

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA



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In the Matter of the Application of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for an Order authorizing the construction of a four-track at-grade pedestrian crossing from Willowbrook Avenue East to the Metro Blue Line Platform to Willowbrook Avenue West at the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station, in the County of Los Angeles.

Application 17-11-017  
(Filed November 29, 2017)

**RESPONSE OF THE SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION  
TO THE APPLICATION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
TO CONSTRUCT NEW AT-GRADE PEDESTRIAN-RAIL  
AND LIGHT RAIL CROSSINGS**

Pursuant to Rule 2.6(a) of the California Public Utilities Commission's ("Commission's") Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules"), the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division ("SED") files its response to Application ("A.") 17-11-017. In A.17-11-017, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("LACMTA") requests the Commission's authorization to construct a new at-grade pedestrian-rail and light rail crossing ("crossing") across four tracks, in the County of Los Angeles.

SED is filing this response after the 30 day deadline set forth in Rule 2.6(a). However, SED is requesting acceptance of its late-filed response via a separate motion.

In response to LACMTA's request for authority to construct the crossing, SED wishes to apprise the Commission of relevant information on this project, including information on SED's past site visit and the type and location of the crossing. SED's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch evaluates the safety of all requested rail crossings, including the crossing at issue here. The "checklist," included here as

Attachment A, documents SED's safety review of the proposed crossings and is important information to include on the record to ensure that a thorough review of LACMTA's requested crossings occurs.

Additionally, SED recommends that – should the Commission adopt a decision approving the crossing – the Commission include the following language in the decision's Ordering Paragraphs:

1. The new at-grade pedestrian-rail and light rail crossing at mile post 6.75 shall be identified as California Public Utilities Commission Crossing Number 001BBH-6.75-D and United States Department of Transportation Crossing Number 973805G.
2. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall install the following at the new at-grade pedestrian-rail and light rail crossing:
  - a. Six California Public Utilities Commission Standard Number 8 (flashing light signal assembly) warning devices;
  - b. Twelve pedestrian swing gates;
  - c. American with Disability Act compliant tactile stripes at each approach;
  - d. California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices compliant signage and pavement markings;
  - e. Fencing to channelize pedestrians to the crossing; and
  - f. Concrete panel crossing surface.
3. Upon completion of the new at-grade pedestrian-rail and light rail crossing at mile post 6.75, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall permanently close to public access the existing at-grade pedestrian-rail and light rail crossing located at the north end of the station platform, identified as California Public Utilities Commission Crossing Number 001BBH-491.66-D and United States Department of Transportation Crossing Number 912103U. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall retain the crossing as a designated path of emergency egress only.
4. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall provide the California Public Utilities Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch of the Safety Enforcement Division finalized engineering at-grade pedestrian-rail and light

- rail crossing designs prior to commencement of construction activities. The Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch of the Safety Enforcement Division shall evaluate their conformance with the crossing designs approved in this decision.
5. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall comply with all applicable rules, including California Public Utilities Commission General Orders and the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
  6. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall notify the California Public Utilities Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch of the Safety Enforcement Division at least 30 days prior to the opening of the crossing. Notification should be made by e-mail to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).
  7. Within 30 days after completion of the work authorized by this decision, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall notify the California Public Utilities Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch of the Safety Enforcement Division, in writing, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G (Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossing and Separations), of the completion of the authorized work. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the California Public Utilities Commission web site. The completed report must be submitted via email to [rceb@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:rceb@cpuc.ca.gov).
  8. Union Pacific Railroad shall notify the Federal Railroad Administration by submitting a Crossing Inventory Form (FRA F6180.71) to it acknowledging the establishment of the crossing.
  9. This authorization shall expire if not exercised within three years of the issuance of this decision unless time is extended or if the above conditions are not satisfied. Authorization may be revoked or modified if public convenience, necessity or safety so require.
  10. A request for extension of the three-year authorization must be submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch of the Safety Enforcement Division at least 30 days before the expiration of that period.

SED provides the recommended Ordering Paragraph language suggested above in order to ensure that the crossing is properly identified in the decision with a Commission and Department of Transportation crossing number, and that LACTMA is required to notify SED prior to the crossing opening, as well as to keep SED informed as to any need for an extension of the authorized time-frame for completing the crossing. SED's suggested language is not intended to be exhaustive of the Ordering Paragraphs that may be included in a decision approving the crossing.

Respectfully submitted,

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January 11, 2018

# **ATTACHMENT A**

**Safety and Enforcement Division  
Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch  
Rail Crossings Application  
Check List**

**Date:** January 10, 2018

**Application:** A.17-11-017

**Applicant:** Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA)

**Railroads / Transit Agencies:** LACMTA and Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR)

**Crossings Location (Roadway, City, and County):** Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station southern platform pedestrian crossing in County of Los Angeles

**Crossings Type (Grade Type, Roadway, Bike Path, or Pedestrian):** Proposed at-grade pedestrian-rail and light rail crossing at southern end of station platform to replace existing at-grade pedestrian-rail and light rail crossing at northern end of station platform.

**Crossing Numbers (CPUC/DOT):** Existing north platform crossing number is CPUC 001BBH-491.66-D/DOT 912103U; proposed south platform crossing number is CPUC 001BBH-6.75-D/DOT 973805G.

**Number and Type of Tracks:** Three (3) light rail transit tracks and one (1) freight rail track

**Type and Location of Warning Devices:** Six (6) Commission Standard Number 8 (Flashing Light Signal Assembly) warning devices and 12 pedestrian swing gates.

**Diagnostic Review / Site Visit Date:** SED conducted its diagnostic review and site visit on July 29, 2016.

**Compliance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure:**

Rules of Practice and Procedure, Rule 3.7:

- (a) Milepost and Legal Location: The proposed crossing is located at UPRR Milepost 6.745, at geographic coordinates: Longitude W118°14'14.05", Latitude N33°55'38.79".

- (b) The crossing identification numbers of the nearest existing public crossings are 084L-09.40-A, 001BBH-491.60-A for the Imperial Highway crossing to the north, and 084L-09.80, 001BBH-6.97 for the 119<sup>th</sup> Street crossing to the south.
- (c) The application includes an explanation that sufficiently demonstrates the public need to be served by the proposed crossing at page 3, a statement showing why a grade-separated crossing is not practicable at page 7, and a statement showing the signs, signals, or other crossing warning devices which applicant recommends be provided at the proposed crossing at page 4 and Attachments B and E.
- (d) A map in compliance with Rule 3.7(d) is included as Attachment B.
- (e) A map in compliance with Rule 3.7(e) is included as Attachment A.
- (f) A profile in compliance with Rule 3.7(f) is included in Attachment C.

**Applicable Safety and Regulatory Requirements:**

- 1. General Order 26-D:
  - a. Clearance requirement for posts, pipes, warning signs and similar obstructions. (GO 26-D § 3.2.): requirement is met as side clearances are 12 feet.
  - b. Clearance between the center line of any standard gauge track and the center of a main or passing track. (GO 26-D § 5.2.): requirement is met as clearances are 20 feet
- 2. General Order 75-D:
  - a. All warning devices are substantially in compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices per 75-D, Section 4.
  - b. Attachments to the application show plans to conspicuously identify the crossing in compliance with 75-D, Section 5.
- 3. General Order 143-B:
  - a. Applicant has submitted an application in compliance with Section 9.08.

4. General Order 164-D
  - a. Applicant consulted with SED Staff prior to initiating preliminary engineering in compliance with Section 10.2.

The crossing is proposed at-grade for pedestrian use only, and therefore, other requirements included in General Orders 26-D and 72-B, applicable to vehicular roadway crossings, do not apply.

**Crossing Issues:** No issues present.

**Application Review Date:** December 19, 2017

**Results of Application Review:** The application meets the requirements of Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch, applicable CPUC General Orders and Rule 3.7 of the CPUC Rules of Practice and Procedure.

**Stakeholders / Contacts:**

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