

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 WEST 4TH STREET, SUITE 500
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013
(213) 576-7083



August 27, 2013

Sara Bulzer
City of Hayward
777 B Street
Hayward, CA 94541

Dear Ms. Bulzer:

Re: SCH 2013082015 Hayward 2040 General Plan NOP

The California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) has jurisdiction over the safety of highway-rail crossings (crossings) in California. The California Public Utilities Code requires Commission approval for the construction or alteration of crossings and grants the Commission exclusive power on the design, alteration, and closure of crossings in California. The Commission Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) is in receipt of the *Notice of Preparation (NOP)* for the proposed City of Hayward (City) 2040 General Plan project.

The project area includes active railroad tracks. RCES recommends that the City add language to the General Plan so that any future development adjacent to or near the railroad/light rail right-of-way (ROW) is planned with the safety of the rail corridor in mind. New developments may increase traffic volumes not only on streets and at intersections, but also at at-grade crossings. This includes considering pedestrian circulation patterns or destinations with respect to railroad ROW and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Mitigation measures to consider include, but are not limited to, the planning for grade separations for major thoroughfares, improvements to existing at-grade crossings due to increase in traffic volumes and continuous vandal resistant fencing or other appropriate barriers to limit the access of trespassers onto the railroad ROW.

If you have any questions in this matter, please contact me at (213) 576-7076, ykc@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Chiang".

Ken Chiang, P.E.
Utilities Engineer
Rail Crossings Engineering Section
Safety and Enforcement Division

C: State Clearinghouse