

# Thoroughfare plan approved without impact study

By MARDELL GRIFFIN  
Chronicle Staff Writer

East Winston's redevelopment plan was approved by Winston-Salem aldermen Monday night, along with the Comprehensive and Thoroughfare Plans for long-range growth of the entire city.

And steps were taken to bring closer to reality a proposed multi-million dollar bond referendum that will raise local taxes another six cents if approved by local citizens.

Representatives of east side residents were happier about the redevelopment plan that affects their area than were citizens living along roads proposed in the Thoroughfare Plan.

Although Joycelyn Johnson, president of the East Winston Restoration Association, asked questions about funding of the East Winston plan, her group has voiced continued support for their community's redevelopment package, unlike the Friends of Salem Lake and the United Friends of Western Forsyth County who have repeatedly lobbied against the Thoroughfare Plan.

The Salem Lake group is opposed to the planned 311 Connector which is set to run through the backyards of houses on the eastern side of the Shalimar community and pass through a greenway adjoining Salem Lake to link existing I-40 with the new portion of the interstate highway.

The Friends of Western Forsyth County oppose setting any path for a roadway through the Muddy Creek area without first performing an environmental impact study.

The group told the aldermen, before the last board meeting two weeks ago, that they would raise the money to fund an environmental study of the Muddy Creek basin and surrounding areas. Between \$600,000 and \$800,000 would be necessary to pay for the project.

Although West Ward Alderman

Robert S. Northington entered an amendment to the plan calling for the city to provide technical and administrative assistance to the Friends of Western Forsyth County in their efforts to seek funds for an environmental study and reaffirmed the city's commitment "to pay its share of an EIS," the aldermen voted unanimously for the proposed Thoroughfare Plan.

The city can now begin moves to tie-up rights-of-ways along the proposed paths of the controversial roadways.

In another unanimous decision, the aldermen passed a measure to begin the "legal process" necessary to bring a \$55 million bond package before the public for a vote.

Southeast Ward Alderman Larry W. Womble had prevailed upon the board to raise the ceiling for the proposed bond referendum by \$1 million from a previous total of \$54 million with the additional money to be used for low and moderate-income housing. Womble said housing only received a quarter of the funding that streets and roads received in the proposed bond plan.

Although East Ward Alderman Virginia K. Newell sympathized with Womble's concerns, she did not want to put the bond package in "jeopardy" by raising the ceiling. "If we add much more, I'm afraid we won't get anything," she said.

The \$9 million for housing is in addition to \$36 million for streets and sidewalks, \$8 million for housing and urban redevelopment, \$4 million for fairground improvements, \$3 million each for recreation and Winston-Salem Lake watershed protection bonds for the total \$55 million bond package.

Northwest Ward Alderman Martha S. Wood asked if the board was "locking ourselves into a certain approach to the programs outlined in the bond package."

A member of the city

attorney's staff told her, "You have to stay within that category. You couldn't take recreation funds and spend them on roads."

When asked by Womble, City Manager Bill Stuart told the board that the total package would raise local taxes six cents for every \$100 of tax evaluation. But he added that the bonds would only be sold as the revenue for various projects was needed. As a result, he estimated that taxes would probably not increase for the first time from the bonds until 1990 or 1991.

Womble then asked if the tax burden would end when the bonds were paid off. Stuart said, "This board might voice that intent, but there is no way of making a future bond follow through."

Northeast Ward Alderman

Vivian H. Burke asked if future boards were bound to honor the housing commitments made by the present board.

Stuart said, "I am not able to tell you a future board will spend the bond money exactly the way this board would spend those funds." But any resolutions allocating funds passed by the present board would be a "strong weight" on future boards to carry out those resolutions.

Mrs. Newell said she wanted to hear citizens' opinions about the bond package before any more decisions are made.

A drop-in session for discussion of the bond referendum is being sponsored jointly by city and county officials Aug. 27 from 4 to 7 p.m. in the South Main Hall of

the Benton Convention Center. The Board of Aldermen has set another meeting for Aug. 31 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

In other business, Monday night, the board voted:

- 5 to 3 approving Larco Construction Co. a \$396,406.50 contract for resurfacing 35 city streets.

- to send a resolution setting weatherization standards for structures located in the city back to the city planning staff for further study.

- unanimously to authorize the city to apply for funds from the Crosby Grant Program for the Winston-Salem Foundation for a drug education and abuse prevention program.

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## AKAs raffling car to spur new housing investments

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

The Phi Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. is offering local residents the chance to win a 1987 Plymouth Horizon and to invest in Winston-Salem housing.

"We're in the last stretch with the project," said East Ward Alderman Virginia K. Newell. "We're in the process of raising the last money which will be needed to begin the (housing) project."

The sorority has proposed building a complex consisting of eight one-bedroom-unit and 12 two-bedroom-unit townhouses on city land between Second and Third streets and Woodland and Cleveland avenues.

The sorority has already raised about \$23,000 of the \$75,000 it needs to raise, she said.

The \$750,000 housing project is being financed with \$225,000

from the city and \$450,000 from N.C. Mutual Life Insurance Co.

To help raise its portion, the sorority is holding several fundraisers.

One fundraiser, organized by three sorority members, Mrs. Newell, Bessie Allen and Gloria Gore, is a car raffle.

"I think it will be well received," Mrs. Newell said. "It's a very popular way of raising money."

The car, which is being displayed at Twin City Chrysler Plymouth on Miller Street, will be given away on Sept. 2 during a dinner at the Hyatt Hotel, Mrs. Newell said.

Tickets for the car are \$100 apiece and \$12 for the dinner.

Mrs. Newell said that besides the car, other things that will be given away on the night of the raffle include an Anastasia fur, small television sets and clocks.

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## VA From Page A1

American veterans may be afraid to speak up for fear of losing the benefits they now receive.

In another part of the letter, Malachi said that it took him 40 years to upgrade his military discharge, but instead of benefits for a service-connected discharge he had asked for, he received benefits for a nonservice-connected disability.

After reading the letter, Hampton said it's unfortunate that Malachi is unhappy. "He obviously wasn't given the type of discharge he felt he deserved," he said. "Judging from the man's letter, it appears he was awarded pension and he feels very strongly that he should be drawing compensation."

Hampton said that compensation is given for service-connected injuries or injuries occurring while an individual is in military service.

The amount of compensation depends on the disability and is not

affected by outside income.

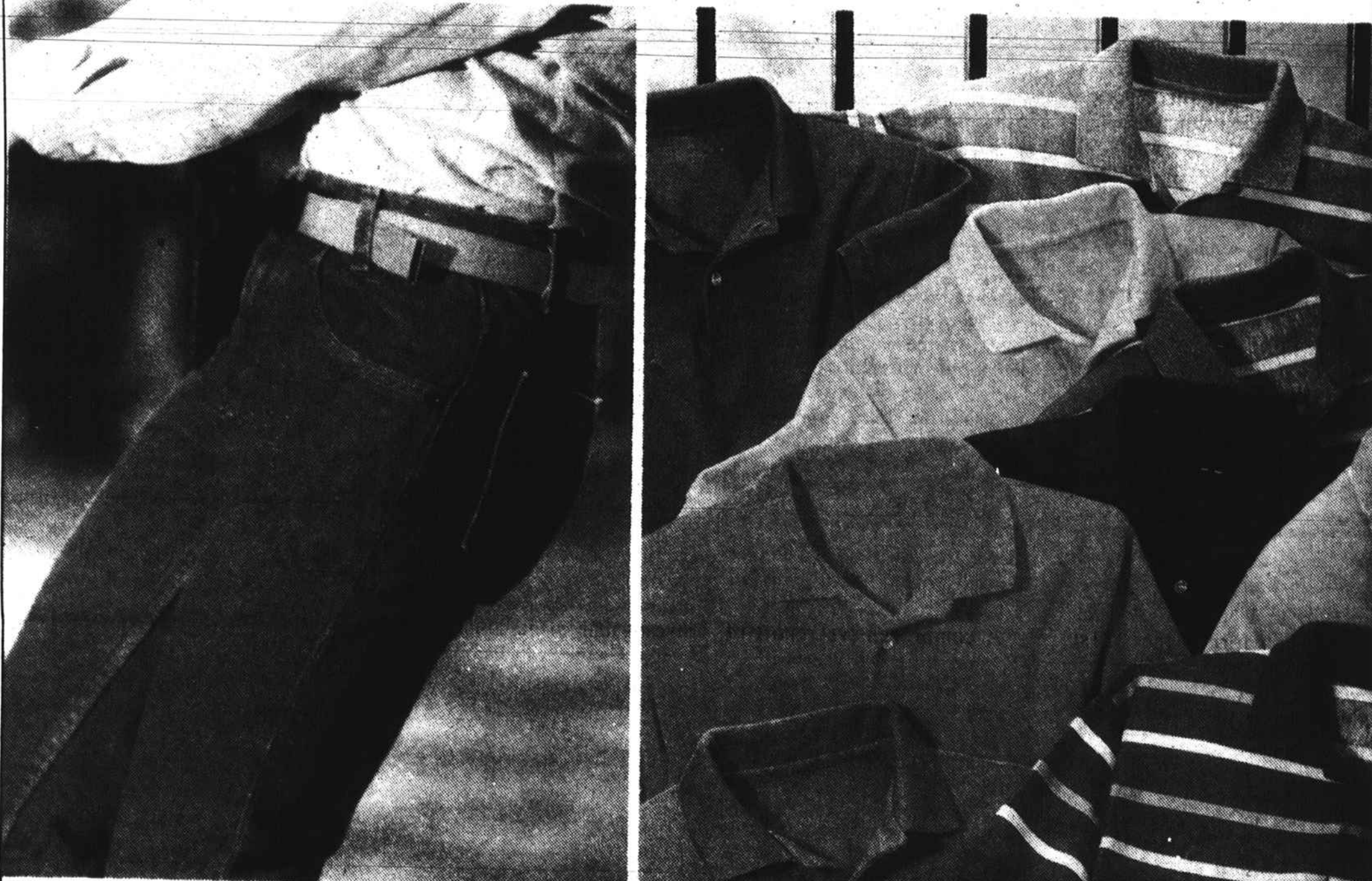
Pension, on the other hand, is paid for non-service connected injuries and is affected by income from other sources. The rate of pension, he said, is set by Congress.

"If he wants us to discuss his case with him, we will. We will also give him a written explanation."

He said that because of the privacy act he could not address Malachi's specific concerns about his situation with the reporter.

Hampton said that in his 16 years with the VA, he has not seen a written charge of discrimination like the one written by Malachi. He said that people have verbally accused the VA of discriminating. But these charges, he said, are usually made when a veteran is upset. "We're usually able to show them that this can't happen," he said. "It's very rare to get a racial prejudice allegation."

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