

RESOLUTION NO. 394

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1966, the city council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, adopted a resolution providing for financial assistance to owners of dwellings having exposed party walls resulting from the demolition of an adjacent dwelling in the enforcement of the city's Minimum Housing Hygiene Standards Code; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 1970, the city council passed a motion providing that the city be reimbursed for such assistance if the dwelling is subsequently sold; and

WHEREAS, experience with such financial assistance indicated that the present procedure for obtaining estimates is not practicable; and

WHEREAS, the council is of the opinion that said resolution and motion should be repealed and the substance of the resolution reenacted as a new resolution along with new estimate procedures: therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:

1. A resolution adopted March 22, 1966, concerning financial assistance to owners of dwellings with exposed party walls resulting from demolition by the city of an adjacent dwelling is hereby repealed.
2. A motion passed January 27, 1970, concerning reimbursement to the city is hereby repealed.
3. The following standards shall apply for city financial assistance with respect to exposed party walls:
  - (a) Persons eligible to apply for financial assistance shall be owners of dwellings with exposed party walls resulting from the demolition by the city of an adjacent dwelling in the enforcement of the city's Minimum Housing Hygiene Standards Code.
  - (b) The dwelling with the exposed party wall must be free of major violations of the Minimum Housing Hygiene Standards Code.
  - (c) The extent of financial assistance granted by the city shall be limited to funds for permanent weatherproofing and waterproofing and shall not include funds for decoration or aesthetic improvements.
  - (d) The extent of financial assistance granted by the city shall amount to 75% of the lowest estimate.
  - (e) The owner shall be responsible for entering into a contract for repair of the exposed party wall. Any grant of financial assistance shall be made by the city to the owner. Payment shall not be made by the city until the city manager has approved a grant of financial assistance in accordance with procedures hereinafter set forth and until after the repairs have been completed and inspected and approved by the director of the Department of Building and Mechanical Inspections or his authorized agent.
4. The following procedures shall apply for city financial assistance with respect to exposed party walls:
  - (a) The owners shall make application for such financial assistance to the city's Housing Hygiene Board within ninety (90) days following the completion of the demolition of the adjacent dwelling. The Board shall consider the application and forward its written recommendations to the city manager for approval or disapproval.
  - (b) The owner shall have the right to make application for such financial assistance through alternative methods, as follows:
    - (i) The owner may obtain firm contract cost estimates, together with a detailed description of the work to be performed, from three licensed contractors and submit such estimates to the director of the city's Health Department and the

director of the Department of Building and Mechanical Inspections (hereinafter known as directors). If this is not possible, estimates from one or two licensed contractors may be accepted, at the discretion of the directors. The estimates shall be reviewed by the directors and submitted to the city's Housing Hygiene Board with recommendations. The Housing Hygiene Board shall then review the estimates and recommendations of the directors, and shall forward the complete application file with its written recommendations to the city manager; or

(ii) The owner may request the Director of the Health Department to obtain a firm contract cost estimate, together with a detailed description of the work to be performed, on his behalf. The Director of the Health Department shall obtain one or more estimates, at his or her discretion, and submit such estimate or estimates to the owner for his review. If the owner disapproves the estimate or estimates, he may then proceed in accordance with sub-subparagraph (i). If he approves of the estimate or estimates, they shall be submitted to the Housing Hygiene Board which shall review the estimates and forward the complete application file, with its written recommendations, to the city manager.

(c) Upon receiving the application file, together with written recommendations, from the Housing Hygiene Board, the city manager shall approve the application provided the applicant has complied with the requirements of this resolution, or disapprove the application if said requirements have not been complied with. In the case of disapproval the city manager shall give the applicant an opportunity to be heard to show that the requirements of the resolution have been complied with.

5. This resolution shall become effective on May 29, 1975.

Adopted May 27, 1975

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Helen Vickers, Clerk of the City  
of Alexandria, Virginia