AN ACT

Authorizing cities of the first class to acquire land for the purpose of holding public expositions celebrating sesquicentennials; to lay out, open, and improve streets, avenues, or boulevards in connection therewith; and to pass ordinances, incur indebtedness, and make appropriations therefor; and providing procedure for the condemnation of such lands, the assessment of damages or benefits, and appeals therefrom.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That cities of the first class may purchase, acquire through condemnation proceedings, enter upon, take, use, possess, improve, and appropriate all such lands, either for temporary or permanent use, as may be necessary in connection with the holding of any public exposition celebrating any sesqui-centennial in such city, including grounds for the site of such exposition and all lands necessary for the opening, laying out, widening, or altering of streets, avenues, or boulevards as approaches thereto, and for that purpose the councils of such cities may enact ordinances, rules, and regulations appropriate and necessary for the purchase, condemnation, taking over, entry, possession, use, improvement, regulation, management, and control of the same without any other or further acts or proceedings now required by law, and may incur indebtedness and make such appropriation as may be required for the payment of any property acquired or used under authority of this act.

Section 2. Whenever any such city of the first class shall hereafter enter upon, take, use, and appropriate private property for the aforesaid purposes by ordinance or resolution, and the compensation and damages arising therefrom cannot be agreed upon by the owners thereof and such city, any court of common pleas or any judge thereof in vacation on application thereto by petition by the city or any person interested shall either before or after the entering, taking, using, or appropriating of such private property appoint three viewers from the board of viewers of the county, and appoint a time, not less than twenty nor more than thirty days thereafter, when the viewers shall meet upon the property entered, taken, used, or appropriated, and view the same.

The viewers shall give at least ten days' notice of the time of their first meeting by publication in one or more newspapers of the city and by handbills posted upon the premises or otherwise, as the court shall direct. The viewers having been sworn or affirmed faithfully, justly, and impartially to decide and a true report to make concerning all matters to be submitted to them and in relation to which they are authorized to inquire, and having viewed and examined the property shall hear all parties interested and their witnesses, and shall determine the damages or benefits for property entered, taken, used, or

appropriated and to or by whom the same are payable, and having determined the same they shall prepare a schedule thereof and report the same to the court and file therewith a plan showing the property entered, taken, injured, benefited or destroyed.

Section 3. (3 repealed June 3, 1971, P.L.118, No.6)

Section 4. (4 repealed June 3, 1971, P.L.118, No.6)

Section 5. Whenever such city and the parties affected do not agree upon the amount of compensation or damages or benefits due for the entering, taking, using, and appropriating of such property under ordinances of council passed pursuant to the authority conferred by this act, or by reason of the absence or legal incapacity of the owner thereof no such agreement can be made, the city may enter upon, take, use, possess, improve, and appropriate such lands for any of the aforesaid purposes without any other or further acts or proceedings now required by law, and the property of the city shall be pledged for the payment of any damages that may thereafter be awarded.

Section 6. In selecting or appropriating any lands for purchase or acquisition for the purposes aforesaid the council of any such city shall in no way be bound or restricted in making such selection or appropriation for exposition grounds and for laying out, opening, widening, improving, or altering of streets, avenues, or boulevards as approaches thereto by any city plan heretofore adopted, nor shall it be necessary for it to have first obtained the consent or approval of any commission or other board or agency of such city.

Section 7. Any such city, after having purchased or acquired any such lands for the purposes aforesaid, may open, lay out, widen, or alter, grade, pave, and improve any streets, avenues, or boulevards thereon at such time and in such manner as it may determine without any other or further acts or proceedings now required by law.