3-6-09 S-T

Will we ever learn?

I read with sadness your editorial about Heritage Plaza, and I couldn't help but wonder: When will our officials ever learn?

I loved Heritage Park when it opened: the wonderful fountains, the entrance up from the bike path and the beautiful view of the river.

I still have my yellowed copy of the *Star-Telegram's* newspaper's explanation of the monument, and frequently took visitors from out of town to see this little jewel of a park.

Alas, the park is fenced off, left to rot.

The Fort Worth Mercado stands like a semi-dormant Taj Mahal on North Main Street, more fetching than any building around, yet nowhere near the success that had been hoped for when the project started.

And don't forget the half-finished hulk of the Tarrant County College's edifice complex.

And now our wise city officials are destroying flourishing businesses north of downtown, interrupting the flow of the West Fork of the Trinity River to build another monument to government spending, the Trinity Vision.

In this "thriving" economy, does anyone really expect anything to come of this multimillion-dollar monument to excess?

When the city has reopened Heritage Park, when someone wants to purchase and complete the downtown eyesore and the Mercado is fully rented and booming, it might be intelligent to take a look at the flood-control plan presented by local merchants and architects that represents one-tenth the cost of this rash boondoggle.

— Barbara Rubin,
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