

State group to study Northwestern

By JUDITH BERNE
A study of where motorists traveling Northwestern Highway are going and where they've been has been requested by the State Highway Commission.

The commission last week asked John Woodford, director of the State Highway Department, for the origin and destination study as well as background data on:

- Twelve Mile and Northwestern intersection.
- Fourteen Mile and Orchard Lake roads intersection with Northwestern.
- Possible improvements to Orchard Lake Road and Maple, west of Orchard Lake Road.

COMMISSIONER WESTON VIVIAN proposed the study that he believes is necessary "regardless of what decision we make" on the hot issue of whether to extend Northwestern.

Jim Grasman, highway department spokesman, said although no formal vote was taken, "The commission has asked us to look into this and we'll do it."

Sheila Outley, representing a coalition of organizations working against the proposed 9.3-mile Northwestern extension, attended the commission meeting and publicly supported Vivian's requests.

She said members of the coalition have always talked about an origin-

destination study.

She said it was her understanding that Vivian's other proposals would bring forth ideas for a permanent solution to traffic at the Northwestern-Twelve Mile bottleneck and "a picture of what the Fourteen Mile-Orchard Lake Road area would look like if we didn't extend Northwestern."

He also wanted to know what could be done to bring Orchard Lake and West Maple up to par, Mrs. Outley said.

GRASMAN REPORTED Vivian specifically asked whether Orchard Lake could become a state trunkline instead of a county road.

"This would make it eligible for upgrading by the state," Grasman said.

This concept was also part of Oakland County Executive Daniel Murphy's plan for a lakes area parkway


to take the place of M-275, cancelled by the highway commission earlier this year.

Murphy's plan does not mention extending Northwestern. A spokesman from his office recently said, "The plan assumes Northwestern will be extended but it stands alone."

Northwestern, which dead-ends at Orchard Lake Road, was scheduled to link up with M-275. When its terminus was cancelled, the state highway department recommended "cancelling all work" on the Northwestern extension.

The highway commission is still deciding that question. A recent report said three commissioners, including Vivian, were considering voting to kill the extension.

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Jonathon Landsman of Farmington was one of the Grand Valley State students who joined more than 250 students from Michigan high schools and colleges to participate in the fifth annual Model United Nations at Grand Valley recently.

Landsman was chairman of the economic and social committee. As chairman, he was responsible for procedure and that all delegates were given adequate time to debate committee issues.

C'ville offers summer clinic

Clarenceville School District will offer an instructional gymnastic program this summer.

Classes will be conducted by Ken Avis, Clarenceville's boys' gymnastics coach. More specific information may be obtained by contacting Chuck Thompson, program director, at 474-3737.

Classes in gymnastics will be available to persons six years and older in tumbling—beginning, advanced beginning, intermediate and advanced—apparatus and trampolines.

The first session begins June 20, the second July 5 and the third July 18. Registration will be held June 11 and 18 from 9 a.m. until noon in the Clarenceville gym lobby.

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5	2,000	41.66	9.15	60	2,499.60	499.60
5	FHA 2,000	44.48	12.00	60	2,668.80	668.80
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