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"Letters to the Editor: 'Tree Lover', 'Work Together'"

Item Type	Article
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Publisher	Commercial Appeal
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Download date	2025-05-20 00:25:11
Link to Item	http://hdl.handle.net/10267/29979

FRI. Aug. 1, 1975
Tree Lover

P6

To The Commercial Appeal:

I am sure that Mayor Chandler has a right to his opinion regarding where I-40 is routed in Memphis, but I feel his statement that, if he had his way and were in control he would put bulldozers in Overton Park tomorrow and start knocking down trees, shows his generally short-sighted view of what is good and bad for the City of Memphis.

It seems to me that he hasn't learned much from the experiences which other cities have had when they found out much too late that in their desire to have expressways through their cities they destroyed some of their biggest assets such as their parks and lovely tree-shaded boulevards and streets.

I have lived in Memphis for only two

years, but I am increasingly impressed with Memphians' desire to destroy their city, in their so-called desire for progress.

I can only add that I'm grateful that Mayor Chandler does not have control of this situation and that there is at least some chance that Overton Park and the surrounding area can be saved from those commuters who earn their money in downtown Memphis, but want an expressway so they can speed home to their trees and green grass in the suburbs. Those of us in Midtown on North Parkway, Belvedere, Southwestern and all of the other old beautiful parts also like trees and green grass.

K. P. KOOIKER

1960 North Parkway

Work Together

To The Commercial Appeal:

It has been proven that the destruction of areas in a city will lead to the deterioration of adjacent areas. This is the case with Midtown in relation to the downtown area.

Now that the bureaucrats of this city have demolished downtown, in the name of revival, they are working on systematically dividing and conquering the Midtown area, in the name of expressway.

When the Midtown residents united and fought the Overton Park route, they were divided by the North Parkway proposal into groups fighting to keep the expressway off their side of the street.

I say we should all get together on this issue. There should be no expressway in Midtown, period. We in Midtown have the greatest stake riding on the downtown

redevelopment. A strong Midtown — within five minutes of street-driving to downtown — is what is needed. East Memphis doesn't need downtown. We in Midtown need the downtown area and it needs us.

As far as I am concerned, those who want the expressway so badly can hold their meetings in "West Parkway."

JANE ANN SORRELLS

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