

More Hearings Set Wednesday On Park Route

A new round of public hearings on corridor and design alternatives for the Overton Park segment of uncompleted Interstate 40 will begin at 9 a.m. Wednesday in the City Council Chamber at City Hall.

"We are counting on Memphians to provide one of the most important sections of our environmental impact statement," said state Transportation Commissioner Eddie Shaw.

"We must know how you feel about completion of this 3.7-mile section of the interstate through your city," Shaw said.

Completion of the segment has been tied up by controversy between environmentalists and public officials and business interests for about 20 years. The segment has been the subject of several court actions.

The hearings are designed to involve citizens in the decision to build or not to build the highway through the park, Shaw said.

"This is a situation where you can't count on the other guy to do it for you," Shaw said, "and your personal involvement in the hearings is important."

Persons who cannot attend the hearings may send written comments to H. K. Buckner, attorney for the transportation department, 412 Frost Building, 161 Eighth Avenue North, Nashville, Tenn., 37203. The cutoff date for written comments is Aug. 29, Shaw said.