

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: August 13, 2012
	Agenda Item No. <input type="text"/> Roll Call No. <input type="text"/> Communication No. 12-435 Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Request vacation of Norfolk Southern Railway railroad crossings at East 1st Street, East 2nd Street, East 3rd Street, East 4th Street, East 5th Street, East 6th Street, SE 25th Court, and SE 26th Court.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend request to vacate railroad crossings owned by Norfolk Southern Railway at East 1st Street, East 2nd Street, East 3rd Street, East 4th Street, East 5th Street, East 6th Street, SE 25th Court, and SE 26th Court.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A series of actions to address railroad impacts associated with the Southeast Connector are required to allow construction of the project from SE 9th Street to SE 30th Street. In recent discussions with Norfolk Southern Railway and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, a projected timeline of December 2012 was established to finalize agreements. This action to request vacation of Norfolk Southern Railway’s current crossings of city streets, as suggested by Norfolk Southern Railway, will allow the railroad to file for abandonment with the Federal Surface Transportation Board of said crossings and the accompanying railroad tracks. After abandonment, this former railroad property is expected to be acquired by the City for the Southeast Connector project pursuant to a land exchange agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway that is currently being negotiated. Future Council actions will include consideration and approval of the property transactions and agreements for design and construction of railroad facilities. The schedule for construction of the Southeast Connector is directly tied to the completion of agreements with both Norfolk Southern and Burlington Northern Santa Fe.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 27, 2012

Roll Call Number: [12-0266](#)

Action: [Approving](#) and authorizing the application for a Department of Transportation TIGER discretionary Grant for the Southeast Connector Project between SE 14th Street and SE 30th Street. ([Council Communication No. 12-081](#)). Moved by Meyer to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: April 25, 2011

Roll Call Number: [11-0654](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Agreement for Preliminary Engineering Services with Norfolk Southern Railway Company for SE Connector – Relocation of Norfolk Southern Tracks, \$50,000. ([Council Communication No. 11-252](#)). Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: January 26, 2009

Roll Call Number: [09-137](#)

Action: [Authorizing](#) notification of the City's preferred alternative for the Southeast Connector. ([Council Communication No. 09-031](#)). Moved by Meyer to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Property transactions and agreement for design and construction of railroad facilities associated with the Southeast Connector.

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