

**RESOLUTION NO 96-73**

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO CONSTRUCTION OF RAILROAD INTERSECTIONS AT THE MILWAUKEE JUNCTION AND AT THE CANADIAN PACIFIC AND BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD TRACKS**

WHEREAS, the Hennepin County Railroad Authority has acquired the 29th Street rail line through the City of Minneapolis, and

WHEREAS, the closure of this route will cause the Twin City and Western Railroad to need an alternative route to the St. Paul barge facilities, and

WHEREAS, the Canadian Pacific Railroad has evaluated the alternatives of either constructing new trackage interconnections within St. Louis Park or use of a rail trackage in the City of Minneapolis, and

WHEREAS, the Canadian Pacific Railroad, has indicated they prefer to use the existing route through the City of Minneapolis, and

WHEREAS, the Birchwood, Lenox, Bronx Park and Sorenson neighborhoods would experience additional train traffic, which would cause additional noise and vibration, and

WHEREAS, the north-south trackage in St. Louis Park is in close proximity to existing residential areas with a minimal distance to existing homes which would unduly cause visual pollution, and

WHEREAS, the north-south trackage is in proximity to the St. Louis Park High School, and has several uncontrolled railroad crossings with residential streets causing additional danger to the residents and blowing of the train whistle, and

WHEREAS, the existing rail lines through Minneapolis can be used without expenditure of State funds to create a new interconnection of trackage where none currently exists, and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis Park is a community with deep historical roots in the railroad history of the State of Minnesota, and

WHEREAS, the railroad industry has undergone significant change recently due to property real property sales, route mergers and bankruptcies, and

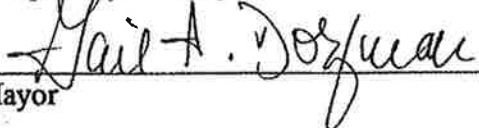
WHEREAS, residents of the City are stakeholders in any change that results in operational modifications inconsistent with the historical railroad use of the track in their neighborhood, and

WHEREAS, the switching operations of railroad locomotives and cars have a potential to become a nuisance if performed in residential neighborhoods.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the St. Louis Park City Council that they are opposed to the construction of the new railroad interconnections of the Canadian Pacific Railroad in St. Louis Park and endorse the use of the Minneapolis rail route and that the City continue its efforts to gain cleanup of the industrial environmental contamination on railroad property and continue to encourage moving the present switching operations from the Edgebrook Park area to an industrial area to the West.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be distributed to State legislative leaders and the affected railroad companies.

Adopted by the City Council May 6, 1996

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Reviewed for Administration:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

Approved as to form and execution:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney