Oakland County commissioners will keep closer tabs on the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority as 8EMTA nears its \$600 million mass transit decision.

Michigan Transportation Authority as SEMTA nears is \$800 million mass transit decision.

Henry M. Hogan Jr., newly elected SEMTA board member, will join two pher county representatives in a neeting Wednesday morning with the county board's general government committee.

General government chairman Rob-ort Page (R-Birmingham) said in transks the beginning of a sustained county board have input into SEMTA decisions. Oakland County commissioners appoint persons to sev-eral single-purpose boards—such as the county board of the properties of certain properties of the county board of commissioners under neets of the self-properties of properties of the properties of the county board of commissioners under a new state law that takes away much appointment power from the Southeast Michigan Council of Govern-ments.

ments.
A co-publisher of the Observer & Eccentric newspapers, Hogan joins banker Joseph P. Bianco Jr. and civic activist Julie Evans on the SEMTA doard, which was expanded to 15



HENRY M. HOGAN JR. Joins SEMTA board

members by the new law. All three are from the Birmingham-Bloomfield

are from the Birmingham-Bloomfield area.
Page himself was interested in the SEMTA appointment, contending having a county commissioner on SEMTA would give Oskiand "a pipeline." Macomb County is doing that, he said But the disadvantage is the intense political pressures such a person oweld be under said Page He withdrew his name from consideration at the Beauthlean causes prior to

the Republican caucus prior to Thursday's full board meeting and nominated Hogan.

WHILE MEETINGS of the SEMTA delegation with a county commissioners committee are new in Oakland County, they are common elsewhere. Detroiters on the SEMTA board meet regularly with Mayor Coleman Young.

SEMTA, meanwhile, is in the closing weeks of its lengthy alternatives analysis, a computer-aided study of which of 14 combinations of rolling stock will provide the best and cheapest public transit system for the seven-county region.

est public transit system for the seven-cumty region. The prize is a promised \$600 million grant from the federal Urban Mass Transit Administration. Argument has raged over whether SEMTA should build an all-Detroit subway system, as advocated by Mayor Young, a light rail system, as advocated by many in Cakland County, or an expanded bus system.

COUNTY BOARD Democrats, out-numbered 15-12, put up token opposi-tion with R.J. Alexander, retired head of the public works department. When it was apparent Hogan had he votes, however, Commissioner Af-exander Perindf (D-Southfield) asked for a unanimous ballot for Hogan, and the record book will show he won 27-8

Hogan told commissioners SEMTA is "a metropolitan board seeking a metropolitan plan. I will be an Oak-land County advocate for a free flow of traffic and people throughout the metropolitan area." Page said Hogan met "the essential requirements for a SEMTA member—extensive background in the business world and past gov-ramental experience, preferably in local government."

nience, preferably in local government."

A lawyer, Hogan served four years as a Bloomfeid Township trustee and four years in the State House of Representatives. In 1961, he bought an interest in the Birmingham Eccentric, After a 1974 merger with Observer Newspapers Inc., he became president and chief executive officer of Suburban Communications Corp. a company that publishes 26 suburban weekly and twice-weekly newspapers in Michigan and Ohio Pogan was a founder of Suburban Newspapers of America, the 1974 president of the Michigan Press Association, a director of the National Newspaper Association, the 1964 on the Standing young man of the Birmingham Jaycees and one of five outstanding young man of the Birmingham Jaycees.

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By TIM RICHARD

Every year school disscricts, townships and the
county government go
through the game of askting the Tax Allocation
Board for big property
tax increases

just about what they got the year before Now the Oakland Coun-ty Board of Commission-ers is seeking an elec-tion at which voters could approve freezing all units' allocations. A resolution seking the al-

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such proceedings got 27-0 approval Thursday from the county board. If finally approved, county government would get he same 5.6 mills it has been getting for several years (plus 0.25 for the Huron-Clin-ton Metropolitan Author-



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ity); townships would get 14 mills; and Oak-land Intermediate School District 0 21 mills School districts would

School districts would get varying amounts, depending on whether they were wholly in cities (more) or in townships (test). These districts would get 8:13 millist. Avandale, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Farmington, Troy, Walled Lake and West Bloomfield. Two would get 9:53 Rochester and Southfield

IRONICALLY, while seeking to eliminate what citizen observer John King of Bloomfield Hills branded "a charade" of asking more money than it really needs, the board of commissioners wated 17.10 to

money than it really meeds, the board of commissioners voted 17-10 as \$ 54 mills from the allocation board. The 1977 county budget actually requires only 26 mills. County Executive Dan el T Murphy, who served on the allocation board from 198-274, defended the request, charging that "those school budgets are atroctous" and contending the county had to ask more in self defense. Commissioner Henry Hoot (R-Tray) said. "I am oppose to asking for more than we are really expecting." Commissioner Park Laid. "I don't think shool budgets are atroctous. We the county, spend too much. We should give it to the schools, which need it."

schooks, which need it "
VOTING FOR the high millage request were these area commissioners: Paul Kasper (R-Bloomfield Hills), Ghorn (R-Farmington Hills), John McDonald (R-Farmington, Lillian Moffitt (H-Bloomfield), Joseph Montante (R-Orchard Lake), Ralph Movley (R-Birmingtam), Alex Perinoff (D-Southfield) and pher Peterson (R-Bochifeld) and pher pe

Opposed were area commissioners Hoot and Larry Pernick (D-South-field).

Michigan's con-stitution limits property taxes to 15 mills (\$15 per \$1,000 of state equal-ized valuation.



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