Private buses, van pools help ease SEMTA pinch

It's standing from only on some busing for communities displaced by pub-lik frainsit cutberch: But Southeastern Michigan Trans-partation Authority (SPATA) hopes to an annual private

pertation Authority (SEPATA) hopes to reduce crowding soon through private bases and yan poots.

"It's something we're very please with a scoperative venture between the private and public transit to benefit the riders," and Lori Lysett, SEMTA's manager of schedules.

IN COOPERATION with Michigan Trailways and the Southeast Michigan Conneil of Governments (SEMCOG) Ride State Program, SEATA is working out private but and van transportation for some riders it no longer serves. To offset a \$16 million deflett, SEMTA. Oct. 17 eliminated its commeter rail and reduced buses and routes. Former rail commeters will be offered inxury coach service from the train stations by Michigan Trailways, which will run two buses each way which will run two buses each way

trom Pontiae to Detroit.

SEMCOG has added six or seven Michivans to its former 68 and expects to form another 10 to 118. In the next month, Most of the new riders; node. Park and Ride buses from parting lots in the subarba.

SEMTA plans schedule "refinements" Nov. 14 to 1686 the crunch, which resulted in smally full buses carrying 18-20 standees. In rare cases, buses have 30 more, people, EERNTA, buses average 44 passengers, but they can legally earry 70.

"We expect to make another schedule adjustment to even out the loads," Lyacit said.
"We name the new town out the loads,"

Lysett said.

"We can't change routes or add buses, but we can make some adjustments."

AFFECTED MOST by the extensive cuthacks are bases carrying passengers to and from work at peak hours — 7.30.
8.30 am and 6-6 p.m.
Almost all commater runs have been affected, but the most crowded are male routes like Ford in western Wayne, Van Dyke and Woodward,

SEMCOG has added six or seven MichiVans to its former 65 and expects to form another 10 to 15 in the next month. Most of the new riders rode Park and Ride buses from parking lots in the suburbs.

which is commuters, alternative to the

which is commuters' alternative to the train.

Also packed are reduced-run Park and Rides 519 (Plymouth) and 820 (Farmington), which picked up passen-gers stranded by the eliminated 515 Park and Ride.

Shortway Lines is exploring offering service in the communities of Farmington and Plymouth.

PEOPLE WHO depend on amail bus service are now finding that they have to call farther ahead for reservations. If they wait until the day before — as

they used to — the vehicle may already be full.

While legally buses can carry many more passengers than did before, Lysett admitted some rides are now

Lyset's admitted some rides are now "very cory."

The cory." a lot of people standing. We have that, "explained the manager of achedules for SEMTA, which now gets 1,800 miles a day instead of its previous 1,200 miles and the cory of the previous 1,200 miles with our monocraftle. They realize, with our monocraftle. They realize, with our monocraftle. They realize, we just didn't have much choice."

miliar task of getting passengers to stand behind the white line bear the front door.

TRAIN RIDERS who have switched by Woodward buses or private trans-ortation will be offered private bus suspentation Nov.7.

Michigan Traliraya, a Cilo-honed campany effering two Posting-Destroit trips daily, will expand to offer a "premium" service from the train sta-tons in Pontitae, Bloomfield, Charing Cross and Birmingham.

tress and Hirmingham.

The big red buses with the motto "Go
Big Red" will stop at the New Center,
three times in the downtown central
business district and Renaissance Cen-

Cost of the service will be \$1 each way from Postlac and Bloomfield and \$2.50 from Charing Cross and Birming-ham. There are 10-trip and monthly

Riders are asked to call in reserva-

Hose (1%-028) in Detroit or 835-822 in Posting the first couple of weeks.

"We'll excited about in" said Exu-Facing, seatists to the president of Michigan Tatheyers.

"We'll active to the president of Michigan Tatheyers.

"We iship is will be a premium pervice for committers."

OOKMUTHERS ALSO are being being to being being to be foreing an annually offer door-to-door serves.

severa and meanly offer door-to-door services. "I be driver gets use of a new vehicle and driver gets use of a new vehicle and lefts free batte personner." I be driver gets use of a new vehicle and lefts free batter to driver a driver and the personner. I be described with longities in the part two gets with longities in the part two gets with longities in the part two (943-RIDE) calls — up to 100 a day—are from former Park and Ride commuters.

"We're delighted. We're willing to help whatever way we can," salid Wigent, who encourages SEMTA me where it's available because of the greater flexibility of public transporta-tion.

OCC board backs Mastin in recall

Trustees of Oakland Community College have given state Sen. Philip O. Mastin, target of a Nov. 22 recall election, their "full and unreserved support" – by a 5-2 vote.

Trustees Edward Pappas of Farmington Hills and David Preston of Birmington Hills and David Preston of Birmington Hills and David preston ellipten board should not take a stand on a political issue, though they were sympathetic to the Pontiac Democrat. They opposed the resolution.

But vice chairwoman Sandra Ritter of Waterford countered, "Every time we sak for a state ald increase, we're in politics. Every time we sak for a piece of legislation, we're in politics.

"Recall is for people who committed crimes," she said.

MASTIN IS the first of two state senators to face a recall election be-cause of his vote in favor of increasing the state personal income tax from 4.6 to 8.35 percent. Sen. David Serotkin, D. Mt. Clemens, faces the voters Nov. 29.

in Livingston County.

The M-59 project calls for widening the two-lane highway to a four-lane boulevard from just west of US-23, east to newly reconstructed M-59 near Tipsico Lake Road in Hartland Township.

sice Lake Road in Hartland Township. It includes construction of a payed bi-cycle path on each side of the highway. When completed, the entire stretch of M-59 from US-25 to Pontiac will have been wideoed to either four or five lanes. The improvement will enable traffic to move more easily and safely than it did on the former two-lane highway, which has been n traffic bottleneck for years.

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Bids taken on highways

Michigan Department of Transporta-tion has taken bids on two projects which will affect Oakland County driv-

Still to be announced is the winner of the bid on reconstruction of the inter-change at 1-75 and Big Beaver, which will have four directional loop ramp to accommodate increased traffic gento accommodate increased traine gen-erated by commercial development in the Troy area. The project is expected to be completed in June 1985.

Thompson-McCully Co. of Belleville was low bidder at \$4,589,163 on a project to reconstruct 3.3 miles of M.59

The resolution supporting Mastin was introduced near the end of a three-hour meeting Thursday by Trustee Earl Anderson of Madison Helights.

Describing himself as a "staumch Denorat," Anderson sald, "If we take it on ourselves to start recalls on elected officers because they vote one way or another on a bill, then we might as well not have elected officers. To me it's a shanno we use recall."

Anderson said, he would feel the same way if a Republican legislator were invivaled. He recollected that OCC and all other public colleges had to cut bodgets repeatedly during the recession and that the income tax increase produced the first increase in educa-

ston and that the income tax increase produced the first increase in educational funding in several years. Besides Anderson and Ritter, the pro-Mastin resolution received the votes of chairwoman Suzume Reynolds of West Bloomfield and trustees David Hackett of Rochester and Margaret MacTavish of Birmingham.

"THIS BOARD should take positions

on policies. It should not take positions on candidates," said Presson, a Bloomfield Hills attorney attending his first OCC meeting since being appointed Sept. 29 to fill a vacancy.

"I hope Mr. Mastin is not recalled," Preston added.

Pappas, also an attorney, said it was "not the appropriate business of this college to get into politics," pointing out the recall movement compiled with state law to get the Mastin question on the ballot.

Pappas, too, expressed personal

the ballot.

Pappas, too, expressed personal sympathy for Mastin.

The resolution opposes the recall "attitude" of punishing a legislator for a single vote, but it also warmly endorsed Mastin's overall legislative

dorsot Mastin's overall legislative record.

It credited Mastin with easting "a vote favorable to schools on 25 of the 25 critical school Issues."

Mastin was elected to a four-year term in the Senate last year after serving three terms in the flower of Representatives in the early 1970s.



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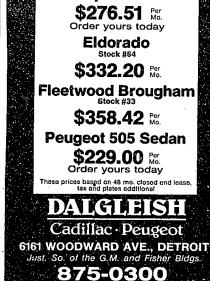
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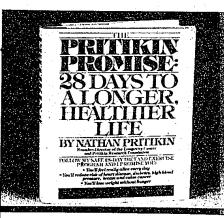
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Came meet him, talk with him about his program at Oakland on Thursday, Nov. 3, 12:30 to 1:30 in Books.

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