



Rural residents of O'Fallon and other cities organized in their opposition to the "Gateway Connector," a proposed limited-access highway which would run a loop around the Metro East from Troy to Columbia. O'Fallon's Richard Ellerbrake, arguing current growth trends do not warrant such a highway, stood in the middle of the uncongested Troy-Scott Road the connector would replace.

July 22 - Residents who live off the new Gateway Connector fight to put an end to the new highway.

- O'Fallon alderman support stricter city occupancy permit rules to help schools find and remove students who don't live in districts.

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**Land grab in action**

THE ILLINOIS 158 con — that is what it is and nothing less. This is a bunch of land developers pushing for more land to make more money. Behind the doors, politicians have their hands out and I believe they are getting filled.

Anyone expects a certain amount of development and expansion. But this is nothing but a land-grab. You are looking at the next St. Louis County — door-to-door people and stoplights at every block. Yes, it will be just like living in the country (until we get that new shopping center done and that Wal-Mart Supercenter). And of course we have to have low-income housing. Nothing like a high crime rate so we can raise your taxes and hire more police.

And, of course, that little town with a population of 3,900 that you once called home now has 30,000 people. The mayor now gets \$60,000 a year and a nice retirement package, and your tax rate had to go up to pay for it. But it's just like living in the country.

Don't believe me, just ask that housing developer who just left that closed-door meeting. He went in with two briefcases and came out with one.

**Robert V. Brown**  
*Cahokia*