

## **RESOLUTION NO. 10-070**

### **RESOLUTION RELATING TO FREIGHT RAIL ACTIVITY IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS PARK**

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis Park is committed to protect and enhance the quality of its neighborhoods; and,

**WHEREAS**, several railroads operate within the City of St. Louis Park and railroad operations can have adverse impacts on the City and its neighborhoods; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis Park seeks to provide a clear, concise statement of its position regarding freight rail activity in the City today and in the future; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis Park has always opposed the rerouting of freight rail traffic through our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis Park adopted the Railroad Task Force Recommendations of May 23, 2001 by Resolution No. 01-120, which included St. Louis Park's opposition to the rerouting of freight rail; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis Park has been an active participant and supporter of transit in the Southwest corridor, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis Park has participated in the Technical, Policy and Community Advisory Committees for the Southwest Transitway, and

**WHEREAS**, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) unanimously recommended the selection of Route 3A as the locally preferred alternative with conditions including that agencies work cooperatively to identify impacts, mitigation requirements, and mitigation funding options to address the potential of rerouting freight rail in a parallel process with the Southwest LRT DEIS and to identify the freight rail issue and impacts as a part of the "secondary and cumulative impacts."; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis Park adopted Resolution No. 10-05 in support of Hennepin County's decision of LRT alignment 3A (through the Kenilworth Corridor) as the locally preferred alternative for the Southwest Transitway ; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis Park participated in the Technical, Policy and Community Advisory Committees for the Southwest Transitway.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of St. Louis Park that the City of St. Louis Park:

1. Supports the implementation of the Southwest Transitway LRT project; and,
2. Continues to support the May 23, 2001 Railroad Task Force Recommendations adopted by the City Council October 21, 2001; and,
3. Opposes the introduction of any rerouted freight rail traffic north and south through the City of St. Louis Park; and,
4. Opposes the rerouting of freight rail traffic from the Kenilworth corridor to St. Louis Park unless the following conditions are clearly met:
  - a. It is established through a very thorough and careful analysis that no other viable route exists;
  - b. There is appropriate mitigation of any and all negative impacts associated with rail rerouting, funded by sources other than the City of St. Louis Park. Potential negative impacts that should be addressed include but are not limited to noise, vibration, odors, traffic congestion and safety, school use and safety, park use and safety; and, circulation/access in the community by vehicle, pedestrian, transit and bicycle;
  - c. Elimination of railroad switching, sorting and blocking operations within the City of St. Louis Park; and funded by some other source than the City of St. Louis Park;
  - d. Removal of the existing “wyé” rail tracks in the vicinity of Oxford Street and any other tracks not needed for through train traffic including the rail tracks east of any new interconnections between the East-West CP-TCWR tracks and the North-South CP-MNS tracks;
  - e. Creation of a freight rail single track corridor with significant right-of-way and safety measures incorporated between the track and adjacent properties;
  - f. Creation of a whistle-quiet zone funded by sources other than the City of St. Louis Park throughout the entire north-south MNS corridor.

Reviewed for Administration:

Adopted by the City Council July 6, 2010

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City Manager

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Mayor

Attest:

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City Clerk