

Cedar-Vine Job Gets Go-Ahead

The Cedar-Vine street project, believe it or not, is on its way. The city council last night heard the last of two years' arguing over the two-block cut-through and, by the required 6-1 vote, ordered the project to proceed.

It will be at least 14 months, possibly more, before the street is built, but last night's council action was final and definitive.

The council agreed to pony up \$100,000 toward the \$550,000 project. That sum includes about \$12,000 which would be assessed against city-owned property—city hall and the library site—but not the levy against the city's parking lots. The lots will kick in another \$35,000 or so, as the assessment district now stands.

The \$100,000 is a compromise figure. When the project started through the legal mill two years ago, it was price-tagged at \$607,000, the entire sum to be raised by an assessment district embracing most of downtown. The district included a concentric series of "benefit zones," ranging from 100 to 10 per cent and to be taxed accordingly.

Protests stalled the hearings in September, 1964, when it was apparent the required 6-1 council majority wasn't there, and the hearings were continued again and again while more committees thrashed over new financing proposals.

The last committee, which reported in April, got the cost estimate down to \$544,000 via verbal agreements with property owners whose sites would be needed for the street. The committee proposed the city put up \$250,000 toward the street and

the district pay \$303,000, or half the original cost estimate.

City manager David Koester said that kind of money is available only if the city delays other major street projects such as Ocean street improvement. The council agreed to put up city-wide funds, but limited the amount to \$100,000.

Public works director Bill Fieberling said the money will be in next year's budget, which means it isn't available until July, 1967. But buildings along the route will not be vacated until then in any case. The Sentinel will be moved into its new building before then, but the county annex, which is to be bought, may still be in use. Completion of the new courthouse, and its quarters for county departments, is about a year away.

The major opposition to the project last night came in a letter from attorney Frank Murphy, one of the opposition leaders two years ago. Murphy said the proceeding was illegal because it was terminated in 1964, and indicated litigation would be started against the project.

The sole council vote against the project came from Richard Hackbarth. Hackbarth said he favored the project, but could not agree to the use of city funds.

WESTERN ALLIANCE REORGANIZATION ASKED

London (AP). — Prime Minister Harold Wilson and Chancellor Ludwig Erhard of West Germany called today for a reorganization of the Western Alliance to "improve the effectiveness of the integrated NATO defense system."