

RESOLUTION

2006-R-25

EMINENT DOMAIN

Whereas, every parish in the State of Louisiana is authorized to exercise the power of eminent domain, including the power of expropriation of private property for a public purpose upon the payment to the owner the full and fair market value thereof;

Whereas, the Vermilion Parish Police Jury takes great care and consideration in the exercise of the power of eminent domain;

Whereas, all such decisions are made with great care to balance the common needs of the citizens of Vermilion Parish with the private property rights of the property owners of Vermilion Parish;

Whereas, the elected members of the Vermilion Parish Police Jury will only exercise the power of eminent domain when such exercise is vital to the general or economic health or welfare of Vermilion Parish.

Whereas, economic development is essential to the prosperity of the State of Louisiana and the Parish of Vermilion and is a valid and appropriate public purpose for the exercise of the power of eminent domain;

Whereas, with withering resources from the State and federal government, successful economic development projects often depend on a collaboration between public and private interests;

Whereas, sometimes the exercise of eminent domain, including the expropriate of private residential or commercial property, is necessary to facilitate economic development projects which arise from the collaboration between public and private interests;

Whereas, the US Supreme Court has, for over 50 years, recognized economic development as a valid public purpose for the exercise the authority of eminent domain;

Whereas, the Louisiana Courts have likewise recognized economic development as a valid public purpose for the exercise the authority of eminent domain;

Whereas, there are some who seek to limit or strip local governments of the ability to use eminent domain to facilitate vital economic development projects;

Whereas, limiting or stripping local government of the ability to utilize eminent domain for economic development will hinder the growth and recovery of the State of Louisiana and Vermilion Parish.

Be it therefore resolved by the Vermilion Parish Police Jury, meeting this 17th day of April, 2006, in open session, that the Congress of the United States, Congressman Charles W. Boustany, Jr., Senator Mary Landrieu, Senator David Vitter, Governor Kathleen B. Blanco, the Louisiana Legislature, Representative(s) Mickey Frith, Don Trahan and Troy Hebert, and Senator Nick Gautreaux are urged and requested to oppose any effort by the Congress of the United States or the Louisiana Legislature to limit or strip the authority of local governments, including the Vermilion Parish Police Jury from using economic development as the public purpose for the exercise of the power of eminent domain.

Be it further resolved by the Vermilion Parish Police Jury that a copy of this Resolution be delivered to the Congress of the United States, Congressman Charles W. Boustany, Jr., Senator Mary Landrieu, Senator David Vitter, Governor Kathleen B. Blanco, the Louisiana Legislature, Representative(s) Mickey Frith, Don Trahan and Troy Hebert, and Senator Nick Gautreaux.

I, Clay P. Menard, Secretary-Treasurer, of the Vermilion Parish Police Jury, do hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Vermilion Parish Police Jury at their meeting held on April 17, 2006, at which a quorum was present and acting.

Clay P. Menard,
Secretary-Treasurer
Vermilion Parish Police Jury

