

**BEFORE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Application of the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the approval to alter the public at-grade crossings by the installation of new warning devices where SR 2006 (Chestnut Street, DOT 592 142 Y), SR 2008 (Franklin Street, DOT 592 143 F) and Cherry Street (DOT 592 144 M) all cross a single track of the Norfolk Southern Railway Company in the City of Reading, Berks County *all in accordance with the Federal Grade Crossing Program* and the allocation of costs thereto.

Application Docket No. _____

Electronically Filed

APPLICATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

Applicant, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, files this Application pursuant to the provisions of 66 Pa.C.S § 2702 and 52 Pa. Code § 5.13 for the alteration of the public at-grade crossings where State Routes 2006 (Chestnut Street), 2008 (Franklin Street), and Cherry Street cross the tracks of Norfolk Southern Railway Company at DOT Numbers 592 142 Y, 592 143 F, and 592 144 M respectively, in the City of Reading, Berks County as described below:

1. The name and address of Applicant are Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, Scott G. Vottero, P.E., Assistant District Executive - Design, Engineering District 5-0, 1002 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101.

2. The name and address of attorney for the Applicant are Donald J. Smith, Chief Counsel, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, Office of Chief Counsel, PO Box 8212, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8212.

3. The Applicant is an agency of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, organized and existing under the Administrative Code of 1929, 71 P.S. § 511, et seq. and generally 36 P.S. § 670 - 401 et seq., filing this Application on its behalf and on behalf of the City of Reading as evidenced by the letter dated February 28, 2023, which is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit “A”.

4. The names and addresses of the persons, parties and entities concerned in, or affected by the proposed construction, to the best of the Applicant’s knowledge, are shown in the certificate of service. In addition to those served, the Applicant requests that the following also receive service of all documents in this matter:

Mark J. Chappell, P.E., Chief
Right of Way, Utilities, and Grade Crossing
Division
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
PO Box 3362
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3362
marchappel@pa.gov

Karen L. Cummings
Counsel for the Applicant
Office of Chief Counsel
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
PO Box 8212
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8212
kcummings@pa.gov

5. The Applicant is seeking approval to alter the public at-grade crossing by the installation of new warning devices on State Route 2006 (DOT No. 592 142 Y; Segment 0070, Offset 1080), State Route 2008 (DOT 592 143 F; Segment 0010, Offset 1632), and Cherry Street (DOT No. 592 144 M). A Location Map is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit "B".

6. The Applicant is aware of prior Public Utility Commission orders for these crossings at Docket Number(s): A-00121249, A-00106958, and X-0880122.

7. The average daily traffic for State Route 2006 (Chestnut Street) is 5,661 vehicles with 7% trucks; for State Route 2008 (Franklin Street), 7,093 vehicles with 2% trucks; for Cherry Street, 637 vehicles with 2% trucks.

8. The estimated total cost for the project subject to the application and described above is \$1,185,828.00. The Applicant anticipates that the funding for the project will be 100% federal funds.

9. This project is necessary and proper for the safety and convenience of the public.

10. A conference of all parties of interest should be held to discuss the proposed project.

Wherefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Public Utility Commission approve this Application.

Respectfully Submitted:



Scott G. Vottero, P.E.
Assistant District Executive
Engineering District 5-0
Department of Transportation
1002 Hamilton Street
Allentown, PA 18101
Phone: (610) 871-4550
Fax: (610) 871-4124
Email address: svottero@pa.gov

Dated: 3/21/2023

**BEFORE
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VERIFICATION

I, Rodney O. Rehnert, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. §4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Date: March 21, 2023

Rodney O. Rehnert

Rodney O. Rehnert
Grade Crossing Administrator

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Application
Docket No. _____

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the participants listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code §1.54, by first class mail, postage prepaid:

Kyle Boehme
Norfolk Southern
Administrator, Grade Crossing Program
650 West Peachtree Street NW – Box 41
Atlanta, GA 30308
Kyle.Boehme@nscorp.com

Julianne Freeman, Esquire
General Attorney
Norfolk Southern Railroad Company
Three Commercial Place
Norfolk, VA 23510-9241
Julianne.Freeman@nscorp.com

Christian Y. Leinbach, Chairperson
Berks County Commissioners
Berks County Services Center
13th Floor
633 Court Street
Reading, PA 19601
cleinbach@countyofberks.com

Eddie Moran, Mayor
City of Reading
City Hall
815 Washington Street
Reading, PA 19601
mayor@readingpa.gov

Deborah Hoag, Director of Public Works
City of Reading
503 North Sixth Street
Reading, PA 19601
Deborah.hoag@readingpa.gov

Jeff Jacovidis
Comcast Cable Communications, Inc
400 Riverfront Drive
P.O. Box 107
Reading, PA 19603
jeff_jacovidis@comcast.com

Jeff Kramer
Verizon Pennsylvania LLC
409 Washington Street
Reading, PA 19601
jeffrey.d.kramer@verizon.com

Jeremy Weeks
LUMEN Pennsylvania Division
1000 Madison Ave Suite 205
Norristown, PA 19403
Jeremy.Weeks@centurylink.com

Mike Sauer
MetEd/First Energy
2800 Pottsville Pike
Reading, PA 19612
msauer@firstenergycorp.com

William Murray
Reading Area Water Authority
1801 Kutztown Road
Reading, PA 19604-1515
Bill.Murray@readingareawater.com

Kurt Zielaskowski
UGI Utilities, Inc.
225 Morgantown Road
Reading, PA 19611-1049
kzielaskowski@ugi.com

Dated this 21st Day of March

Rodney O. Rehnert
Rodney O. Rehnert



February 28, 2023

Berks County
City of Reading
AT-GRADE CROSSINGS
Chestnut St., Franklin St., and Cherry St.
DOT # 592-142Y, 592-143F and 592-144M
ECMS # 106140

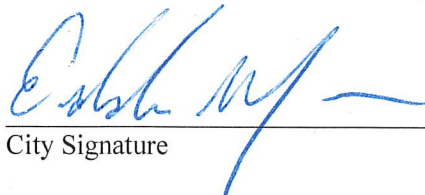
Mayor Eddie Moran
City Hall
815 Washington Street
Reading, PA 19601

Dear Mr. Moran:

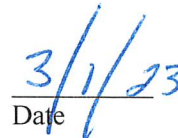
As you may be aware, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation (the Department) is filing an application with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) for the approval to make safety improvements to the railroad crossings where Chestnut Street (DOT# 592-142Y), Franklin Street (DOT# 592-143F) and Cherry Street (592-144M) cross, at-grade, the single track(s) of Norfolk Southern Railway located in the City of Reading, Berks County.

With the Cherry Street crossing (592-144M) being a city street, the Department needs approval from the city to file an application with the PUC on your behalf.

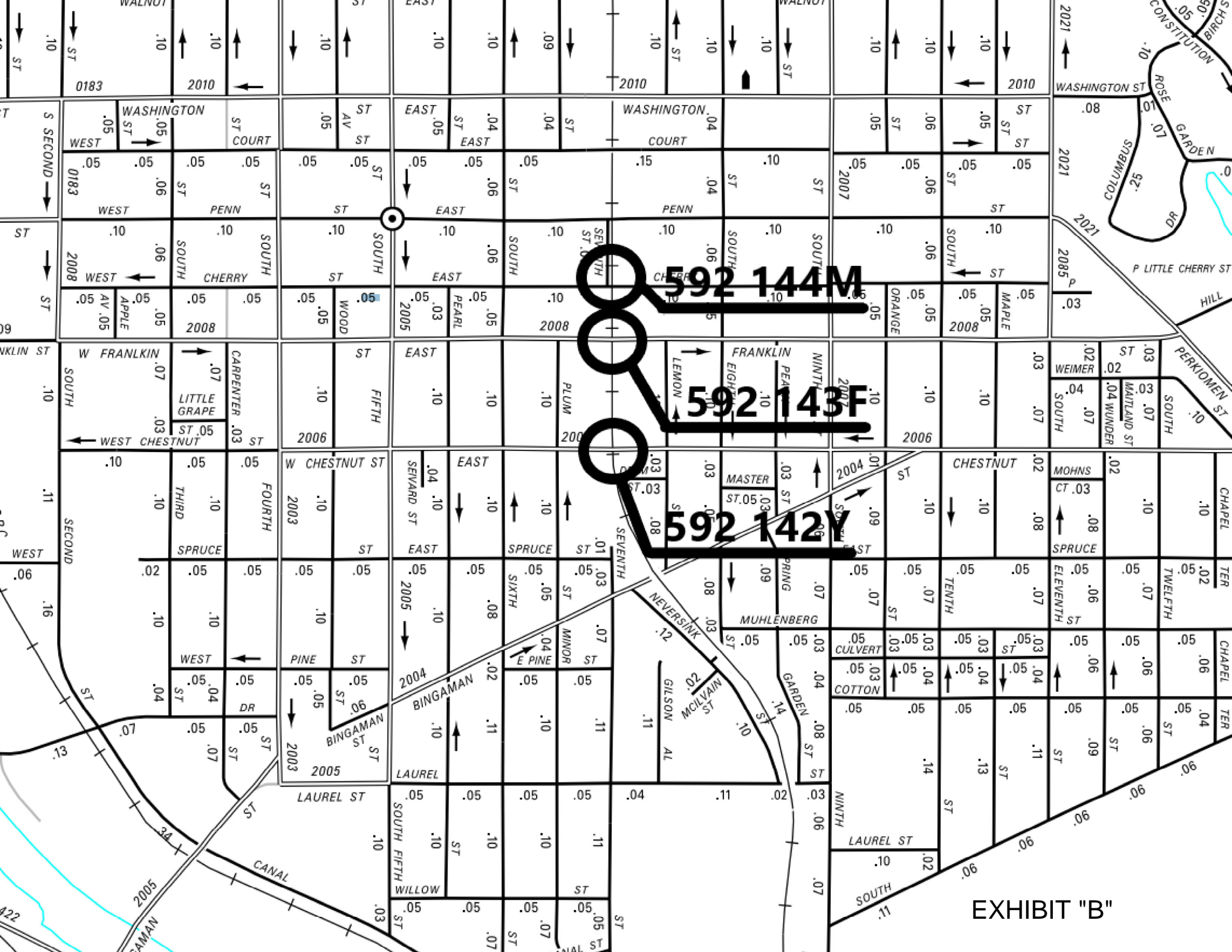
Please sign, date, and affix the (municipality) seal at the space provided on this letter and return the original to me. Please also provide a resolution agreeing to allow the Department to file this application on your behalf, authorize the Department to issue Notice to Proceed letters to the Railroad for design and/or construction. If a resolution is not provided it will be presumed that by signature, date, and seal of this letter that you concur with these conditions and authority is granted, and no resolution is necessary.



City Signature



Date (municipality seal)



592 144M

592 143F

592 142Y

EXHIBIT "B"