

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

427 B



FROM: TLMA - Transportation Department

SUBMITTAL DATE:
August 14, 2013

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 2013-079 Notice of Intention for the Closure of Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the At-Grade Crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line to Non-Emergency Traffic in the Box Springs Mountain Area

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors adopt Resolution No. 2013-079, Notice of Intention for the closure of Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the at-grade crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line to non-emergency traffic in the Box Springs Mountain Area - Fifth Supervisorial District/First Supervisorial District, and set September 10, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. to hold a Public Hearing on this matter.

BACKGROUND: The Riverside County Transportation Commission's (RCTC) Perris Valley Line Project (PVL) is a 24-mile extension of the Metrolink 91 Line service, which currently provides service from Riverside to downtown Los Angeles and Orange County. The PVL would bring commuter rail service from downtown Riverside to the City of Perris; thus, linking several communities to major employment centers and to the Southern California commuter rail network. The County of Riverside (County), as a member of RCTC, frequently works in concert and cooperatively with the Commission to further the overall goals of RCTC and the County to improve and provide services and facilities to the public.

(Continued on Page 2)

Juan C. Perez
Director of Transportation and Land Management

WJH
Attachments: Resolution No.2013-079
Exhibit "A"

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Stone and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended, and is set for public hearing on Tuesday, September 10, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Stone, Benoit and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: August 20, 2013
xc: Transp., COB

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk of the Board
By: Deputy

2-23

REVIEWED BY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
DATE: 8/13/13
Tina Grande
Departmental Concurrence

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
BY: MARSHAL VICTOR
DATE: 8/15/13

Dept's Recomm.: Consent
Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent
 Policy
 Policy

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

RE: Resolution No. 2013-079 Notice of Intention for the Closure of Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the At-Grade Crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line to Non-Emergency Traffic in the Box Springs Mountain Area

August 14, 2013

Page 2 of 2

BACKGROUND: (Continued from Page 1)

RCTC certified the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Perris Valley Rail Line on July 25, 2011. The National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment (FSEA) was approved and the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued on May 24, 2012. The EIR identified the closure of the Poarch Road Crossing to full public access, keeping it open to emergency access via a locked gate that the Fire Department would open. RCTC did not receive public comments opposing the planned closure of the Poarch Road Crossing in their EIR.

RCTC has sought assistance from the County to implement the PVL project by requesting the closure of the Gernert Road/Poarch Road at-grade crossing (Crossing), consistent with the approved EIR due to the safety deficiencies and concerns identified by RCTC during their design process. Due to the importance of ensuring the health, welfare, and safety to the public, the County agrees with the need to close the Crossing. The Crossing is located adjacent to Watkins Drive, directly opposite the northbound I-215 on-ramp. Poarch Road is an unimproved dirt road that provides access to a small, rural residential area of about 10 homes on the hillside northeast of the Perris Valley Line. The residents may choose to use the Crossing to gain direct access to Watkins Drive and the I-215 Freeway. It connects to Gernert Road, a County-maintained dirt road that links to Morton Road, which borders Moreno Valley. Gernert Road is used by some peak-hour commuter traffic by-passing a portion of I-215 when it is congested. The primary paved access route for this area, for both the local residents and commuters, is via Gernert Road to Morton Road to Box Springs Road. Box Springs Road is a full-access interchange on the I-215, approximately two miles from the Crossing.

The Crossing was found by RCTC to have several key deficiencies that would need to be addressed in order to be kept open to non-emergency vehicular traffic with Metrolink train usage. Maintaining full public access would have required substantial improvements to the street grades of Poarch Road and Watkins Drive, crossing equipment upgrades, and signalization of the intersection of Poarch Road and Watkins Drive, which were not deemed feasible given the cost and physical constraints. Any improvements that would need to be made to the Crossing are governed by several stringent federal and state safety standards applicable to each part of the design of the Perris Valley Rail Line.

The closure of Gernert Road/Poarch Road will become effective at such future time when construction begins on this section of the Perris Valley Line. RCTC has agreed, through the settlement of their lawsuit on the PVL, to consider using boulders and non-chain link fencing for the locked gates, subject to Public Utility Commission approval or modification, and to not initiate the re-opening of the Poarch Road crossing to full public access in the future.

2
3 **RESOLUTION NO 2013-079**

4 NOTICE OF INTENTION FOR THE CLOSURE OF GERNERT ROAD/POARCH
5 ROAD AT THE AT-GRADE CROSSING OF THE PERRIS VALLEY RAIL LINE TO
6 NON-EMERGENCY TRAFFIC,
7 IN THE BOX SPRINGS MOUNTAIN AREA.

8
9 (Fifth Supervisorial District)

10
11 **BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED** by the Board of
12 Supervisors of the County of Riverside, State of California, in regular session
13 assembled on August 20, 2013, pursuant to Section 942.5 (a) of the
14 Streets and Highways Code, that it is the intention of this Board to close for the
15 protection of the public, described as follows:

16
17 Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the at-grade crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line
18 adjacent to Watkins Drive.

19
20 SEE PLAT ATTACHED HERETO
21 AS EXHIBIT "A" AND MADE A PART HEREOF

22
23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a public hearing on this Resolution will be held on
24 September 10, 2013, at 9:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Board of Supervisors,
25 County Administrative Center, Riverside, California, at which time and

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
BY: SP MARSHAL VICTOR 8/15/13 DATE

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RESOLUTION NO. 2013-079

place the Board will hear and consider the proposal to close Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the at-grade crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line adjacent to Watkins Drive, and any comments thereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Clerk of the Board is directed to cause this Resolution to be published pursuant to Section 8322(a) and the Transportation Director shall cause notice of hearing to be posted pursuant to Section 8323 of the Streets and Highways Code.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Stone, Benoit and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: None

The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by said Board of Supervisors on the date therein set forth.

KECIA HARPER-IHEM, Clerk of said Board
By _____ Deputy

WJH SU1020

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION
9-8-11	9-8-11	90% INTERIM DESIGN REVISION SUBMITTAL

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

DESIGNED BY	J. SUSTILO
CHECKED BY	R. SUDS
DATE	09-08-11
APPROVED BY	[Signature]
STV Incorporated	
APPROVED BY	[Signature]
DATE	
APPROVED BY	[Signature]
DATE	
APPROVED BY	[Signature]
DATE	

RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION	ACCOM
RCTC PERRIS VALLEY LINE	
GERBERT/POARCH ROAD CROSSING	
CPLC NO. 002K-6.20, MP 6.2 USDOT NO. 027311E	
ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS	
GRADE CROSSING PLAN	
CONTRACT NO. 002-28-18-20	
REVISION	8
SHEET NO.	560 OF 2523
SCALE	1" = 10'

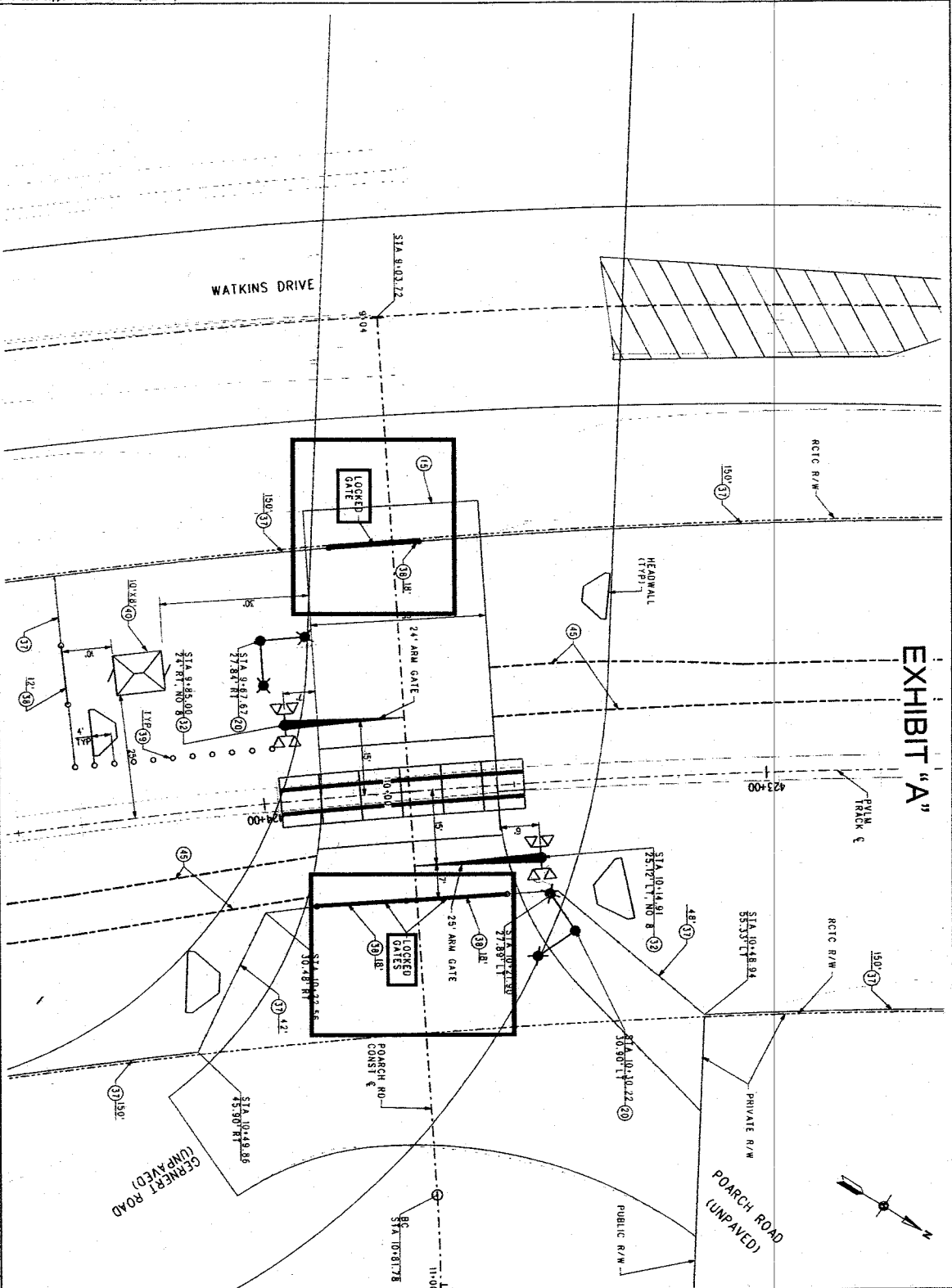


EXHIBIT "A"

CONSTRUCTION SYMBOLS

- CONSTRUCT
- EXISTING
- REMOVE
- WORK BY OTHERS
- PROTECT IN PLACE

CONSTRUCTION NOTES:

1. 6" CURB & GUTTER
2. 8" CURB & GUTTER
3. 8" CURB FOR EXISTING PAVEMENT
4. 8" CURB
5. 4" RCC CONCRETE
6. RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAY WITH A.C. DUNE
7. RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAY WITH SIDEWALK AT CURB
8. COMMERCIAL DRIVEWAY WITH SIDEWALK AT CURB
9. CROSS GUTTER
10. CROSS GUTTER WITH SPLASH AREA
11. ASPHALT CONCRETE DUNE
12. RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAY WITH SIDEWALK AT R/W
13. AC PAVEMENT PER TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
14. COLD MILL EXISTING AC
15. SAND/CUT
16. GUTTER DEPRESSION FOR CURB OPENING CB
17. ASPHALT PAVEMENT FOR GRADE CROSSING
18. CURB RAMP
19. TREE
20. SAFETY LIGHTING
21. STREET SIGN
22. CURB WALL
23. TRAFFIC SIGNAL PULL BOX
24. RETAINING WALL
25. FIRE HYDRANT
26. WATER METER
27. MANHOLE
28. UTILITY POLE
29. UTILITY POLE ANCHOR
30. BARRICADE
31. PEDESTRIAN WARNING DEVICE AND GATE W/ FLASHER
32. WARNING DEVICE ASSEMBLY
33. PEDESTRIAN SWING GATE
34. PEDESTRIAN WARNING DEVICE AND GATE
35. DETECTABLE WARNING STRIP
36. PEDESTRIAN BARRICADE AND METAL HAND RAILING
37. WIRE MESH TYPE FENCE
38. SECURITY ACCESS GATE
39. BOLLARD
40. INSTRUMENT SHELTER
41. PRECAST CONCRETE PANEL GRADE CROSSING SYSTEM
42. REINFORCED CONCRETE BLOCK WALL
43. RIVER ROCK
44. GLASS II AB PER TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
45. MAINTENANCE ROAD



City of Riverside

T-2S-R-4W
28

T-2S-R-4W
27

WATKINS DR

POARCH RD

GERNERT RD S5145

GERNERT RD S5145

CENTRAL AVE

HARVARD WAY M5567

T-2S-R-4W
33

215

City of
Moreno
Valley

T-2S-R-4W
34

City of Riverside

Sycamore Canyon Blvd

MORTON RD S5267

Box Springs Rd S5218



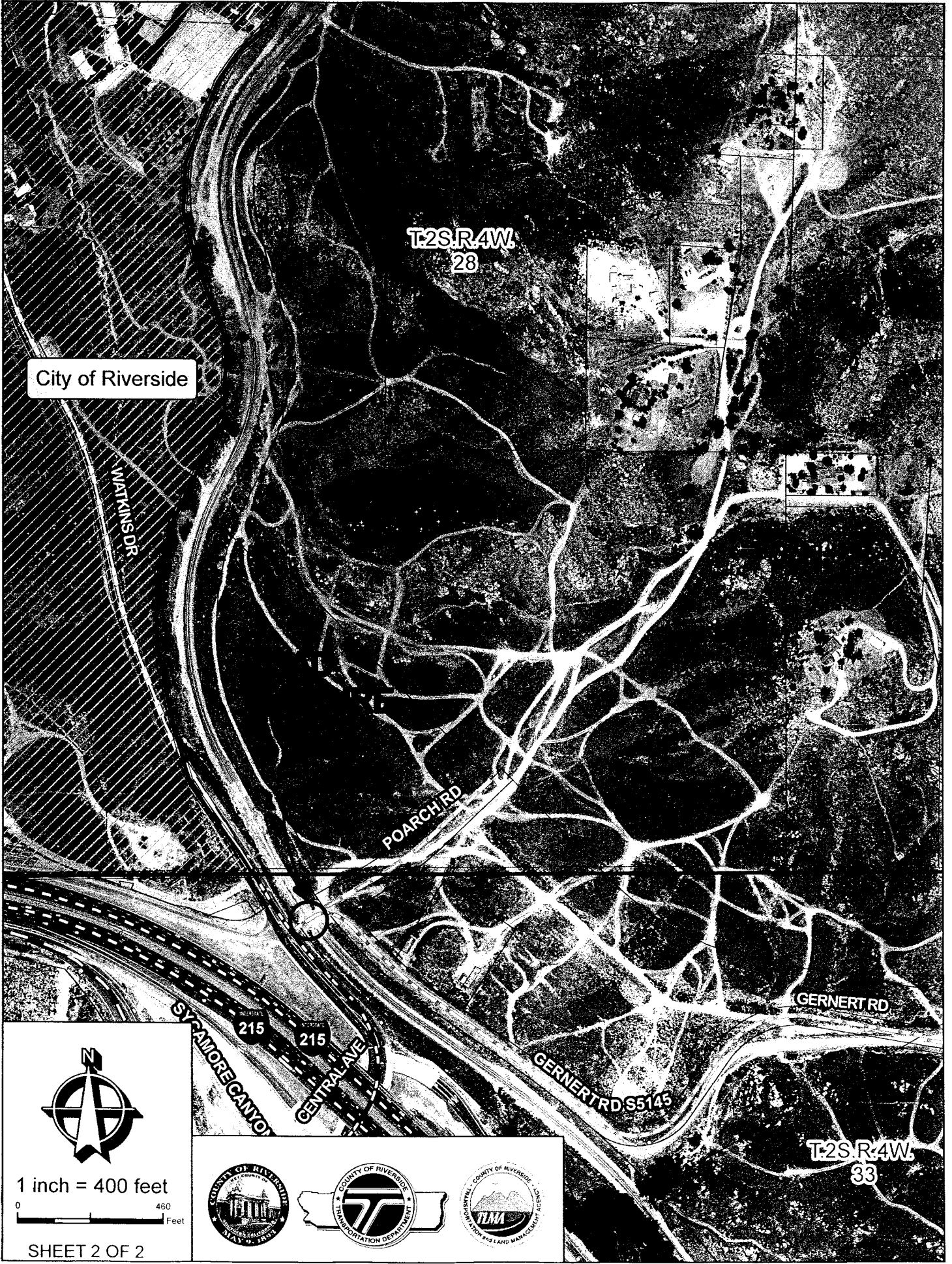
SIDE

1 inch = 800 feet



SHEET 1 OF 2





City of Riverside

WATKINS DR

T2S,R4W
28

POARCH RD

GERNERT RD

GERNERT RD S5145

SYCAMORE CANYON

CENTRAL AVE

T2S,R4W
33



1 inch = 400 feet



SHEET 2 OF 2



VICINITY MAP



N.T.S.

T. 2S, R. 4W
SECTION 33
S.B.M.

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

POARCH ROAD

AREA OF CLOSURE

GERNERT ROAD

GERNERT RD 09145

215

215

PORTER BLVD

SHEET 1 OF 1

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



2-24

On motion of Supervisor Stone, seconded by Supervisor Ashley and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the recommendation from Transportation regarding the Adoption of Resolution 2013-079 Notice of Intent for the closure of Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the at-grade crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line adjacent to Watkins Drive, in the Box Springs Mountain area, 5th/1st District is continued to Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full true, and correct copy of an order made and entered on July 30, 2013 of Supervisors Minutes.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Board of Supervisors
Dated: July 30, 2013
Kecia Harper-Ihem, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in
and for the County of Riverside, State of California.

(seal)

By: 

Deputy

AGENDA NO.
2-24

xc: Transp., COB

Harper-Ihem, Kecia

From: Perez, Juan <JCPEREZ@rctlma.org>
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2013 8:52 AM
To: Gunzel, Synthia; Harper-Ihem, Kecia
Cc: Romo, Patricia; Grande, Tina
Subject: RE: Item 2.24

Thanks Synthia. Let's continue this out of an abundance of caution and to update the Form 11 as you have suggested, since there is new information since the settlement of the lawsuit. Let's target getting it back to the Board on August 20 for the Notice of Intention, Patty I will return the package to you, and let's figure out what the new hearing date is based on that.

From: Gunzel, Synthia [<mailto:SMGunzel@co.riverside.ca.us>]
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2013 8:36 AM
To: Perez, Juan; Harper-Ihem, Kecia
Cc: Romo, Patricia
Subject: RE: Item 2.24

CONFIDENTIAL
ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE
ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

Juan,

I would recommend that this item be continued to post the correct date of the hearing and for other reasons pertaining to the information contained within the Form 11 and Resolution. New information in the CEQA action against RCTC would likely warrant some revisions to the background section. I can provide the updated information after I have spoken with counsel for RCTC. Also, a notice of the public hearing will need to be published and posted pursuant to the Streets and Highway Code sections cited in the Resolution.

Sincerely,
Synthia M. Gunzel
Deputy County Counsel
Office of County Counsel
3960 Orange Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501
(951) 955-6300/FAX (951) 955-6660
smgunzel@co.riverside.ca.us

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07.30.13
2-24

From: Perez, Juan
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2013 8:23 AM
To: Harper-Ihem, Kecia; Gunzel, Synthia
Cc: Romo, Patricia
Subject: Item 2.24

Good morning Kecia and Synthia,

This item was posted with a Resolution that has an incorrect Public Hearing date of May 2013. We had held off on bringing the item to the Board for a while and unfortunately did not change the hearing date on the resolution.

http://rivcocob.org/agenda/2013/07_30_13/02-24.pdf

Should this item be continued so that it can be posted with the correct date for the hearing?

Thanks.

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



301B

SUBMITTAL DATE:
July 3, 2013

FROM: TLMA - Transportation Department

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 2013-079 – Notice of intent for the closure of Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the at-grade crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line adjacent to Watkins Drive, in the Box Springs Mountain Area.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors adopt Resolution No. 2013-079, Notice of intent for the closure of Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the at-grade crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line adjacent to Watkins Drive, in the Box Springs Mountain Area. Fifth Supervisorial District/ First Supervisorial District.

BACKGROUND: The Perris Valley Line Project (PVL) is a 24 mile extension of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority 91 Line, currently providing service from Riverside to downtown Los Angeles and Orange County. PVL would bring commuter rail service from downtown Riverside to the City of Perris, thus linking several communities to major employment centers and to the Southern California commuter rail network. The County of Riverside (County) as a member of RCTC frequently works in concert and cooperatively with the omission to further the overall goals of RCTC and the County to improve and provide services and facilities to the public.

(Continued on page 2)

Juan C. Perez
Director of Transportation and Land Management

WJH
Attachments: Resolution No.2013-079
Exhibit "A"

REVIEWED BY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

DATE 4/9/13 AMG
Tina Grande

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
BY: Synthia M. Gunzel 7-8-13
DATE 7-8-13
SYNTHIA M. GUNZEL
Departmental Concurrence

Dept's Recomm.: Consent Policy
Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

10 10 11 11 11:08
JUL 12 5 31 PM
RECEIVED RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Prev. Agn. Ref.

District:5/1

Agenda Number:

2-23

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

Closure of Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the grade crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line adjacent to Watkins Drive, in the Box Springs Mountain Area.

March 18, 2013

Page 2 of 2

BACKGROUND: (continued from page 1)

RCTC certified the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Perris Valley Rail Line on July 25, 2011. The National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) was approved and the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued on May 24, 2012

RCTC has sought assistance from the County by requesting the closure of the Gernert Road/Poarch Road at-grade crossing (Crossing) for the PVL due to the safety deficiencies and concerns noted by RCTC while completing its environmental review. Due to the importance of ensuring the health, welfare and safety to the public, the County agrees with the need to close the Crossing. The Crossing is located adjacent to Watkins Drive, directly opposite the northbound I-215 on ramp in unincorporated Riverside County. The Crossing provides an alternate access to a small, rural residential area of about 10 homes on the hillside northeast of the Perris Valley Line. The residents may choose to use the Crossing to gain direct access to Watkins Drive and Moreno Valley Highway SR90/I-215 freeway. The secondary access route is via Gernert Road to Morton Road to Box Springs Road. Box Springs Road is a full access interchange on the Moreno Valley Highway, approximately 2 miles from the Poarch Road crossing.

Through the environmental analysis, the Crossing was found to have the following key deficiencies that would need to be addressed in order to be open to non-emergency vehicular traffic: The Crossing does not have CPUC crossing warning devices, the intersection of Watkins Drive and Poarch Road is not signalized, the Crossing is not wide enough to permit large vehicles to make the turn movements without crossing into opposing traffic lanes, Poarch Road as it crosses the railroad does not meet vertical clearance corner sight distance at Watkins looking towards the crossing is obstructed, Gernert Road/Poarch Road is not paved at the crossing, and the stopping sight distance on Watkins Road north of the crossing is deficient. Any improvements that would need to be made to the Crossing are governed by several federal and state safety standard applicable to each part of the design of the Perris Valley Rail Line.

Design alternatives to make the Crossing meet the safety standards were developed and studied. Two alternatives were found to be possible feasible solutions. The first alternative could address the noted deficiencies; however, it proposed substantial reconstruction of the Crossing's surrounding streets in order to reach a minimal grade crossing. This alternative was identified as impractical due to the costs and topographical issues related to the grading and reconstruction. The second alternative proposed the installation of crossing warning devices, closing the Crossing, and securing the Crossing with fencing and locked gates, accessible only to emergency vehicles. Alternative two was presented and concurrence was received by both Riverside County staff and Riverside County Fire Department as a feasible solution. This alternative was included in the certified Environmental Impact Report and Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the PVL as the most feasible solution.

2
3 **RESOLUTION NO 2013-079**

4 **NOTICE OF INTENTION FOR THE CLOSURE OF GERNERT ROAD/POARCH**
5 **ROAD AT THE AT-GRADE CROSSING OF THE PERRIS VALLEY RAIL LINE,**
6 **ADJACENT TO WATKINS DRIVE.**

7
8 (Fifth Supervisorial District)

9
10 **BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED** by the Board of
11 Supervisors of the County of Riverside, State of California, in regular session
12 assembled on _____, 2013, pursuant to Section 942.5 (a) of the
13 Streets and Highways Code, that it is the intention of this Board to close for the
14 protection of the public, described as follows:

15
16 Gernert Road/Poarch Road at the at-grade crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line
17 adjacent to Watkins Drive.

18
19 **SEE PLAT ATTACHED HERETO**
20 **AS EXHIBIT "A" AND MADE A PART HEREOF**

21
22 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a public hearing on this Resolution will be held on
23 May 14, 2013, at 9:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Board of Supervisors, County
24 Administrative Center, Riverside, California, at which time and
25

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
BY: *Synthia M. Gunzel* 4-8-13
SYNTHIA M. GUNZEL DATE

1 **RESOLUTION NO. 2013-079**

2

3 place the Board will hear and consider the proposal to close Gernert Road/Poarch
4 Road at the at-grade crossing of the Perris Valley Rail Line adjacent to Watkins Drive,
5 and any objections thereto.

6

7 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED** that the Clerk
8 of the Board is directed to cause this Resolution to be published pursuant to Section
9 8322(a) and the Transportation Director shall cause notice of hearing to be posted
10 pursuant to Section 8323 of the Streets and Highways Code.

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27 **WJH SU1020**

VICINITY MAP



N.T.S.

T. 2S, R. 4W
SECTION 33
S.B.M.

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

POARCH ROAD

AREA OF CLOSURE

GERNERT ROAD

GERNERT RD 66145

215

215

SHEET 1 OF 1

TO BE REMOVED BEFORE RECORDING