

# Avenue 58 stairway to be reconstructed

City Council last week took the first step in replacing a stairway which connects two sections of Ave. 58, but the final step, actual renovation, is still three years away.

The council on Sept. 3 appropriated \$2750 to acquire from a private developer an easement for the stairway, which climbs a steep slope between dead end portions of Ave. 58 near Benner and N. Figueroa Streets.

John Proud, secretary to the Board of Public Works, told Northeast Newspapers the city never owned an official easement for the stairway which dates back to when the land it crosses was owned by Union Pacific Railroad.

However, when use of the tracks was discontinued and the right-of-way sold, Proud said, it became necessary for the city to buy the stairway easement to protect it.

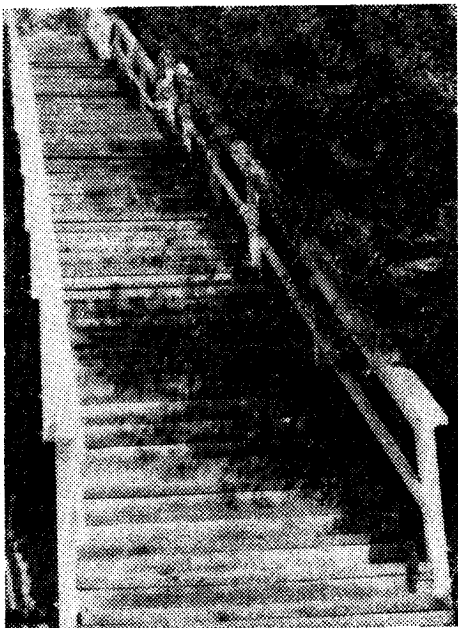
Asked why the city had not bought the 50-foot long by 10-foot wide parcel from Union Pacific before it was sold to the developer,

Proud indicated that the city was not aware until recently the land had changed hands.

Although renovation of the stairway is not scheduled to begin until late 1977 or early 1978, he said, the land was acquired now while it was relatively cheap.

A total of \$32,000 was budgeted for the stairway renovation, Proud said, meaning \$29,250 has yet to be spent for design, construction and other costs.

The current stairway, made entirely of wood, has fallen into disrepair, with some rotting railing and several loose floor boards.



**REPLACE STAIRWAY** — Reconstruction of this 50-foot wooden stairway which connects two sections of Avenue 58 is not planned until late 1977 or early 1978 although the City Council last week allotted a \$32,000 budget for the project. The council also appropriated \$2750 to purchase an easement from a private developer.