

OPG 21-30

I consider this as progress!

Extra Baggage

THE PROPOSAL to have a referendum on the Overton Park expressway route during the special County Court election May 15 makes as much sense as asking the voters if they want price controls or oppose school busing.

First, the result of such a referendum would have no effect on the outcome of the Overton Park controversy, which will be settled in the courts or by the United States secretary of transportation. The decision will be based on interpretation of federal law, not popular opinion.

Second, special elections have poor turnouts. A referendum probably would not represent the views of a majority of the eligible voters. It would not help either side in the controversy, although the winner undoubtedly would try to make something of it while the loser dismissed it as meaningless.

The park case is complex enough as it is without this extra baggage. u

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