

CA 3-6-68

~~Memphis - X-ray~~  
**Council Opposes  
Overton Routing**

**'Feasible' Alternative For  
Expressway Is Urged  
In Resolution**

By JIMMIE COVINGTON

The City Council unanimously adopted a resolution yesterday opposing the Overton Park expressway route and asked that state and federal highway officials "select another feasible route."

The resolution, introduced by Mrs. Gwen Awsumb, did not specifically prohibit the park route but said the council "prefers that the expressway through Overton Park be not routed in its present proposed location." The resolution will be sent to state and federal officials.

It stipulated that if no better route could be found that a route using northern perimeter of the park and the south part of North Parkway should be chosen.

Just what effect the council action will have is unclear. State and federal highway officials have said several times the presently designated route should be considered final.

Lowell K. Bridwell, federal highway administrator, visited Memphis recently and listened to opponents and advocates of the Overton Park route.

He said then he expected to make a final decision on the route shortly and indicated that no further studies would be made.

The past three City Commissions endorsed the originally designated route, which would run generally along the transit bus roadway just south of Overton Park Zoo.

Engineers for years have said the park route is the most feasible. Mayor Henry Loeb has said he favors going ahead with the park route.

**Council Sets Hearings  
On Annexations**

The City Council yesterday scheduled a series of public hearings for May on seven areas proposed for annexation, including Whitehaven.

The Whitehaven hearing is scheduled for May 10. The council has been discussing a proposal to annex Whitehaven on Dec. 31, 1969, so that it will be in the city in time to be counted in the 1970 census.

Other scheduled annexation hearings are Mitchell Road area, Levi area and Memphis East southern section, all on May 3; Raleigh, the remainder of Westwood and Memphis East northern section all on May 17.

Tentative proposals call for Mitchell Road and Levi areas to be annexed next Dec. 31; Memphis East southern section, Dec. 31, 1969; remainder of Westwood, Dec. 31, 1971; Raleigh, Dec. 31, 1972, and Memphis East northern section, Dec. 31, 1973.

After the hearings, the council is expected to adopt a resolution of intent outlining an annexation schedule. The hearings will be in the City Council chamber.

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