

RESOLUTION NO. 142 AA
Authorizing LCRA Acquisition of Property under Ordinance 69977

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2014, the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis adopted Resolution No. 72, requesting the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency to make the City of St. Louis a top priority as it considers relocation sites because that agency has determined to close its current operations center located in the southern part of the City of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, as part of its site selection, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, one of the largest employers in the City, requires a contiguous area of land with secure borders to ensure the safety and security of its personnel and its mission to ensure national security and intelligence; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. 72, this Board resolved that if the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the City work diligently together for a solution, the federal government's considerations of zoning, commuting, infrastructure, development suitability and quality of site can be met within the boundaries of the City of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. 72, this Board also resolved that the movement of the agency outside of our urban core contrasts with smart growth principles that encourage investment in high density areas that are easily accessible to mass transit; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's directive that property be assembled and consolidated under common ownership as a condition of its selection of a site for relocation, Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority of the City of St. Louis ("LCRA") has undertaken the project of acquiring all land in the prospective relocation site; and

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 69977, this St. Louis Board of Aldermen approved a Redevelopment Plan ("Plan") for the Cass Ave., Jefferson Ave./Parnell St., Montgomery St., North 22nd St. Redevelopment Area ("Area") after finding, among other things, that the Area was blighted as defined in Section 99.320 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri, 2000, as amended; and

WHEREAS, Section Eight of Ordinance No. 69977 provides that although the Plan for the Area authorizes LCRA to acquire any property north of Cass Ave. within the Area by the exercise of eminent domain, that authorization is subject to the condition that LCRA may not file eminent domain proceedings in the circuit court as to any parcel without the prior approval of the acquisition of the particular parcel by Resolution of the full Board of Aldermen following approval of that same Resolution by the Committee on Housing, Urban Development, & Zoning; and

WHEREAS, LCRA has attempted to acquire, without use of eminent domain, the parcels of land in the relocation Area that are identified in Exhibit A to this Resolution which is attached and incorporated by reference, but has been unable to do so; and

WHEREAS, because LCRA may be unable to acquire all interests in the parcels identified in Exhibit B, all of which are currently under contract with LCRA, due to circumstances outside LCRA's control, and because time is of the essence in the acquisition of the properties in order to assemble and consolidate them under common ownership as required by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, eminent domain may be the only method that could lead to a timely closing;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the St. Louis Board of Aldermen as follows:

1. Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority of the City of St. Louis is authorized to file eminent domain proceedings in circuit court or take any other actions authorized by law against all of the particular parcels of land identified in Exhibit A to this Resolution.
2. Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority of the City of St. Louis is authorized to file eminent domain proceedings in circuit court or take any other actions authorized by law against all of the particular parcels of land identified in Exhibit B to this Resolution, if any party to a real property contract of sale (a) dies; (b) becomes incapacitated; (c) becomes a debtor in a bankruptcy proceeding; (d) voluntarily, administratively, judicially or otherwise dissolves; (e) is unable or unwilling to convey marketable or insurable title to the real property, to be determined in the discretion of the approved title insurance vendor retained by LCRA; or (f) refuses to perform under the contract of sale.
3. The authorization to use eminent domain granted by this Resolution, as well as the authorization to use eminent domain granted by Resolution 112, is limited to the acquisition of property solely for the purpose of the relocation of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

Introduced this 4th day of December, 2015 by:

Honorable Tammika Hubbard, Alderwoman, Fifth Ward

Adopted this the ____ day of _____, 2015 as attested by:

Timothy O'Connell
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis Reed
President, Board of Aldermen