

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102



May 23, 2024

File Number: XREQ: 2024050004, 2024050005,
2024050006, 2024050007Alma St, Churchill Ave, Meadow Dr, and
Charleston Rd
City of Palo Alto, Santa Clara CountyAaron Marx
Project Manager
Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board
1250 San Carlos Avenue
San Carlos, CA 94070-1306**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Alma St, Churchill Ave, Meadow Dr, and Charleston Rd Rail Crossings**

Dear Aaron Marx:

This refers to your letter dated April 8, 2024, received by us on April 8, 2024, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Alma St, Churchill Ave, Meadow Dr, and Charleston Rd rail crossings of the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain) tracks, in the City of Palo Alto (City), County of Santa Clara.

The crossings are identified as:

Crossing Name	CPUC Crossing Number	DOT Number
Alma St	105E-29.62	754992N
Churchill Ave	105E-30.88	754998E
W Meadow Dr	105E-32.86	755010S
W Charleston Rd	105E-33.19	755011Y

Alms St is an East-West, two-lane roadway that consists of two main tracks. The Alma St crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices, and two curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 Pedestrian warning devices.

Churchill Ave is an East-West, three-lane roadway that consists of two main tracks. The Churchill Ave crossing is equipped with one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device, one Commission Standard 9-A (Commission Standard 9 and Additional Flashing Light Signals over the Roadway on a Cantilevered Arm), and four curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 Pedestrian warning devices.

West Meadow Dr is an East-West, four-lane roadway that consists of two main tracks. The West Meadow Dr crossing is equipped with one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device, one Commission Standard 9-A, and four curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 Pedestrian warning devices.

West Charleston Rd is an East-West, four-lane roadway that consists of two main tracks. The West Charleston Rd crossing is equipped with one curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 warning device, one Commission Standard 9-A, and four curb-mounted Commission Standard 9 Pedestrian warning devices.

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 In-Service Wayside Crossing Controller Programming Application Logic update to integrate positive train control (PTC) crossing controls with the grade crossing warning system.

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 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 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 Eyitejumade "Ade" Sogbesan at (415) 471-6784 or es3@cpuc.ca.gov.

Aaron Marx
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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: Brad Eggleston, City of Palo Alto
Stacy Cocke, Caltrain