

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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



May 6, 2026

ENVR 20260400021

Daeley Simons  
Associate Engineer  
City of Torrance  
20500 Madrona Avenue  
Torrance, CA 90503

**Re: Citywide Traffic Signal Improvements, T-171 SCH [2026040786](#) – Notice of Exemption (NOE)**

Dear Daeley Simons,

The California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) has jurisdiction over rail crossings (crossings) in California. The 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 Citywide Traffic Signal Improvements, T-171 Project. The City of Torrance (City) is the lead agency.

Through this project, the City intends to install a new traffic signal and striping at the intersection of Arlington Avenue and Lincoln Avenue and install traffic signal components at various other locations including Crenshaw Boulevard and Carson Street and Crenshaw Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard. The city does not intend to expand capacity or create new lanes as part of this project.

Approximately 200 feet from the intersection of Arlington Ave. and Lincoln Ave. is the Burlington Northern Sante Fe (BNSF) [Arlington Avenue at-grade highway-rail crossing](#) (CPUC no. 002H-22.20, DOT no. 028103G). Per the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD) Section 8D.09, highway-rail crossings equipped with flashing-light signals located 200 feet from an intersection controlled by a traffic control signal should be interconnected and provided with rail preemption. As part of this Project, the City should investigate queuing potential over the crossing and provide any additional improvements to mitigate it. The crossing should be improved to comply with current standards and ADA requirements including pedestrian facilities, and signing and striping upgrades.

Additionally, the following two BNSF at-grade highway-rail crossings lie near the scope of this project:

Crossing Name	CPUC No.	DOT No.
<a href="#">Torrance Blvd</a>	002H-21.20	028096Y
<a href="#">Carson St</a>	002H-21.60	028099U

As part of the traffic signal upgrades at the intersections west of each crossing, RCEB recommends that the City investigate current and future queuing potential over each crossing and implement any necessary improvement projects at each location to eliminate this risk as well as also bring the crossings into compliance with current standards and ADA requirements.

Any proposed crossing modifications, including interconnection and preemption, will require authorization from the CPUC through a [General Order 88-B request](#) and must also conform to the goals of the CPUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan. This includes improving safety and

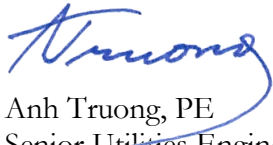
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access to transportation, improving local air quality and public health, and expanding outreach and public participation opportunities in disadvantaged communities. For more information, please visit <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/esjactionplan>.

RCEB staff 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 Richard Le at (213) 999-9053, or [richard.le@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:richard.le@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



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

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