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Differing Sides Debate Inner Loop Extension



It was a chance for two men to present their sides on the extension of the Highway 3132 Inner Loop

The Winning Tuesday Business Networking Group held a forum at Superior Steakhouse Tuesday evening. Nearly a hundred people turned out for the event.

Presenting their positions were neighborhood developer Tim Larkin of Bossier City, who is building Esplanade just south of where the Inner Loop dead-ends at Flourney-Lucas Road, and Jim Elrod, president of Willis-Knighton Health System, which has built a retirement center on Flourney-Lucas.

A proposed street to access Larkin's neighborhood from Flourney-Lucas would go in the path of the proposed extension of the Inner Loop.

Elrod and people who live along Flourney-Lucas Road want the Inner Loop extended so that big truck traffic headed to Louisiana Highway 1 doesn't keep going down Flourney-Lucas Road. Elrod has gone to court over the issue.

Forum organizer Pat Booras said that while both men don't see eye to eye, in the end they have the same goals.

"Both men they have differing views, but they pretty much want the same result in the fact that a road needs to be built," Booras said.

Meantime feasibility and environmental studies will continue on three proposed routes, as area governments look to finish off the extension of 3132.