

## Set Willow Road Paving Through Hillcrest Slough

The stretch of Willow Road through the Hillcrest slough in Prospect Heights will be paved in about two weeks, according to Tom McHugh, a Cook County Highway Department official.

The paving is part of a larger project involving similar work on some 24 miles of road in various parts of the county. Included will be widening and paving of the one-half mile section of Willow Road between Elmhurst and Wheeling roads near where the slough is located.

The road is to be widened to a 26-foot base and paving will provide for two 12 foot wide lanes.

"The entire project," McHugh said, "is to improve the roads involved to meet county standards."

HOWEVER, Bob Braude a member of the "Save the Slough Committee," a group of citizens organized to preserve the Hillcrest wetland areas said the project could deal a serious blow to the organization's efforts.

Removal of the road across the slough

has been proposed by the group as a possible solution to saving the environmentally troubled area.

Without the road, members contend, a natural flow between the polluted north half and the relatively clean south half would be restored and the area would cleanse itself within a few years.

"It looks as though the road has been paved for good and it doesn't seem like it will ever be taken out," Braude said.

He added that the committee has also been pushing for replacement of the conduit pipe under the road through which water flows from the north to south half.

"NOT NEARLY enough water flows through the pipe for any cleansing action to take place and we wanted it replaced," he continued. "But once the road is paved, the conduit will be extremely hard to take out."

Braude said he and fellow committee member Dolores Haugh had been in touch with county highway officials who told them the road would be paved only

in spots temporarily to fill the holes in it.

"They didn't tell us that it was going to be paved two lanes wide though," he

said, adding the g

meet soon to discuss on their group's effort



Willow Rd... and the story repeats itself. 1972

Clipped By:



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