

Decision No. C14-1463

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 14A-1044R

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT FOR AUTHORITY TO ALTER THE AT-GRADE CROSSING AT RTD'S WEST CORRIDOR AND GARRISON STREET IN THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF COLORADO.

**COMMISSION DECISION DEEMING APPLICATION
COMPLETE AND GRANTING APPLICATION**

Mailed Date: December 12, 2014
Adopted Date: December 10, 2014

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. This matter comes before the Commission for consideration of an application (Application) filed by the Regional Transportation District (RTD) on October 28, 2014, requesting authority to temporarily alter the crossing of Garrison Street with the RTD West Corridor to test exit gate vehicle detection equipment, National Inventory No. 244733U, in the City of Lakewood, County of Jefferson, State of Colorado.

2. The Commission gave notice of this Application (Notice) to all interested parties, including adjacent property owners pursuant to § 40-6-108(2), C.R.S. The Notice was mailed October 31, 2014.

3. No interventions were filed in this matter.

4. The Commission has reviewed the record in this matter and deems that the Application was complete within the meaning of § 40-6-109.5, C.R.S.

5. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter under §§ 40-4-106(2)(a) and (3)(a), C.R.S.

6. Now being fully advised in the matter, we grant the Application.

B. Findings of Fact

7. The Commission gave notice to all interested parties, including the adjacent property owners. No interventions were received opposing the Application.

8. RTD seeks authority to temporarily alter the crossing of Garrison Street with the West Corridor light rail line to test exit gate vehicle detection equipment it is considering using on the I-225 Light Rail project. RTD initially proposes testing radar exit gate detection equipment at the crossing, but also requests that should this technology not prove sound that it be allowed the authority to test other types of equipment including, but not limited to, laser and video technologies.

9. The current Garrison Street four-quadrant exit gate operations are a timed exit gate operation. The installation of the radar exit gate detection circuitry will allow RTD to determine if this type of vehicle detection will work with their equipment. However, RTD will use the timed exit gate operating mode as the default failure mode should there be issues with the detection equipment being tested. As part of the testing procedure, once installed, RTD will conduct 24-hour video monitoring of the operation of the exit gates under the radar, or other detection system being tested, for the first 2 days of operation. Only one technology will be tested at any given time.

10. Once RTD has completed testing the radar detection system, and any other detection system technologies, these systems will be removed, and the crossing will be returned to the timed exit gate mode that has been approved by the Commission for this crossing.

11. RTD estimates the project costs for the radar detection system test at approximately \$25,730 with RTD responsible for all project costs.

12. RTD proposes to start the crossing modifications immediately upon approval of the Application and have all testing completed by August 2015. RTD will be required to inform the Commission in writing when all testing is complete and when the crossing is once again operating in the originally approved configuration within ten days of completion. The Commission will expect this letter no later than August 31, 2015.

13. We have reviewed the information provided by RTD regarding the radar detection system and the proposed method of testing including the use of a default failure mode should there be issues with the test equipment and do not see any public safety issues associated with this procedure.

C. Conclusions

14. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter under §§ 40-4-106(2)(a) and (3)(a), C.R.S.

15. No intervenor that filed a petition to intervene or other pleading contests or opposes the construction of the new crossing and active warning equipment.

16. Because the Application is unopposed, the Commission will determine this matter upon the record, without a formal hearing under § 40-6-109(5), C.R.S., and Rule 1403, Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-1.

17. Based on the Findings of Fact, we find good cause exists and that the requirements of public safety and necessity are met by granting the Application consistent with the above discussion.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The application filed by the Regional Transportation District (RTD) on October 28, 2014, requesting authority to temporarily alter the crossing of Garrison Street with the RTD West Corridor to test exit gate vehicle detection equipment, National Inventory No. 244733U, in the City of Lakewood, County of Jefferson, State of Colorado is deemed complete within the meaning of § 40-6-109.5, C.R.S.

2. RTD is authorized and ordered to proceed with field testing of the radar exit gate vehicle detection system. RTD is also authorized to test any additional technologies including, but not limited to, laser and video detection using the methodology outlined in its Application.

3. RTD is required to inform the Commission in writing when all testing is complete and when the crossing is once again operating in the originally approved configuration within ten days after completion. We shall expect this letter no later than August 31, 2015.

4. The 20-day period provided for in § 40-6-114, C.R.S., within which to file applications for rehearing, reargument, or reconsideration, begins on the first day following the effective date of this Decision.

5. The Commission retains jurisdiction to enter further decisions as necessary.

6. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
December 10, 2014.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Dean".

Doug Dean,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

JOSHUA B. EPEL

PAMELA J. PATTON

GLENN A. VAAD

Commissioners