

and there is near unanimous agreement of the neighborhood groups involved and other citizen groups, etcetera, and legislators and politicians in the metropolitan area in favor of the North Freeway, and the design as it is being proposed and moved along at this time. Now I have also for anyone who has not had an opportunity to see them, I have maps showing how much of the community has been cleared away, the neighborhood groups that participated in the planning and design, and we show here how many of the houses and homes have been relocated, and so forth. Almost all of the relocation has been done except for a few houses that belong to OHA in terms of housing units that belong to OHA, which have come to an agreement, and also some of the overpasses will take some more houses. There is still a few more homes to be taken but those are not in the direct path of the North Freeway. If anyone does not have one of these maps, if I can get a Page to offer any legislator who is interested in these maps to show the progress that heretofore has been done. Many millions of dollars have been spent already...many millions of dollars have been spent already to do the relocation and prepare the way for the North Freeway. Bid letting is to begin shortly, and the construction, the actual pavement and so forth is to begin by the first of this year, this coming year. So frankly we are talking about stopping a Freeway...Senator Chambers' legislation is talking about stopping a Freeway that is well along the way. Nearly all the homes have been acquired and construction is to begin shortly. It is far too late. It is an important arterial that the City of Omaha needs and I urge this Legislature to adopt this resolution to support this recommendation and to proceed with this issue since we have not had an opportunity to discuss Senator Chambers' bill as I originally thought we might. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, you have been hit by a blizzard of paper so far on this issue and I know that you are not going to have the time and probably not the inclination, which I can't blame you for, to really go through it all. But I hope you will consider what Senator Newell is asking you to do, which is to go on record in favor of a project the understanding of which you do not have. Now I had given just now in a handout form a case that was brought to me Saturday at the Barbershop where I work. Now I don't know if this gentleman lives in Senator Newell's District or Senator Fitzgerald, but he is not