Buerkle ‘Extremely Opposed’ to Median Curb Cut Proposals

Park and Recreation director, Richard Buerkle, told the Park Board Thursday that he was ‘extremely opposed’ to cuts being made into the medians on streets such as North Cascade Avenue.

The city’s Traffic Engineering Department is proposing to do just that and Buerkle objected to the fact that they “did not consult with the park and recreation department at tall.”

It was accidentally discovered Wednesday that plans to make left turn lane cuts into five or six of the park-attended medians were on the drawing board and ready to be implemented.

Buerkle, in expressing strong feelings on the matter, said that he wished the park advisory board to go on record as opposed to such actions and that they further request that no such alterations be made in the future without ‘specific park approval.”

He predicted that within the next century, all the work of beautifying the city that has gone on in the past century would be obliterated if such small items ‘got the foot in the door” for larger ones.

Oliver Howells, member of the park board, said that Gen. William J. Palmer donated these to the city to be kept as parkways and that they should be retained.

Buerkle added, in his appeal to the rest of the board:

“Where do the aesthetic values end and the automobile take over?”

The board agreed that Buerkle’s suggestion was proper action to take.