

**APPROVED**  
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

**SEP 30 1997**

OFFICE OF THE  
CITY CLERK



11.3

**CITY OF SACRAMENTO**  
CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROJECTS

915 I STREET, SUITE 301  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

916-264-7223  
FAX 916-264-8161

September 22, 1997

City Council  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT:** RESOLUTION ENDORSING CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR TO UNION  
PACIFIC OFFICIALS

**LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT:** Citywide

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

This report recommends that the City Council, by Resolution, endorse the attached correspondence from the Mayor to Union Pacific officials expressing concerns and asking for cooperation with respect to various real estate and operational matters.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Wendy S. Saunders, Senior Management Analyst, 264-8196

**FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF:** September 30, 1997

**BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY:**

The letter attached as Exhibit A identifies several key concerns of the City with respect to Union Pacific Railroad real estate and operational matters. The letter further suggests that a meeting between the Mayor and top-level Railroad officials be convened so that the City may be assured of the Railroad's commitment to addressing these concerns.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Not applicable.

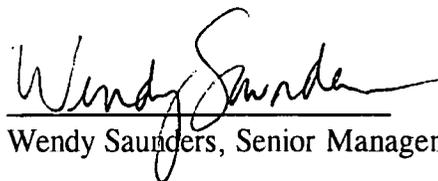
**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Not applicable.

**MBE/WBE:**

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Wendy Saunders, Senior Management Analyst

Recommendation Approved:

  
WILLIAM H. EDGAR  
City Manager

  
THOMAS V. LEE  
Deputy City Manager

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BY THE CITY COUNCIL

SEP 30 1997

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CITY CLERK

**RESOLUTION NO. 97-556**

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING CORRESPONDENCE FROM  
THE MAYOR TO UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. The City Council hereby endorses and supports the attached correspondence from the Mayor to Union Pacific Railroad.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

RESOLUTION NO: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 3

## Exhibit A

September 30, 1997

Richard K. Davidson, President and CEO  
Union Pacific Corporation

Jerry R. Davis, President and CEO  
Union Pacific Railroad Company

Dear Sirs:

As Mayor of the City of Sacramento, I am writing to express my concern regarding a number of issues of great importance to my City that cannot be resolved without the assistance of Union Pacific Railroad. Over time, we have been frustrated by the Railroad's sporadic attention to the various matters we raise, and have been directed to deal with Railroad officials who do not seem to have the authority to make firm commitments on behalf of the Railroad. More recently, our staff has engaged in discussions with your real estate representative to Sacramento, Mr. Mike Casey, who appears to be striving to address our concerns. Still, it is not clear to us that Mr. Casey has been given the full support and authority of Union Pacific to resolve the variety of issues we raise. Given your substantial and valuable real estate holdings in this City, it is imperative that we establish a positive and results-oriented working relationship.

I have identified the issues that rise to the top of my list below. There are, of course, many more matters on which we need your cooperation and pro-active assistance. I intend to arrange a meeting with you in the immediate future, and respectfully request that you be prepared to respond to these issues.

1. **Appoint a single spokesperson for the Railroad who has authority to make commitments on both operational and real estate matters.** Locate that individual in Sacramento, and make resolution of Sacramento issues in a manner satisfactory to both of us his or her primary responsibility.
2. **Complete the cleanup of the downtown Sacramento Union Pacific Railyard.** The Railroad owns the largest tract of undeveloped land in Sacramento's central city, and redevelopment of the property is the downtown Sacramento's single most important goal. In 1989, Sacramento and the Southern Pacific Transportation company began a collaborative planning process for the abandoned Railyard, and both parties invested significant resources in that process (unprecedented in this City). Yet implementation of our redevelopment plan is on hold because the Railroad has yet to complete remediation of the land. It is of utmost importance for the growth of our City that the schedule for cleanup of the 7th Street corridor, which runs through your property, be accelerated.
3. **Reduce and firmly fix the amount of freight traffic on the 20th Street Corridor. Remove unnecessary railroad spurs in the Curtis Park Yard.** The 20th Street Corridor bisects Sacramento's downtown. The corridor crosses some 20 city streets at grade. Long haul trains can effectively block all east-west traffic moving through the central city, not only causing significant traffic problems, but also blocking life safety vehicles. It was our understanding that the SP/UP merger would reduce the amount of that freight traffic on that line to 5 trains per day. We need a date certain commitment on this matter. We

also want UP's commitment to removing unnecessary railroad spurs within the Curtis Park yard so that we can include that area in our land use plan .

4. **Explore Siting of a Ballpark in Connection with the Downtown Depot Renovation.** Much has changed in the local real estate market since we began working with the Railroad on the SP Railyards Plan. It is my personal goal as Mayor to help bring major league baseball to Sacramento. I believe that there is a new and significant opportunity to achieve some mutual benefit by amending the strategy for the Community Plan to include a downtown Railyard major league ballpark and related recreational and retail facilities in proximity to the existing depot. In fact, the plans we are now jointly developing for renovation of the depot could work together with the ballpark in an exciting way. Such a venture would certainly enhance the marketability of your property and bring significant financial rewards to the Railroad. It is imperative for the ballpark that remediation of the 7th Street corridor be placed on an accelerated schedule.

It is my hope that once you have appointed a fully authorized local designee, we can quickly work toward resolution of these issues, as well as the many other matters that affect Sacramento. I look forward to meeting with you to discuss these matters personally.

Sincerely,

---

Joe Serna, Jr.  
Mayor of Sacramento



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