

NO. **84635** SUBJECT *E. Morrison*  
*Sh. et al*  
DEC - 8 1928  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
FOR YOUR *BS* November 10, 1928. *O. L. [initials]*  
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Under Legislative Act, Chapter 428, of March 3, 1927: Multnomah County Commissioners, have taken over the Care, Beautification, and Maintenance of LONE FIR CEMETERY, as a "PIONEER MEMORIAL PARK" Permanently; And have made a Fine Start and are doing a Splendid Work toward its Cleaning Up and Beautification. Go out and Look it Over! You will hardly know the Place! Everyone should be pleased, compared to the Old Former Unkept Eye-Sore that it was!

East Morrison Street, along South of Street Car Tracks at South Edge of and along Lone Fir Cemetery, is now being paved 20 ft. Wide; the Dedicated portion of the Street, being only 30 ft. Wide, South Side-walks are narrowed to 4'6", and remainder of Dedicated Street Width, being necessary for Street Car Embankment, which is about 8 ft. above Street Level or Grade, along the East about 1000 ft. of the Cemetery. THIS IS TOO NARROW! (The lots to the South are only 135 ft. in depth: with Residences facing on both Morrison and Belmont Streets; making the Residence lots only 67.5' deep; which should not be shortened; besides there is a Jog of 35 ft. or more, in Street Car R. of Way, and E. Morrison St. to the South along the Cemetery, which should be straightened):

East Morrison Street West of the Cemetery, is being made 84ft. Wide. And East of the Cemetery, it is being made 80 ft. Wide, to connect with Belmont Street, which is being made 74 ft. wide out to East 41st. Street.

East Morrison Street should, also be made 80 ft. Wide, along Lone Fir Cemetery; and made Straight, near as may be. To do this and Help to Straighten the Street, a 35 ft. Strip should be Appropriated and a Public Highway Created thereon, (by the State Legislature); for the Needed Widening and Straightening of East Morrison Street, in the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. The Legislature should do this to save any question and criticism, because: Our Oregon Supreme Court, in "Bitney et al, -VS- Grim, et al," HELD: "The State by the exercise of its police power can properly cause the abandonment of a Cemetery and the removal of the bodies." Etc. If done, this would give Two or More Good Grade Roadway Entrances into Lone Fir Pioneer Memorial Park now Needed, because the only entrance now is the steep Dangerous about 15% Grade entrance on North Side from East Stark Street, with the Extremely Heavy Traffic on the Base Line: Hence these South Side Morrison Street Entrances are a Great Safety Need.

We are informed, that near where the Multnomah Hotel now stands was once a Cemetery; also there was a Cemetery near the Old Church near 4th. & Taylor Streets; also that there was a small Cemetery south of Portland City Auditorium; all of which have been removed and abandoned; through the years. Also that rows of Graves were removed from both the Lone Fir and St. Mary's Cemeteries when East Stark Street was Cut Through and Established: The bodies removed and reburied: in better locations. Many precedents have been established Similar to this Proposal: like Lincoln Park, Chicago, and others: and there should be no Good Reason why it should not be done. And East Morrison St. should be made a Good Wide 80 ft. Street. Portland Metropolitan Growth Demands It!

On this 35 ft. Strip needed; there are 92 Chinese, and 814 Other burials, or interments, Total 906; In the Chinese portion, they just recently removed and shipped to China 589, for re-interment on 'Home Soil' so that they can 'Arise on Resurrection Day, with Confucious, et cetera'; as is the Chinese Custom. Hence, there is ample room in the West Portion of Chinese Plat of Cemetery for the replacement of the Chinese; or they will perhaps remove those



and ship the bones to China, as is their Custom, on request. Also fully 100 ft. at East end of Present Chinese Plat, is practically vacant, and can be used. Of the 814 in the 35 ft. strip at South side of Cemetery needed for Roadway: there are about 500 unknown-unnamed; about 264 in single graves marked with legible Wood Markers; 35 with small Marble or Granite Slabs; and 15 with Larger Family Monuments. There are said to be 858 or thereabouts of Unsold Lots, left in the Cemetery, usable, that will never be sold by the County; Since they are only to Beautify and Maintain. These lots can be used for the reburials, from the 35 ft. Strip: Besides, this there is room for the 500 unknown - unnamed, in Main Cemetery just North of Row of Trees North of Chinese Plat unused and not Platted in Lots: There is room for fully Two-Rows or more, almost clear across Cemetery North and South at East Line of Cemetery 800 ft. in Length; Also room for Two to Four Hundred more in Northwest corner of Cemetery unused: Also other desirable Spaces unsold in other portions of Cemetery: Hence there is an abundance of Room for the proposed re-burials.

Let the Lot Owners in the 35 ft. Strip wanted for East Morrison Street choose - take their choice of these desirable unsold Lots or Spaces; and let the County, as authorized Agent of the State, move the Monuments to those Spaces, together with the careful removal and re-interment of the remains of the bodies.

If this is done, there will be plenty of room, ie. from four to six times as much room for removals and reburial as is needed to clear the 35 ft. Strip.

The 'Grave-Digger' now in the employ of the County at this Lone Fir Pioneer Memorial Park, has handled all burials and Removals in Lone Fir Cemetery for Twenty Years, and knows every foot of it; says, as an Estimate:

"That Four Men or less, will Move the Monuments and Remove and Rebury all of the 906 Bodies, in less than Sixty Days period, if they work at it continuously, and a time is chosen in the Spring or Winter when the ground is Moist and Soft, to enable comparatively easy digging."

Hence, it is not such a great task - after all. Lot Owners could and would be notified to come and pick or choose their Lots for reburials when the time comes. There being some 15 of Moderately Larger Monuments; and about 35 Smaller Marble or Granite Slabs on Single graves; outside of the Wooden Markers; but not large in any event.

To make the 80 ft. Wide East Morrison Street as proposed along Cemetery, it will be made up as follows: 30 ft. at South, present Dedicated Street. 15 ft. or little more average width of "P.E.P." Street Car R. of Way, to become part of Street; and the 35 ft. Strip asked of Legislature by Dedication and or Creation of a Public Highway for East Morrison Street along South edge of Lone Fir Cemetery Pioneer Memorial Park, as now being cared for and controlled by Multnomah County under Legislative Act of 1927.

It is Prayed that the 1929 Legislature of Oregon Grant the Establishment of a Public Highway on the South 35 ft. of Lone Fir Cemetery for Widening of said East Morrison Street, in the City of Portland, Oregon, in Multnomah County; and that the County Commissioners of Multnomah County be designated, Authorized and Empowered to Supervise and remove and reinter and reset the said Monuments, Markers, and bodies from said graves within said 35 ft. Strip, or contiguous as necessary, in order to clear said Highway; For and as the Authorized and delegated Agents of the State of Oregon.

Respectfully submitted,

East Side Commercial Club of Portland,

By *J. M. Lepper*  
Director District Improvements &  
Transportation & Chairman of Lone  
Fir Cemetery Committee.



THIRTY-FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - REGULAR SESSION

Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_ of Multnomah  
and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 1929.

A B I L L

For an act under the Police Powers of the State Appropriating the South Thirty-Five Feet of Lone Fir Cemetery (Pioneer Memorial Park) in the City of Portland; now under the care and maintenance of and by Multnomah County; for the use of, and hereby creating a Public Highway thereof and thereon, for the purpose of Widening East Morrison Street, the same to be known as East Morrison Street, in said Growing Metropolitan City of Portland; and hereby designating, authorizing and empowering the County Commissioners, ie. the County Court of Multnomah County, who now have the Permanent Care and Maintenance of said Lone Fir Cemetery, to Supervise and remove and reinter, the bodies; in better and more suitable locations, within said Cemetery, in spaces now vacant; and move and reset the Monuments, and Markers, and to remove the bodies from said graves within the said 35 ft. Strip, or contiguous as necessary, in order to clear said Highway; for and as the Authorized and Delegated Agents of the State of Oregon.

WHEREAS under Legislative Act, Chapter 428, of March 3, 1927, Multnomah County Commissioners have taken over the Care, Beautification, and Maintenance of Lone Fir Cemetery; within the corporate limits of the City of Portland, in Multnomah County, Oregon; as a "PIONEER MEMORIAL PARK" Permanently; and have made a Fine start and are doing a Splendid Work toward its Cleaning Up and Beautification; and

WHEREAS: There is need for a Widened East Morrison Street along the South edge of said Lone Fir Cemetery; to better the access and entrance conditions along the South side of this PIONEER MEMORIAL PARK, now almost inaccessible; East Morrison Street along Cemetery, now being only 30 ft. wide, and Paved only 20 ft. wide; which is too

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narrow for Parking and Passing of Fire Equipment, etc. in emergencies: And Whereas, the Lots, on South between Belmont and Morrison Streets are only 135 ft. in depth: with Residences facing both East Morrison and Belmont Streets, making the Residence Lots only 67.5 ft. deep; Which should not be shortened: And besides this there is a Jog of 35 ft. or more, in Street Car R. of Way, and East Morrison Street, to the South along this Cemetery, which should be straightened; in order to Better the General Conditions, along this Pioneer Memorial Park, and in the Fast Growing City of Portland: and

WHEREAS, there is an abundance of room, within said Cemetery, for the removal and reinterment of the bodies now buried within said 35 ft. Strip, in the vacant and unsold spaces, in fact in better locations, considering the crumbling and caving edge along South Side of Cemetery: Therefore:

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OREGON:

Section 1. That a Public Highway is hereby created along the South Thirty-Five Feet of Lone Fir Cemetery (Pioneer Memorial Park), in the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, ( now under the care and maintenance of and by Multnomah County); for the use of, and hereby creating and establishing a Public Highway thereof and thereon, for the purpose of Widening East Morrison Street, the same to be known as East Morrison Street, in said City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.

Section 2. That for the purpose of carrying into effect this Act; the County Commissioners of Multnomah County, ie., the County Court of Multnomah County, (who now have the Permanent Care and Maintenance of said Lone Fir Cemetery); under and by authority of Police Powers of the State of Oregon, are hereby designated, authorized and empowered, and directed, to Supervise and remove and reinter, the bodies, now buried within said 35 ft. Strip; on behalf of the State; to and in better and more suitable locations, within said Cemetery, in spaces now vacant; and to move and reset the Monuments, and Markers; and to remove the bodies from said graves within the said 35 ft. Strip, or contiguous as necessary, in order to clear said Highway; for and as the Authorized and Delegated Agents of the State of Oregon.



Section 3. That said County Court of Multnomah County, is further, hereby specially authorized to levy sufficient funds, from time to time, in its discretion, to properly grade and improve and pave the Roadway, for East Morrison Street, in that portion of Highway created and established by this Act; and or said County Court may appropriate and provide funds necessary for said Grading and Improvements, from County Road Funds; or from other unappropriated funds; of said County.

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