

# Road commission OKs building program

The board of Oakland County Road Commissioners has adopted an \$11.8 million construction program for 1978.

The construction program was approved as presented at a public hearing in October, including \$3.2 million for widening Orchard Lake Road to five lanes between 12 and 15 Mile Roads. Three projects proposed during the public hearing were added to the construction program.

The additional projects will cost \$170,000, half of which will be paid by communities in which the projects are located. That portion—\$85,000—will be reflected in the budget and construction program as additional income and additional costs.

The road commission's \$85,000 share of these projects will not change income and expense figures. Rather, the portion budgeted to the road commission's 10 per cent share of anticipated special assessment construction projects will be reduced from \$300,000 to \$215,000, said Commission Chairman John R. Gnan Jr.

**PROJECTS ADDED** by requests of participants at the public hearing are:

- Reconstruction to two-lane pavement of Nelsky Road between Mace and Andersonville roads in Waterford Township. Total cost: \$130,000.

- Filling two gaps on Orchard Lake Road south of 14 Mile Road in Farmington Hills. Total cost: \$5,000.

- Filling three gaps in 12 Mile Road from Middle Belt Road west for one-quarter mile in Farmington Hills. Total cost: \$15,000.

A total of 25 projects were proposed at the public hearing and evaluated by

the road commission staff. "Of those, two were completed in 1977 as maintenance items and 13 are being considered for inclusion in 1979 or 1980 construction programs," he said.

**FEATURES** of the 1978 construction program include:

- Smoother surfaces on more than 35.5 miles of county roads with new pavement overlays or paving of gravel surfaces.

- Freer-flowing intersections at 22 locations because of widenings, flarings or extension of approach lanes.

- More than 1,200 miles will be safer to travel because of improved marking and signing.

Among the local projects included in the 1978 construction program were:

- The reconstruction of 10 Mile Road in Southfield from Telegraph Road to Northwestern Highway to five lanes.

- The reconstruction of Maple Road in Troy from John R to Dequindre to five lanes.

- The paving with bituminous overlay of Brewster Road in Avon Township from Walton Road to Tienken Road.

- The paving with bituminous overlay of Squirrel Road in Bloomfield Township from Lakecrest Road to Wattle Road.

- The paving with bituminous overlay of a small stretch of Wattle Road in Bloomfield Township from Kensington Road to Charming Cross.

- The construction of two-lane pavement on Homero Road from Rochester Road to Kline Road.

Also scheduled for bituminous overlays were:

- Silver Bell Road in Oakland Township from Korn Road to Adams Road.
- Dequindre Road in Troy from Long Lake Road to South Boulevard.

- Eight miles of Orion Road in Avon, Oakland and Orion townships from the Orion Village limits to Rochester Road.

The 1978 construction program also slated a number of intersection and safety improvements, including:

- Widening of all four legs of the intersection of South Boulevard and Livemont in Troy.

- Flaring of 12 Mile Road at the intersection of 12 Mile and Drake Roads in Farmington Hills.

- Widening of all four legs of the intersection of Middle Belt and Walnut

Lake Roads in West Bloomfield Township.

- Widening the south leg of the Lahser Road-Long Lake Road intersection in Bloomfield Hills.
- Widening all four legs of the Crooks Road-Square Lake Road intersection in Troy.

- Widening all four legs of the intersection of Farmington and 14 Mile roads in Farmington Hills.
- Extending the southbound passing lane of Middle Belt Road just north of East Junior High School in Farmington Hills.

- Adding a southbound passing lane to Middle Belt Road just north of 10 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

Total county contribution remained stable.

## Dick Gregory speaks at EMU

Comedian and human rights advocate Dick Gregory will visit Eastern Michigan University Jan. 13 to highlight a day of activities scheduled for "Humanitarian Day."

Sponsored by the EMU Student Government and the Office of Minority Affairs, Humanitarian Day is being held in memory of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King. King was born on Jan. 15, 1929.

Also planned are a memorial service, a speech by Fr. William T. Cunningham of Focus Hope, the opening of several classes to the public and a humanitarian dinner and ball.

Gregory will speak at 11 a.m. in Pease Auditorium. Born in the black ghetto of St. Louis, Gregory rose to

quick fame as a professional comedian, but gave up his career to spend more time as a self-proclaimed "freelance humanitarian."

Humanitarian Day activities begin at 8 a.m. with a memorial service (chapel to be announced). Gregory will speak at 11 a.m. and Fr. Cunningham will speak at 2 p.m. in Pease Auditorium.

The dinner will be held at 6 p.m. in McKenny Union; the ball will follow at 8 p.m. in the union. Admission to the dinner is \$8; admission for the ball is \$2.50.

For further information, call the office of minority affairs at (313) 467-0267 or the student government office at (313) 467-1470.

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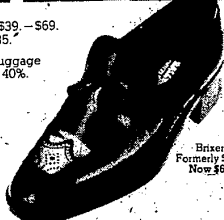
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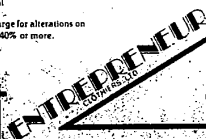
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