

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102



December 17, 2025

File Numbers: XREQ 20251200015
Pacific Avenue
City of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County

Nathan Nguyen
Director of Public Works
City of Santa Cruz
809 Center Street, Room 201,
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: General Order 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Pacific Avenue Highway Rail Crossing

Dear Nathan Nguyen:

This refers to your letter dated November 14, 2025, received by us on December 11, 2025, requesting authorization, pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) General Order (GO) 88-B, to alter the Pacific Avenue highway-rail crossing (crossing) of the Santa Cruz Regional Transportation Commission (XSCC) track, in the City of Santa Cruz (City), County of Santa Cruz. The crossing is identified as CPUC Crossing Number 137A-19.95 and DOT Number 768230A.

The crossing is a Northwest-Southeast, two-lane roadway that consists of one main track in a roundabout. The crossing is equipped with two curb-mounted and two median-mounted Commission Standard 9 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly with Automatic Gate Arm) warning devices, and two curb-mounted Commission Standard 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning devices.

The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch (RCEB) reviewed the request by the City. As the City and XSCC 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:

- Remove the Class III bikeway along Pacific Avenue and widen the roadway to implement a Class II bike lane.
- Provide two access points to the Class II bike lane, allowing cyclists to cross perpendicular to the tracks.
- Remove and replace accessible curb ramp on the northeastern quadrant of the crossing.
- Relocate existing Standard 8 to the east side of the new accessible curb ramp and maintain its original orientation to pedestrians.
- Close bike path cut-out to the median on the east side of the roundabout.
- Apply California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD)-compliant signage and pavement markings, including W10-1: RXR Advance Warning (Circular) warning signs, AND R1-2: Yield regulatory signs, including Train-activated blank-out 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. City of Santa Cruz may request a time extension at least 30 days prior to the expiration date. The time extension request shall include evidence of agreement by the 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 crossings 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, City and/or XSCC 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 website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/crossings>.
- XSCC 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 eyitejumade.sogbesan@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Mathew Bond, PE, TE
Program and Project Supervisor
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

cc: Brenda Rivera, Progressive Rail
Lou Van Gemert, Progressive Rail
Morgane Staake, RRM Design Group
Ricardo Valdes, City of Santa Cruz
Riley Gerbrandt, XSCC
Sarah Christensen, XSCC
Todd Manoff – Roaring Camp