Quit SEMTA?

County may want study of implications first

Oakland County will have to give some answers before it can ask any questions about quitting SEMPA.
County officials' two big questions about dropping out of the seven-county Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority are what it will cost to go it alone, and who pays for it if they do.
But the answer is, "nobody knows," until the county decides what sort of one-county transit system it wants.

A BOARD of commissioners sub-committee debated Monday whether to order a study of the effects of quitting SEMTA. The committee finally decid-ed to first read a five-month, 1979 study on the same issue — ordered for largely the same reasons — before making up its mind on the latest pul-lout drive.

out drive. The full board of commissioners split along party lines two weeks ago in ap-proving a resolution to drop out of SEMTA if any "subway vestige" re-mains in the regional group's final

transportation plan. The board also or-dered a report on what it would cost to run an Oakland-only transit system, and whether federal and state aid could be used to subsidize a one-county sys-

But Andrew Dudash, an associate planner in county Executive Daniel Murphy's office, told the board that unit it makes "major and basic policy decisions . . . doing a study and coming up with the answers can't really be done."

done."

Dudash added it's "highly questionable" that an Oakland-only system could be set up at all in 1981.

THE QUESTIONS involved in split-ting from SEMTA are varied:

What happens to SEMTA's \$600
million in pending federal aid? It's un-clear whether Oakland County would
be in line for a slice of the pie.

What happens to Oakland County
residents who commute to jobs down-town? If Oakland County creates its
own transit authority, it can't operate
in another authority's area and
wouldn't be legally able to get riders to

Among questions raised by Oakland's possible withdrawal from SEMTA are: What happens to SEMTA's \$600 million in pending federal aid? What happens to Oakland County residents who commute to jobs downtown? How much federal aid would the county get?

Detroit. The county could contract with SEMTA to provide services, but what SEMTA would charge for the services and even whether it would agree to roude them – are uncertain.

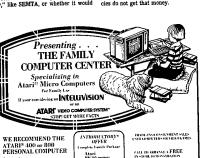
I Oakland County withdraws, it loss all its seats on the SEMTA governing board and won't have anything to say about how the much larger SEMTA system would develop in fu-

SEMTA system would develop in In-ture years.

• There's also the seemingly unim-portant issue of whether a one-county system could be set up as an "authori-ty," like SEMTA, or whether it would

have to settle for being an "agency." Authorities get state money from spe-cial gas taxes and license fees. Agen-cies do not get that money.

• How much federal transit aid would the county get?
• There's also the seemingly unim-portant issue of whether a one-county system should be set up as an "authori-ty," like SEMTA, or whether it should have to settle for being an "agency." Authorities get state money from spe-cial gas taxes and license fees. Agen-cies do not get that money.



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Tax workshop in B'ham

Tax advice for persons who have recently opened a small business is available from the Internal Reve-nue Service at a July 21 workshop in Eliminates.

nue Service at a July 21 worksbop in Birnaingham. The six-hour session includes dis-cussions on federal income tax with-holding requirments, other federal employment taxes, proper record-keeping, filing requirments for fear business tax returns and fea-tures of the IRS assistance program available to small business persons. The worksbop, will be from 9 a.m.

to 3 p.m. in room 212 at the Bir-mingham Center for Continuing Ed-ucation, 746 Purdy. To register, call toll free 1-800-462-0830, ext. 3674 and ask for Helen Madro, tax educa-tion coordinator.

toll free Foundardson, exc. our and ask for Helen Madro, tax education coordinator. Workshops for small business owners are conducted by the IRS as part of its year-round program of assistance for small business tarplemented by other services including tax counseling and free publications covering tax-related topics.





July Bakery treats

Specials for July...the strawberry month Strawberry Jelly Roll, reg. 2.95, special 2.35. As dainty a dish as Casey's strawberry blande Strawberry Angel Food Cake, July 8 to 11.

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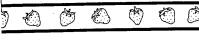
pie are square but ours are round and beautiful as the flag on the 4th of July. \$4

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