

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



September 11, 2024

File Number: XREQ 20240900003

Vereda Bike Trail

City of San Juan Capistrano, Orange County

Aaron Azevedo  
Assistant Director, Rehabilitation  
Southern California Region Rail Agency  
2558 Supply Street  
Pomona, CA 991767

**Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Vereda Bike Trail Grade-Separated Rail Crossing**

Dear Aaron Azevedo:

This refers to your letter received by us on August 29, 2024, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Vereda Bike Trail grade-separated rail crossing of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) track, in the City of San Juan Capistrano (City), County of Orange. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 101OR-197.88-BD and DOT Number 922853G.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by the Southern California Region Rail Agency. As the City, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), and SCRRA 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:

- Construct a new bridge on the west side of the existing bike trail bridge to accommodate the realignment of the Metrolink track over the Vereda Bike Trail. The existing bike trail will not be modified.
- Install 6'-4" high welded wire mesh fencing along the railroad right-of-way.
- Remove the track on the existing Vereda Bike Trail bridge. The existing bridge structure will remain in place.

The project proposes a minimum permanent vertical clearance of 10 feet 10 inches under the rail bridge structure and will maintain the existing 14 foot width of the existing bike trail beneath the bridge. No temporary clearance reductions are requested during construction.

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 the CA MUTCD.

This authorization shall expire if the full scope of alterations is not complete within three years of the date of this letter. SCRRA 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 statutorily exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, as amended. [California Public Resources Code 21080.13]

The following requirements pertain to this authorization:

- Within 30 days after the authorized scope of alterations is complete, SCRRA 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>.
- SCRRA 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 Howard Huie at (415) 308-0533 or [howard.huie@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:howard.huie@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: Jason Lee, OCTA  
Tom Toman, City of San Juan Capistrano