Murphy on Wayne County: no sale

By Kathy Parrish

Wayne County officials kept offering him deals. Somehow, though, Oakland County Executive Daniel Murphy gol away without buying anything. "So you don't want any of our parks?" Murphy was jokingly asked Monday during the first County Exchange bas. "Nope," quipped Oakland's chief, who also passed up the troubled Wayne County General Hos-pital.

"We're not interested in buying it," he said after a quick run through the Westland facility, which Wayne County Executive Bill Lucas is trying to shut down, sell or lease.

IN THE PAST, Lucas and Murphy have ex-changed much information. As two of only three county executives in Michigan, they've shared tips about tight budgets and dealing with commission-

smaller shop. "Voto the second we follow your "You are the executive today, and we follow your directions," Wayne County assistant executive Frank Wilkerson told him during a staff meeting. Murphy said, "I wouldn't try to run this show down here."

During an end-of-the-day press conference in puthfield, he offered Lucas just one bit of advice:

Southread, and outside "Stay the course." "His (Lucas") job is harder," Murphy told report-

MODELED AFTER Mayor Exchange Day, a traditional Michigan Week activity, the event gave the two county executives a chance to try on each

other's shoes. After a brief meeling with some of Lucas' staff, Murphy spent the day touring Wayno County spots. On the tight agenda were Wayne County Road Ommission, a Dearborn school, and the Economic Development Corporation in Dearborn. After lunch in Metropolitan Airport, the Oakland group saw the airport and road commission maintenace opera-tions, Wayne County General Hospital, and the Wayne County Extension Center.

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Wayne County Road Commission, which oversees several parks in the middle of Wayne County cities. "The kind of parks you are trying to maintain are hard for a countywide agency which is spread so far. That's abear to hangle, "said the executive. Murphy said that if Oakland County voters are saked to choose between better roads or better parks, "they're gonna say better roads."



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