

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RAIL SAFETY DIVISION

RESOLUTION SX-173

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION SX-173 APPORTIONING RAILROAD CROSSING WARNING
DEVICE MAINTENANCE COSTS BETWEEN THE RAILROADS AND THE
CITIES AND COUNTIES

PROPOSED OUTCOME:

Authorization for railroad crossing warning device maintenance cost apportionment as well as claims made by the railroad corporations for the public agency share of maintenance costs for calendar year 2025.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

This resolution considers the public and employees' safety by completing an essential element of the State Automatic Grade Crossing Warning Device Maintenance Fund Program for calendar year 2025. The resolution concludes an annual review of maintenance cost for various automatic rail crossing warning devices and approves those costs for the claims by railroads for 2025.

ESTIMATED COST:

There are no costs associated with this resolution – it establishes criteria for program claims.

SUMMARY

Public Utilities (PU) Code Section 1202.2 requires the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to apportion the maintenance costs of automatic grade crossing warning devices (warning devices) between the railroad and street railroad corporations and affected public agencies. This Executive Director Resolution approves the maintenance cost apportionment claims made by the railroad corporations for the public agency share of maintenance costs for calendar year 2025.

BACKGROUND

PU Code Section 1231.1 requires the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to set aside, in its annual budget, the sum of \$1,000,000 for allocations to pay to the railroads the local governments' share of the costs to maintain warning devices. Commission Decision (D.) 88-01-018, dated January 13, 1988, contains the procedure for determining the costs of maintaining warning devices. In accordance with D.88-01-018, Union Pacific Railroad and BNSF Railway submitted their warning device maintenance costs to the Commission.

In 2025, a California Transportation Commission (CTC) Resolution determined an allocation of \$4,000,000 to be set aside by Caltrans in its 2025-2026 budget for the local governments' share of warning devices maintenance costs incurred in calendar year 2025. In April 2026, Commission Resolution SX-168 approved the warning devices annual maintenance costs for calendar year 2025.

DISCUSSION

The Commission received claims from the railroad corporations. Sierra Northern Railway requested the Commission apportion the cost of maintenance for an additional crossing as shown in Appendix A. The percent apportionment for the public agency shown in Appendix A will be applied to the maintenance bills submitted by Sierra Northern Railway for the individual crossing and will be prorated to the amount determined by the CTC for this purpose. Maintenance costs for each of the various types of warning devices were authorized by Commission D. 92-12-009. The Commission's Rail Crossings and Engineering Branch staff reviewed the submittal to verify the accuracy of the request.

COMMENTS

This is an uncontested matter in which the resolution grants the relief requested. Accordingly, pursuant to PU Code 311(g)(2), the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is being waived.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The apportionment listed in Appendix A is reasonable.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

The total maintenance cost for the crossing listed in Appendix A shall be divided between the railroad corporation and the city as shown in the column headed "Portion of Responsibility." The liability assigned to the city is limited to funds determined by the California Transportation Commission to be set aside by California Department of Transportation for allocation pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 1231.1.

This resolution is issued pursuant to Resolution SX-28 and is effective today.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by Executive Action Resolution on September 8, 2026.



Leuwam Tesfai
Executive Director

Appendix A

Billing Rail Organization	DOT Crossing Number	CPUC Crossing Number	Roadway Name	Roadway Jurisdiction	Maintainance Fund Category	Portion of Responsibili	Category Add/Change
SIERRA RAILWAY COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA LIMITED (SRYC)	968257L	001BE-425.81	Trestle Way	City of Fillmore	1-Main line with Gates or Flashers	50	Add