EMBELLISH

NEW ORLEANS

BY PAVING

CARROLLTON AVE.

THEREBY LINKING

CITY PARK WITH AUDUBON PARK

AND CREATING

A PAVED ROADWAY CIRCUIT OF CITY.
New Orleans, La., July 8th, 1908.

TO THE INTERESTED:

There is now a possibility of connecting Audubon Park with City Park, and creating a paved roadway circuit of City, by means of a grand boulevard, along Carrollton Avenue, from St. Charles Avenue to City Park Avenue.

Some few months past, the owners of property along this Avenue, realizing its importance, as one of the main thoroughfares of New Orleans, circulated petitions for the paving of same.

This paving project was recently presented to the City Council, in the form of three petitions, as follows:

1. Both roadways, from St. Charles Avenue to New Basin Canal.
2. Lake Side Roadway, from New Basin Canal to Canal Street.
3. River Side Roadway, from New Basin Canal to Canal Street, and both roadways, from Canal Street to City Park Avenue.

To be recognized by the City Council, the law requires that the signatures of each petition shall represent, at least twenty-five (25%) per cent. of the property frontages of said street.

In the case of these petitions, instead of having this required percentage, the signatures amounted to the following:

1. Seventy-nine (79%) per cent.
2. Sixty-three (63%) per cent.
3. Seventy-two (72%) per cent.

This statement is given, so as to show how cheerfully the people responded to solicitations.

The approximate length of boulevard, will be about four and one-half (4 1/2) miles, and will be of the following cross-sections:

Two (2) twenty-four (24) foot roadways.
Two (2) twenty (20) foot sidewalks.
One (1) Neutral Ground of sixty-two (62) feet.

Petitions designate "PITCH ASPHALT" as paving material, steel concrete curbs for boulevard and Neutral Ground curbs, and a system of sub-surface drainage.

The approximate cost of project, will amount to over $800,000.00, of which the City’s portion will be about $500,000.00.

The paving of Carrollton Avenue, will thereby complete a circuit of double roadway pavement of thirteen (13) miles, which circuit will comprise the following existing paved double roadways:
Espamade Avenue, Rampart Street, Canal Street, and St. Charles Avenue. This mileage includes only a few blocks of our big Canal Street roadway.

The carrying out of this project, will mean a considerable increase, in the annual revenues of the City for vacant squares along and within proximity to this Avenue, which are now assessed for about $2,000.00 will, after the erection of numerous residences, add materially to the sum of taxes, by calling for much higher assessment, say an average of $40,000.00 per square. This wonderful change, will quickly follow the completion of Carrollton Avenue roadway, and will then prove to have been a wise investment for the Municipality.

Some months past, there were no thoughts entertained of an early realization of such a grand boulevard; this was owing to the difficulty in negotiating our City Paving Certificates, but at the present time, we judge that the amendments to the City Paving Laws, recently re-enacted by the Legislature, will place same on a better financial basis, thereby permitting contractors to at present entertain ideas of bidding on work — that is for an early action by the City Council, their deeming that bids can now be received for this stupendous undertaking.

It is understood that sometime during this September, these petitions will be forwarded to the Budget Committee of the City Council for action — that is, the setting aside in the portions allotted to street paving of Reserve Funds of future budgets of the City, for the amount to cover the City’s portion of project, and it is to this meeting that your attention is called.

Now, we are all aware of the limited funds available each year for street paving, and it is a well known fact that prior petitions have been received in such numbers, as to have exhausted the paving funds of Budgets of years up to and including the year 1913.

Therefore, it is clear to us, that no part of this cost can be provided for either than out of the year 1914 budget. As it would be unreasonable to expect the consumption of one years paving funds for a single project, no matter how grand or important it might be, it is our opinion that the sum for this improvement, should come out of funds, of the year 1914 and of following years.
We fully appreciate the difficult task that will be before the Budget Committee in the writing up of this portion of cost, for there are many conditions to be considered in their deliberations.

To show this Honorable Committee, as well as the entire City Administration, that the public is very deeply concerned in the immediate question of Carrollton Avenue, which all recognize as of first importance as an embellishment to New Orleans, we respectfully request that you join us to form a large body, to be present at the meeting of said Committee. The ladies are especially invited and we do most cordially invite them to be on hand — for remember what assistance they rendered us towards the issuance of the Public Improvement Bonds.

After reading these lines, first hand same to your friends and then you, too, desire to be considered as "one of the interested", seal an expression to that effect, addressed to the "Carrollton Avenue Paving Committee, etc. GENERAL DELIVERY, City." This will then apprise me of your public sentiment and furthermore, furnish us with the names of persons desiring to be notified of the date of this Budget Committee meeting.

Endorsements by Exchanges, Associations, and other organized bodies, are earnestly solicited, as it is our intention, to have same for reading, before the Committee.

Respectfully,

Carrollton Avenue Paving Committee.

CARROLLTON AVENUE PAVING COMMITTEE

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