

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 Van Ness Ave
San Francisco, CA 94102



March 10, 2025

ENVR 20250200007

Sean Diest Lorgion
Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District
1600 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Macdonald Avenue/Cutting Boulevard Transit Improvement Project [SCH2025020491](#) — *Notice of Exemption*

Dear Sean Diest Lorgion,

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 *Notice of Exemption (NOE)* for the proposed Macdonald Avenue/Cutting Boulevard Transit Improvement Project. Alameda Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit) is the lead agency.

The Project Applicant proposes to upgrade traffic signals, relocate bus stops, and provide curb extension along Cutting Boulevard, between interstate 580 and El Cerrito del Norte Bay Area Rapid Transit Station. The proposed project has a potential impact on the at-grade highway-rail crossing at South Cutting Boulevard (CPUC No. 001A-10.80, DOT No. 751678U).

The relocation of the bus stop should include consideration of public safety at the railroad crossing, including avoiding obstruction of railroad warning devices and traffic signals. Coordination with the City of Richmond is necessary for the signal upgrade, as the intersection is preempted when trains approach the crossing. Additionally, any modifications to traffic signal operations at South Cutting Boulevard and Carlson Boulevard will require authorization from the CPUC.

The City of Richmond is also currently implementing a federally funded improvement project at the crossing, which includes, but is not limited to, installing full pedestrian treatments at all four quadrants, adding a pre-signal on eastbound South Cutting Boulevard, and upgrading the traffic signal at the South Cutting Boulevard and Carlson Boulevard intersection. Both projects should be coordinated to avoid impacts on public safety.

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

If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 791-2612, or ramineh.medhat@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Ramineh Medhat
Utilities Engineer
Rail Crossings Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

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