

Tree Preservation Efforts Are Increased

The days of blithely bulldozing trees and shrubs out of the way to make room for roads are long gone.

With the help of a special Environmental Concerns Coordinator added to the staff in October, 1976, the Oakland County Road Commission is doing two basic things to preserve trees, said William Fognini, Director of Transportation Planning & Environmental Concerns.

• Whenever possible, road-building designs are drawn to avoid tree and shrub removal.

• When the trees and shrubs just have to be moved, some will be transplanted to new locations.

No data has yet been compiled to demonstrate the number of trees left in place because of environmental concerns, however, two projects involving several trees each are underway for transplanting from road project areas:

• Fourteen trees removed during widening of Telegraph Road by the

State Highway Department found new homes at the Road Commission's administrative building at 13 Mile and Lahser in Beverly Hills. The trees helped replace others that had died or were injured or diseased.

• The Oakland County Road Commission's Duck Lake Road Garage in Milford Township will get extensive new landscape with the help of trees and shrubs being removed from both county and state road projects within a 12 to 15 mile radius.

The site plan for landscaping the garage site just north of Wixom and Sleeth Roads was recently accepted with compliments by the Milford Township Planning Commission.

Milford Township officials originally requested improvements to the site, but were "surprised" when the Oakland County Road Commission came out with specific plans. They were even more favorably impressed when they learned that trees and shrubs from the roadside would be used.

What Do You Think: About Transit; Roads; Priorities

The Board of Oakland County Road Commissioners would like your help with several issues being considered now.

You can have an impact by checking your answers to the questions presented below. You needn't sign the questionnaire.

QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

- I live in (indicate city, village or township).
- I work in (indicate city, village or township).
- I shop mostly in (indicate city, village or township).
- There are people in my household.
- There are cars in my household.

(Please Check One response for each statement)

SECTION II. MASS TRANSIT:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. Both SEMTA subway and Tri-County transit plans have been explained adequately to the public.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The Tri-County Plan is preferable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Suburban taxpayers should help finance a subway system for Detroit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. If a suburban community helps pay for a transit system, it should receive its fair share of the service.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Frequently	Occasionally	Seldom	Never	Can't Tell
5. If the SEMTA subway and bus services were operating, I would use it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. If the Tri-County Transit Plan services were operating, I would use it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION III. STATE HIGHWAYS:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. Oakland County roads are adequate without state-built major arterials such as M-275, Northwestern Highway, and a wider M-59.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. If the state does not build these major arterials should they be built by the county and/or local units of government.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The State's decision not to build M-275 was correct.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The extension of Northwestern Highway should be built as planned.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The widening of M-59 west of Pontiac is long overdue.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION IV. COUNTY ROADS:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1. Progress in county road construction is adequate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. County road maintenance is adequate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Big Beaver Road (16 Mile Road) should be widened to a divided multilaned arterial from Coolidge Road east to Dequindre (Macomb County).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Federal & State Sources	County General Funds	City and Township Funds	Additional Property Tax	Special Tax
4. If existing road funds are not adequate for needed improvements, additional funds should be sought from:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. If I could vote on a 5 year millage for a specific countywide road improvement program then the tax per \$1,000 property valuation should be increased:	\$ 4.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.00	No Increase
6. If I could vote on a specific 5 year road improvement program within my municipality the tax per \$1,000 property valuation should be increased:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION V: GENERAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES:

1. In terms of spending tax money on transportation in the future, I think the priorities of Federal, State, County and local governments should be as follows:

(Place the number 1 in front of the area that should be the highest priority, the number 2 in front of the second highest priority, and so on.)

Build or complete the proposed freeways and Interstates (eg. M-275, Northwestern, and I-996).

Build more freeways and Interstates.

Improve existing roads through widening and straightening programs.

Improve existing roads through surfacing, resurfacing, and intersection improvements.

Improve transit service through addition of rail transit service and bus services to the rail stations and other areas.

Extend and improve bus service to all populated areas.

Introduce and promote other forms of transit such as Dial-A-Ride, Carpools, Vanpools, etc.

OTHER (please explain)