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"Sweeping Expressway System To Criss-Cross And Loop City Wins Speedy Commission OK"

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maps - streets second phase

Sweeping Expressway System To Criss-Cross And Loop City Wins Speedy Commission OK

COST IS \$92 MILLION

Linked To Federal Program To Be Considered By Congress

By ROBERT GRAY
Approval of a 92-million-dollar expressway plan for Memphis and Shelby County was voiced yesterday by members of the City Commission.

The proposed routes, crossing the city north-south and east-west, with a loop around the present city limits, were recommended by Harland Bartholomew & Associates following a study begun last January.

The plan was presented to the officials for the first time yesterday afternoon in the Mayor's office.

Mayor Frank Tobey and the four city commissioners said they would formally approve the plan by resolution at the regular City Commission meeting Tuesday.

The County Commission is expected to take similar action.

68 Miles For Memphis

The plan is phased into the proposed Federal inter-state highway system, which presently would allot 68 miles of limited access routes to the Memphis urban area.

Actual start of constructing the entire plan, or any part, is contingent on adoption of the national program by Congress and the appropriation of funds to cover the cost.

Determination of the program and its financing will be before the next Congress which convenes in January.

However, the Mayor and commissioners were informed yesterday by City Engineer Will Fowler that the Tennessee Highway Department, through Chief Engineer Herbert Bates, has made a commitment to survey the proposed loop expressway and that Federal-state money is available for purchasing the right-of-way upon approval by the Federal Bureau of Public Roads.

Application Filed

Mr. Bates has filed an application for approval to acquire the property for this route, which would run from Thomas eastward on the north side of Wolf River, south along the eastern city limits to Nonconnah Creek and westward along the north side of Nonconnah to Highway 51 South.

Completion of this survey and acquisition of right-of-way would pave the way for constructing this part of the expressway system immediately upon Federal funds being allocated.

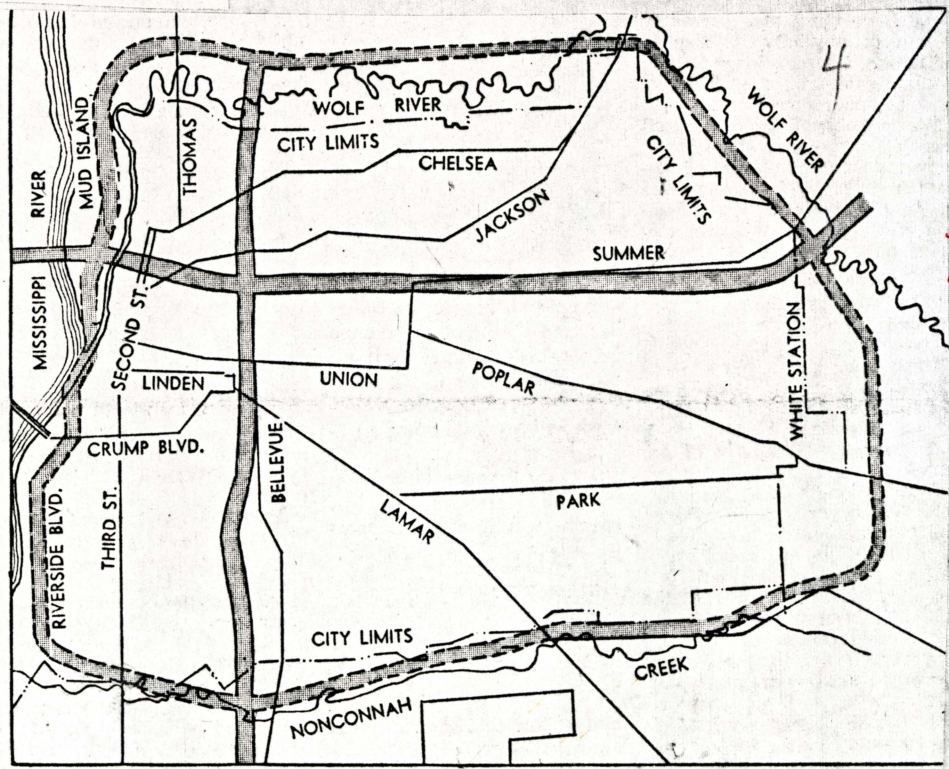
The Bartholomew survey, which was explained to the Mayor and city commissioners along with Mr. Fowler and County Commissioner Dan Mitchell yesterday by William Pollard, engineer for the planning firm, is separated into six phases.

The first phase, or "Study Route A," is the master plan for the urban expressway plan as integrated with the Federal system.

This study includes a limited-access highway which would enter Shelby County from the east just south of Arlington, run almost parallel to Highway 70

Needs Congressional Act

Not an accurate map! Third runs into Second!



MASTER PLAN — A comprehensive expressway plan for Memphis as part of the proposed Federal limited access inter-state highway system was approved yesterday by the City Commission. The plan, recommended on the basis of a survey by Harland Bartholomew & Associates, would be

financed with Federal funds and includes approach routes through the county from east and south, and expressways east-west, north-south and around the city to join with a future bridge across the Mississippi River opposite Auction.

—Staff Map by Roy Evers

CA 7-8-35

7 Second! 9-8-55

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