

OPE 28 - 24

~~I-40~~ mem. May 2, 1977
Let State Do It CA

To The Commercial Appeal:

Assuming that President Carter's administration is to be consistent, then the secretary of transportation, Mr. Brock Adams, must sanction the completion of Interstate 40 through Overton Park, as proposed by the state of Tennessee, in order to avoid the continued excessive use of fuel by the many automobiles and trucks which now must find their way by circuitous routes around the interruption in I-40.

Otherwise, it would seem that the state of Tennessee should follow the precedent set recently by Texas, and should arrange to complete I-40 with state money alone. Very likely to finish I-40 along its initially designed ground route would be no more expensive than the state's portion of the more sophisticated federally-financed program. Moreover, in using state funds alone, the state could introduce toll stations along that portion of the route to help to recover cost.

Only sanctimonious emotion prevents this road completion.

R. B. INGRAM

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