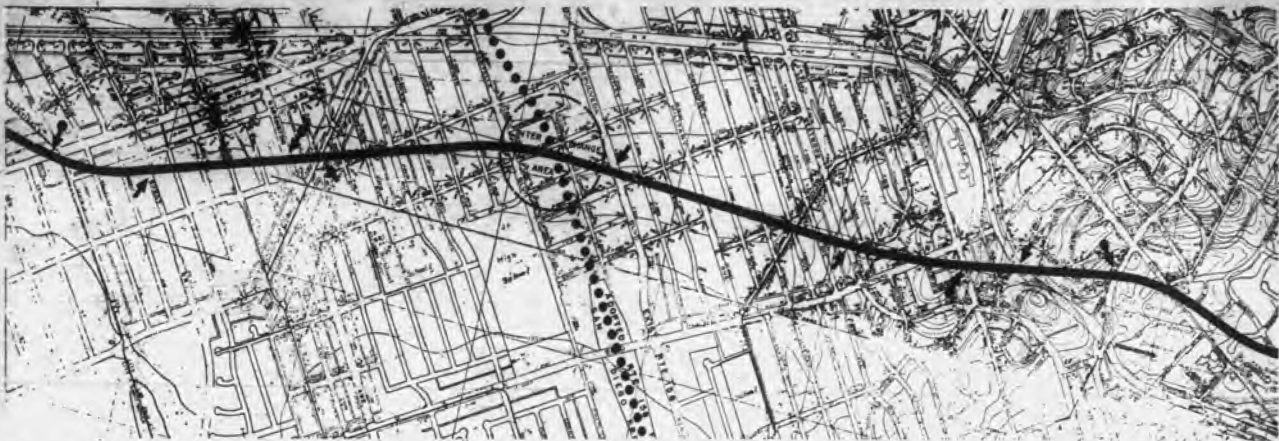


MAP DETAILS OLYMPIC FREEWAY ROUTE IN WLA



3,000 Voice Protest Against Freeway Route Politics Charge Made by Rees

By ROBERT GOE
Pacific News Service

Three thousand Westside residents swarmed into the auditorium of the Vista Del Mar Child Care Service Center in Cheviot Hills Tuesday night to protest the proposed routing of the Olympic Freeway.

They cheered as Assemblyman Thomas M. Rees charged that the leg of the freeway from LaCienega to Santa Monica was "politically planned."

"The freeway is being routed to Santa Monica primarily because state highway commissioner Robert E. McClure lives there," Rees declared.

"McClure does not care what happens to your community," the assemblyman added, "so long as the freeway ends in Santa Monica."

The crowd roared its approval again as Rees declared: "As far as I am concerned the freeway should be routed along Venice Boulevard, and not along some compromise route that will run through a community that is more than 90 per cent residential."

Rees accused the state highway commission of "being evasive and refusing to give out information (even to legislators)" about their route plans.

Ben Goldman Jr., a resident of the district and chairman of the meeting, told the huge audience that they could succeed in changing the route only if they could bring enough pressure on Governor Goodwin J. Knight to cause him to direct the highway commission to change its plans.

The commission, he said, is not responsible to the people, since it serves at the pleasure of the governor. He pleaded with the audience to write letters to the governor, to sign petitions against the route, and to attend en masse a meeting with the highway commission which is scheduled to be held in the State Building in Civic Center on Oct. 26 at 9 a.m.

Goldman was critical of local political representatives who he said "refused to attend the meeting." Councilman Harold Harty was invited to come, he explained, "but he refused by saying that the freeway route was a state problem and none of his affair."

Goldman disclosed that Congressman Donald Jackson also had been invited to attend, but the legislator declined, stating that the freeway problem was out of his jurisdiction. "It does not concern me," Jackson said.

Goldman read a telegram from state senator Richard Richards which backed Assemblyman Rees in his fight to get the freeway relocated, and Assemblyman Lester McMillan sent word to the meeting chairman that his sympathies were with Rees' location efforts.

Goldman outlined four reasons why he thought the route should be relocated along Venice Blvd.

1. The presently proposed route would take part of the California Country Club estates and would destroy several acres and many buildings on the Vista Del Mar Child Care Service property.

2. It would destroy the usefulness of a sanatorium at National Blvd.

3. It would be built within 100 yards of The Redeemer Baptist Church and School and a few feet from Notre Dame Academy.

4. A cloverleaf would be constructed in the front yard of the Daniel Webster Junior High School which was opened only last year at a cost of \$2,500,000.

Most important, according to Goldman was the fact that the freeway would divide such close-knit communities as Rancho Park and California Country Club Estates. He said: "This route will destroy the character of our community and will divide the school district, forcing children and parents alike to walk great distances to cross the freeway."

Councilwoman Rosalind Wyman addressed the mass meeting, favoring a more southerly route for the freeway. "I am opposing the most powerful groups in my own district who favor the present route," she said.

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Wlans Ask for New Health Center

Freeways Get Federal Approval

San Diego Freeway and the proposed Olympic Freeway are included in the US System of Interstate Highways in Los Angeles Metropolitan area just approved by the Federal Bureau of Public Roads.

The report released by the State Department of Public Works specifically lists reference to Olympic Freeway as follows: "Proposed Olympic Freeway in place of a Santa Monica Freeway between downtown Los Angeles and Santa Monica Bay section."

The interstate system approved by the Federal Bureau of Public Roads includes adjustments as of September this year and previously approved interstate system. A map attached to the report indicates the Olympic Freeway is located in the vicinity of the Orange County. Only construction under way at the present time or budgeted is in West Los Angeles area, Sunset and Sepulveda. It is expected that bids will be advertised soon on the freeway work to be done through the Veterans Administration facility.

Assemblyman Harold E. Levering, West Los Angeles, said the low price, because of lack of proper allocation of funds and financing is hindering freeway construction in Los Angeles County.

At a meeting of the Los Angeles delegation to the Legislature Tuesday, Levering again pointed out the inequality of the highway user taxes collected by the state as they are proportioned to counties. He reiterated what he said in the past that Los Angeles only has 40 per cent of the state to contribute and receives only 30 per cent of money for highways in return.

He further pointed out that a LA delegation will meet with a State Highway Commission on October 26 to discuss the "double" lack of interstate in Los Angeles County.

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Community Response Is Needed

By FELICIA MAHOOD

Los Angeles City Health Commissioners meeting at West Los Angeles City Hall last week heard Mrs. Stephen M. Loft describe the inadequacy of district health facilities in West Los Angeles.

Mrs. Loft, head of the WLA Citizens Health Committee, said that "we feel the Westside will be better served and the health department will be better able to fulfill its responsibility to the area if we have an adequate building in the West Los Angeles Civic Center. The area is suffering from the present deplorable facilities at the City Hall."

"We can't afford to wait for federal funds to finance such a project, we must find a solution in the immediate future," Health Commissioner president Dr. Frederic J. Gaspard, assured Mrs. Loft and other representatives from the committee attending that "the board can sympathize with the problem, but money is always a question for these improvements." He assured the local contingent of citizens that "as far as the board is concerned the members will do everything they can to remedy the situation."

There was no immediate solution or plan of action determined by the commission as the committee. The citizens did take advantage of Dr. George M. Van's comment that if there is to be a new health center in West Los Angeles it will be up to the people of West Los Angeles City Hall.

The statement of the city health officer can be considered a message that only a strong community effort will result in allocation of city funds for the construction of a new health center in the proposed new West Los Angeles City Hall.

At the present time the city right-of-way and land department is obtaining agreements to buy property in the block between Purdie and Cornish Aves. and Idaho and Iowa Aves. the block immediately north of the present City Hall location. City Council this year allocated \$140,000 from the capital improvement fund for acquisition of the land for the expansion of the civic center. The planned expansion will include a new City Hall building to replace the present structure.

The Citizens Health Committee several weeks ago was informed that the present formula for the allocation of federal funds from the Hill-Burton act for district health centers makes it impossible for the Westside to obtain a new health center.

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HEALTH COMMISSION members meeting at West Los Angeles City Hall last Thursday heard plea from local citizens committee for new health facilities. Commission could not meet in health department because there was no room and was forced to use room jointly occupied by city tax division and health sanitation officers. Shown (from left) are Richard Bartlett, Commission

secretary; Commissioner Sidney Hoedemaker; Mrs. Stephen M. Loft, president WLA Citizens Health Committee; Commissioner President Frederic J. Gaspard, M.D.; Commissioner Jack Dempsey; and Commissioner Arthur Rendon. Last time Commission met in city-designated "west area" was at Venice two years ago.

(Thelmer Homer photo)

Lions Club Breakfast Is Oct. 22

Rancho Park Lions will sponsor a community breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 8:30 a.m. until noon, at Vons Market, 3000 Wilshire Blvd., east of Western Blvd., chairman George Tinkler disclosed.

The entire parking area in front of the store will be roped off and used as a serving area, he said.

Tickets for the event are on sale. They are 50 cents each. Many other youth and adult organizations, such as the Boy Scouts and the YMCA, are participating in the sale of them.

"But anyone who wants in come and buy their tickets at the breakfast site may be in," Tinkler explained.

"Proceeds collected will go almost entirely to charity. All of the food that will be served is being donated by Aunt Jemima pancake, Jewelmeade milk and butter, Libby's lemon, Selma brand, Balseberry coffee-maker, and Old Moment coffee," he said.

In addition to tickets being sold by commissioners, interested

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Library Ordinance Okayed by Council

Ordinance transferring property to the West Los Angeles Civic Center in jurisdiction of the City Library System is in Mayor Pashley's office this week.

After numerous delays, the ordinance when signed will make it possible for bids to be advertised for the new \$255,000 West Los Angeles Regional Branch Library.

Ordinance was presented by City Council last week Wednesday as a special order of business by Councilman Rosalind Wyman, chairman of Council's recreation and park committee.

Board Meeting

Board of directors of the West Los Angeles Optimist Club will meet next Tuesday evening at the office of Phil Wood in Westwood, reports the president, Robert A. Carlen.

The board meeting will be held at the office of Phil Wood in Westwood, reports the president, Robert A. Carlen.

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RC Advisers Moved Up to Board Status

Announcement of their promotion from an advisory board to a board of directors preceded an important report on the International Headquarters at Geneva during the opening fall session of the West District Red Cross on Monday at the Westwood House.

Following a business meeting conducted by Board of Directors President Robert B. Campbell and West District Director, Mrs. Janet Bullitt, Mrs. Olive Read delivered her report.

Mrs. Read who is area blood recruitment director took an extensive tour of International Red Cross Headquarters during a four month trip to Europe.

Then Mrs. Olive Read told the group of her visit to International Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

"I had the marvelous opportunity of seeing both the International Headquarters building and the League of Red Cross Societies building—for the first time personally escorted by Madame Martha Invernizzi. She is one of 13 members of the International Committee. They are all Swiss here."

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3,000 Voice Protest---

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route," she said, "but common sense dictates that the southern route should be utilized."

Assemblyman Rees, the main speaker of the evening, took sharp issue with the state's policy of giving great power to decide and adopt freeway routes to the seven-man state highway commission. "They have a budget of more than \$240,000,000," he said, "and the Legislature has nothing to do with their decisions."

Stating that the presently contemplated route was not part of the state's master plan of freeways, Rees explained that originally the highway commission had selected two east-west highway routes — Santa Monica Blvd. and Olympic Blvd. These routes were abandoned when the city of Beverly Hills killed the Santa Monica Freeway proposal a few years ago. Since that time, Rees declared, the freeway proposal has been moved further and further south. Now the commission proposes to make one freeway do the job of the two routes originally planned, he said.

Rees charged that the commission had announced these general routes and assured people that they could build safely in areas now included in the present proposal. "The commission," he charged, "has shown bad faith."

"I am for a Venice Blvd. routing of the freeway," he said, "and I am going to work to see that no other route is adopted."

The following organizations were represented at the mass meeting: Rancho Park Optimist Club, Vista Del Mar, Westwood Garden Association, Cheviot Hills Democratic Club, Richland P-TA, Cheviot Hills Post American Legion, Castle Hights P-TA, Cheviot Hills Garden Club, Webster Junior High P-TA, Cheviot Hills Women's Club, California Country Club Estates Assn., Palms Elementary P-TA, Palms Junior High P-TA, Overland P-TA, The Redeemer Baptist Church, Lombaile Lodge Sanitarium, Cheviot Knolls Assn., Greater West Pico Property Owners Ass'n, and the Rancho Park Chamber of Commerce.