

Merchants Hit Plan for Underpass

Owners of a cluster of businesses just inside the northeast District line have protested to Commissioners that plans to streamline Kenilworth ave. will cut their trade.

Highway Director J. N. Robertson said yesterday he was restudying construction blueprints at the request of Commissioner Samuel Spencer.

Store and service station owners have complained about the proposed underpass of Kenilworth at Eastern. Congress authorized this plan to speed traffic toward Annapolis and Baltimore and points north.

But storeowners claim the District plan will rush cars right past local stores to tradesmen in Maryland, according to Attorney Joseph Kaufman, hired to represent the interests of local merchants at the District Building.

Kaufman said Eastern ave. should underpass Kenilworth, instead.

The Kenilworth underpass job has not been offered to bidders, yet. It is to be the final contract of the Kenilworth widening and improvement project, due by next fall to link the new East Capitol bridge with Maryland connections.

Robertson held out little hope that the merchants' protests would change highway department plans.

He explained that drivers who wanted to stop for supplies on their way out of town on Kenilworth could do so, despite the underpass.

A widened Kenilworth on each side of the underpass would leave plenty of room for cars to see and turn into gas stations and stores at the line, Robertson said. Also, drivers, after buying supplies, could continue on Kenilworth or turn on Eastern.

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Associated Press

A Father's Anguish

J. Lloyd Randall of Oklahoma City comforts his 6-year-old son, Doyle, who was critically burned in a fire. Another of Randall's sons died in the blaze in their home.