

IS Memphis at the crossroads? - "The city can remain desirable or become a dump", so spoke San Francisco's Park Director when Golden Gate Park was threatened. IT was Saved! The present Mayor of San Francisco has spoken, - "...the freeways we have cup around the residential integrity of this city..... The Freeway Revolt had its birth with concrete monstrosities. San Francisco was revolted by them and rejected them. Now we have learned by experience....."

WHY aren't Memphis City Commissioners "learning" & defending Overton Park??

CAN'T MEMPHIS AFFORD TO KEEP ITS "COMMUNITY ASSET" - OVERTON PARK?

DOES Memphis Have to sell out its natural Heritage for a (?) "free" Highway?

WHY are the road proponents saying "No Harm" will be done to the Park?

Would "no harm" be done if the same percentage & a like position of the Brooks Art Gallery or the Golf Course or your home were to be bulldozed and bisected? Look at Madison, Poplar, Overton Park Ave. between Bellevue & Waldran!

WHY are our natural parks not considered inviolate in Memphis?

"Open Spaces should be considered inviolate in older sections of cities.....the residential neighborhood parks....establish more than the buildings themselves the character and beauty of a city.....Often Open Spaces are not destroyed completely, they are simply changed, but the change can be so serious in its consequences as to completely invalidate the use of the Open Space...."- Lawrence Halprin (12-66)

IS it logical that, out of 20 locations, Overton Park would be the only "prudent and feasible one" (Highway Dept. quotation)? IS this E. urban leg of I-40 needed???

WHY wouldn't the circumferential route, I-240, carry east-west traffic to the Downtown Area and new I-40 bridge? I-240 will use same mid-town interchange.

WHY 90% Federal Funds if Highway through Overton Park is for local traffic and to help Downtown Memphis? - Read "Getting To Work & Back" -Consumer Reports Feb. '65 "Our Great Big Highway Bungle"-Readers' Digest Jy '60

WHY apply "User Costs" - "User Benefits"- to car and truck drivers, only?

Why not apply principle of "User Benefits" to Overton Park's location and users?

WHAT about 1300 Girl Scouts & Leaders who came to Overton Park April 8, 1967, for "Junior Paths To Adventure Outdoor Day" because of its location, accessibility, and what it had to offer? What about our local Scouts who use Overton Park for fun and learning?

WHY bulldoze a famous & established park where many people are and want to be while talking of spending money to establish man-made parks on edge or outside of city?

WHY NOT MID-TOWN BEAUTY, as well as, Riverfront Beauty?

Is the Mid-City to be cast aside? ((Will its ballots and taxes be cast aside?))

HOW CALLOUS IS MEMPHIS? -"A city that callously destroys the bits of natural beauty left.....is tearing down its own character as a city." -ed. Ch.Sc. Monitor, 2-67

(DOESN'T Memphis care about its national Image?)

WILL MEMPHIS Lose its "Community Asset" and its Heritage by DEFAULT?

What Others Say

City Planners' Advice (a panel opinion) -

"SAVE PARKS - DON'T Let Expressway Gobble Up Overton Park"

Engineer - First Chairman and First Chief Engineer of T.V.A.
President of Morgan Engineering Company, Memphis, 1910 - 1953
Director of Community Service, Inc., 1936 --

"...This irreplaceable treasured Overton Park should be saved to the generations to come....Thrift and economic concern for the present are highly desirable, but they should not outweigh long-time values....longtime values are rapidly disappearing, with Overton Park as a possible striking example.....The destruction of natural beauty is to a large degree an irreversible process..... Where no vision is, the people perish."

Boy Scout Leader, Little Rock, Arkansas, (brought a Troop to hike Park trails 8-66)

"I cannot visualize anything more wasteful than to eliminate a well organized, planned and maintained park to build a highway. More benefit can be derived by the City by redirecting this highway through substandard housing areas and not through a park as unspoiled as Overton. I compliment Memphis on having a beautiful Overton Park. Don't let the 'Progress' people ruin it."

American Institute of Park Executives, Inc., Executive Director

"I am familiar with Overton Park. It is indeed a unique facility and opportunity for the citizens of Memphis, Tennessee, and it would be a desecration of the character of the mid-city should it be bisected by the proposed Interstate highway."

Landscape Architect Advisor to National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.

"....I deplore the attitude that exists that this type of space is cheap and is available solely on the premise that it is publicly-owned space.....Once penetrated this valuable open space (Overton Park) is lost forever."

A United States Supreme Court Associate Justice who is also a Conservation Writer
very

"I was/saddened to learn that your wonderful Overton Park is in jeopardy from a highway."

A National Conservationist and Economist

"A jewel among city parks".

Historic Preservation Editor for the National Trust for Historic Preservation

"A treasure to be preserved."

United States Department of the Interior - Outdoor Bureau of Recreation

"A Community Asset".

WAKE UP MEMPHIS

This Does Affect You, a Taxpayer