

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



November 5, 2024

File Number: XREQ 20241000007
Almaden Blvd and San Carlos Ave
City of San Jose, Santa Clara County

Jason Hu
Senior Manager
Santa Clara County Valley Transportation Authority
200 East Santa Clara St, 8th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Almaden Blvd and San Carlos Ave Rail Crossing

Dear Jason Hu:

This refers to your letter dated September 9, 2024, received by us on September 13, 2024, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Almaden Blvd and San Carlos Ave rail crossing (crossing) of the Santa Clara County Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) tracks, in the City of San Jose (City), County of Santa Clara. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 82A-2.18.

Because of unforeseen circumstances, Commission Rail Crossings and Engineering (RCEB) staff is late in submitting this approval letter.

The crossing is a Northwest-Southeast, two-lane roadway that consists of two tracks. The crossing is controlled by traffic signals.

RCEB reviewed the request by the City. 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:

- Install flexible delineators in the gore areas at the beginning and end of parking in the northeast, southeast, and southwest quadrants.
- Install green bicycle lane pavement markings on Almaden Blvd.
- Replace the existing crosswalks with high visibility continental style crosswalks on all approaches.
- Replace the existing Class 2 bicycle lanes in the northeast, northwest, and southwest quadrants with Class 4 protected bicycle lanes with buffered space and delineators.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD)-compliant signage and pavement markings, including R26 "NO PARKING", and R81 (CA) "BIKE LANE" regulatory signs.

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. The City 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.
- Within 30 days after the authorized scope of alterations is complete, the City 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>.

If you have any questions, please contact Eyitejumade “Ade” Sogbesan at (415) 471-6784 or eyitejumade.sogbesan@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: Susan Lucero, VTA