STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

October 22, 2013

Bob Schubert Monterey County 168 W Alisal Street, 2nd Floor Salinas, CA 93901

Re: Mitigated Negative Declaration

Castroville Bicycle/Pedestrian Path and Railroad Crossing Project

SCH # 2013091068

Dear Mr. Schubert,

As the state agency responsible for rail safety within California, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC or Commission) recommends that development projects proposed near rail corridors be planned with the safety of these corridors in mind. The proposed project involves construction of a new grade separated highway-rail crossing. Working with CPUC staff early in project planning will help project proponents, agency staff, and other reviewers to identify potential project impacts and appropriate mitigation measures, and thereby improve the safety of motorists, pedestrians, railroad personnel, and railroad passengers.

Below are our comments to the project:

- Commission authorization is required for the proposed new grade separated highway-rail
 crossing.
- A minimum vertical clearance of 22'6" from top of rail is required per General Order 26-D.
- A minimum horizontal clearance of 8'6" from centerline of track is required per General Order 26-D.

Commission staff held a diagnostic meeting with the Transportation Authority of Monterey County and Union Pacific Railroad on April 18, 2013 and discussed these Commission requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you have any questions in this matter, please call me at (415) 703-3722 or email me at felix.ko@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely.

Felix Ko, PE Utilities Engineer

Rail Transit and Crossings Branch

505 Van Ness Ave

San Francisco, CA 94102