

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 WEST 4TH STREET, SUITE 500
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



February 11, 2025

ENVR 20250200004

Alvie Betancourt
City of Pico Rivera
6615 Passons Boulevard
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

**Re: Washington Boulevard Transit Oriented Development Specific Plan Project EIR [SCH 2023090527](#)
— *Environmental Impact Report***

Dear Alvie Betancourt,

The California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) has jurisdiction over rail crossings (crossings) in California. CPUC ensures that crossings are safely designed, constructed, and maintained. The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Branch (RCEB) is in receipt of the *Environmental Impact Report (EIR)* for the proposed Washington Boulevard Transit Oriented Development Specific Plan Project. The City of Pico Rivera (City) is the lead agency.

The City is proposing to revitalize the area of Washington and Rosemead to complement the future Metro E Line Extension by establishing six land uses within the site plan area, including two residential zones, two commercial zones, an industrial mixed use zone, and a flex zone. As defined in the EIR Appendices, the current site plan borders a Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) yard to its south and a spur line that serves industrial buildings within the Project area. The spur line contains the following two at-grade highway railroad crossings:

Crossing Name	CPUC No.	DOT No.
Rex Road	002-150.54-C	027808U
Canford Street	002-150.83-C	027812J

Recent street view images show that the spur line north of Rex Rd is fenced off, indicating that the crossings may be out of service currently. It is unclear if the spur line and crossings will remain or be removed as part of the redevelopment. Should the spur line and crossing remain in place and given the close proximity of the City's proposed revitalization zones, which will change land-uses and increase traffic in the area, RCEB recommends that the City review the existing conditions and implement any needed improvements, either through a capital project led by the City or a condition of approval for any future proposed developments, to bring the crossings up to current standards and in compliance with ADA requirements.

Any proposed crossing improvement project will require authorization from the CPUC and must also conform to the goals of the CPUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan. This includes improving safety and access to transportation, improving local air quality and public health, and expanding outreach and public participation opportunities in disadvantaged communities. For more information, please visit <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/esjactionplan>.

In addition, in the Mobility Assessment Report prepared for the City, Section 5 discusses the traffic operation analysis. On page 28 of the report, there was mention of rerouting future traffic volumes on a new roadway and noted the connection of Serapis Ave over the BNSF mainline corridor. There does not appear to be a plan for that connection as part of this Project, but should the City pursue that connection in the future, RCEB will need to be consulted and authorization from the CPUC will be required for the new crossing.

RCEB staff is available to discuss any potential safety impacts or concerns at the crossings and address any questions from the City.

Alvie Betancourt
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If you have any questions, please contact Richard Le at (213) 999-9053, or richard.le@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anh Truong', written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

Anh Truong
Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor)
Rail Crossings Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

cc: State Clearinghouse, state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov
Dionisio Martinez, BNSF, dionisio.martinez@bnsf.com