipped with one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9-A (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm and Additional Flashing Light Signals over the Roadway on a Cantilevered Arm) and one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate) warning devices.

The CPUC's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by SMART. As the County and SMART 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 a striped continental crosswalk with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant pedestrian ramps and detectable warning strips on the east side of the crossing.
- Install push button-controlled traffic signals in both traffic directions with a 10-wire supervised interconnect with simultaneous pre-emption.
- Extend SMART's multi-use pathway north and south of the crossing on the east side of the tracks.
- Install a 4-foot high and 150-foot-long fence between the new pathway and track in the northeast and southeast quadrants.
- Install one Commission Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning device in the southeast quadrant with additional side flashers directed in both directions along the pedestrian pathway.

- Remove the existing Commission Standard 9-A warning device in the northeast quadrant.
- Install a new Commission Standard 9 warning device in the northeast quadrant with the gate rotated parallel to the tracks with side flashers directed north towards the pedestrian pathway.
- Create a six-foot-wide gap in the existing raised median on the east side of crossing to accommodate the new crosswalk.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) compliant signage and pavement markings, including R10-6 “STOP HERE ON RED”, W11-15 and W16-7P crosswalk warning signs, R15-8 “LOOK” signs, “KEEP CLEAR” pavement markings, and 24-inch-wide STOP bars as shown on plans.
- Install CA MUTCD compliant R1-1 “STOP” signs, 12-inch-wide stop lines, and street name signs at the pathway approaches to the crossing where the path intersects with Ely Road.

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. SMART 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.
- SMART shall notify RCEB at least 45 days prior to the date that the new or modified interconnection is placed in service by sending notification to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).
- Within 30 days after the authorized scope of alterations is complete, SMART 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>.
- SMART 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 David Stewart at (415) 806-0490 or [David.Stewart@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:David.Stewart@cpuc.ca.gov).

Bill Gamlen  
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew Bond". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

cc: Johannes J. Hoevertsz, County of Sonoma