

RESOLUTION NO. 125

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria has designated a thirty-four (34) acre residential neighborhood located in southeastern Alexandria, called the DIP, as an Urban Renewal Project area because of the severely blighted conditions which exist there; and

WHEREAS, the DIP Urban Renewal Project plans the elimination of poor housing and dilapidated structures; the provision of attractive and useful open space, the removal of the deleterious effects of traffic and incompatible land uses, and the reestablishment of this area as a residential neighborhood of quality; and

WHEREAS, the presence of railroad tracks owned by the Southern Railway System which traverse the entire DIP Urban Renewal Project constitute a serious blighting influence by:

- (1) separating neighborhoods and natural social patterns;
- (2) complicating land use patterns and contributing to insufficient use of abutting parcels;
- (3) impeding the safe and convenient flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic within the DIP area;
- (4) causing significant noise, dirt, and air pollution problems when in use; and

WHEREAS, said tracks are presently in poor condition and both the tracks and their continuing use create a traffic hazard in Wilkes Street, Union Street, and the major thoroughfares of Washington Street and Route 1; and

WHEREAS, Robinson Terminal Warehouse at Union and Duke Streets is the only customer currently being served; and

WHEREAS, Robinson Terminal Warehouse is an old and valued member of the Alexandria business community but is willing to relocate the particular warehouse at Union and Duke Streets on appropriate terms; and

WHEREAS, removal of said tracks would be a positive step in the efforts of the City of Alexandria to improve its waterfront and Union Street; and

WHEREAS, the full promise and success of the DIP Urban Renewal Project can only be achieved through the removal of said tracks;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Alexandria call upon the Southern Railway System to petition the Virginia State Corporation Commission for permission to remove said tracks and that City Council authorize and direct the City Manager to take necessary steps to gain consideration of this matter by the Virginia State Corporation Commission and to support the removal of said tracks in all appropriate ways.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby urges the Southern Railway System to take all practicable steps to assist Robinson Terminal Warehouse in relocating its Union and Duke Streets warehouse to another location in Alexandria acceptable to that company.

BY AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

CHARLES E. BEATLEY, JR. MAYOR

Adopted July 6, 1972

ATTEST:

Helen Vickers Clerk