

Residents Win On I-95 Ramps

The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition, an organization of 23 community groups, has claimed victory in its fight to limit Delaware Expressway ramps in Society Hill.

The victory claim came yesterday from coalition attorney John Hunt after Jacob Kassab, state transportation secretary, announced plans to build only two ramps in the area.

The ramps, a northbound on-ramp and a southbound off-ramp, will connect with Delaware ave. and not with east-west streets as had been planned. The ramps will be built at the southern end of the covered portion of I-95, near South and Bainbridge sts. The cover will be in the Society Hill section.

Kassab said the plan, suggested earlier by the coalition, offered the best hope of getting the road built in time for the 1976 Bicentennial.

City Representative and Director of Commerce Harry R.

Belinger criticized the compromise. "It isn't a solution, but merely shifts Society Hill's problems into other communities," he said. "It remains to be seen whether these other areas will accept this."

Belinger said he believed the compromise plan would create traffic problems in other areas because it would force additional automobiles to use already existing ramps that weren't built to handle them.

Hunt said the agreement climaxed negotiations that started after the group filed a Federal court suit last July seeking a construction ban on environmental grounds.

PennDOT earlier had planned ramps at Lombard, South, Bainbridge and Kenilworth sts.

The Pennsport Civic Association, in whose area a ramp already has been built (at Moore st.), is not happy with the new plan, fearing it will put more traffic into the Moore st. area.

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