Agencies list building, road needs

and roads, railroads, airports, public transportation, water and sewer systems, wastewater treatment, bazardous and solid waste disposal facilities, schools, colleges and uni-versities, housing stock and public buildings.

control facilities in Dearborn.
During the Warren bearing, the executive sceretary of Associated Underground Contractors Inc. in Biomirield Hills spoke of the "hidden but potentially devastating crisis of the state's crumbling underground infrastructure."

Gilbert A. Rice noted that the Envi-ronmental Protection Agency (EPA) stashed funding Oct. 1 for underground

ONLY 36 DAYS TIL SKIING

Southeastern Michigan's infrastruc-ture needs range from road, bridge and water system improvements to \$26 million in maintenance at Wayne State

million in maintenance at Wayne State University.

That was the picture outlined by more than 40 speakers who testified at public hearings last week in Detroit's City-County Building and Macomb Community College, Warren.

The hearings were sponsored by Gov. James Blanchard and the Michigan Infrastructure Coalition, a 70 member association which formed to gather ideas on how the state can begin repulling and replacing its aging infrastructure.

CHARING THE two area hearings was Robert L. Mitchell, the state's coordinator of public investment. Panelists included Gloria Smith, Michigan Department of Public Health director, Michigan Infrastructure Coulding Vice-Chairman Stan Arnold, State Treasurer Robert Bowman, and state Transportation director James Pitz.

state Transportation director James Pitz.

Agreeing that local needs overwhelm available local revenues, local officials called for state assistance to help meet

neir needs.

They said the revenue dilemma rould be aggravated by passage of roposal C, which would roll back roperty taxes to 1981 levels.

OAKLAND COUNTY Road Commis-OAKLAND COUNTY Hoad Commis-sion Managing Director John L. Grub-ba sald Proposal C would reduce the county's estimated 1988 state gasoline and weight tax revenues by \$7.6 mil-lion and force a 25 percent staff cut. "Without this staff, many of the sci-vices that Oakland County citizens con-sider routine will not get done," Grub-ba sald.

ald.
written testimony, Grubba said al39 percent of Oakland County
s are in poor or very poor condi-

'Infrastructure'? What's that?

Just what is this thing called "in-frastructure" which is becoming a new buzzword in urban aid circles in Washington? It refers to the public works need-ed to make an urban area go. Infrastructure includes highways

Three county bridges are permanently closed, while 12 others require immediate replacement, said the managing director of the Oakland County Road Commission.

WAYNE STATE University Presi-dent David Adamany said Proposal Cra passage would force a minimum cut of \$80 million in state aid to higher educa-tion and "result in a third-rate system of colleges and universities in Michi-

of colleges and universities in Michigan."

He added that every full-time WSU student would face a tuition increase of \$450 per year if the proposal passes.

Adamany said Michigan's 15 state colleges and universities have \$160 million in deferred maintenance to their physical plants, including \$26 million at Wayne State.

"And these are not remodeling, beautification or new construction projects," he said." These are projects necessary to preserve the ability of existing plants to remain operable."

AT THE DETROIT hearing, Detroit AT THE DETRUIT Rearing, Detroit water and Sewerage Department Director Charles J. Williams said the region's water system needs total \$155 million over the next five years. The estimate includes total rehabilitation of Water Works Park Treatment Plant in Detroit

of Water Works Park Freathers 2 and in Detroit.

Sewerage system needs top \$132 million, including repair to the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor system and the construction of two new wastewater

infrastructure projects from 75 percent to 55 percent of the project's costs. He added that the state's Headlee Amend-ment also stymics funding for under-ground projects like the \$1.3 million Bear Creek and \$350,000 Murtham drain projects in Warren.

Rice said a major state funding source must be developed for rebuild-ing Michigan's crumbling underground municipal water and sewer systems.

"Although we cannot see it, a crisis-which could devastate our economic recovery and future prosperity - is upon us."

upon us."

Bernard C. Giampetroni, director of Macomb County Planning Commission, said that county's needs tinclude early completion of improvements to M-59 in central Macomb, upgrading of the county's industrial rail system and replacement of deteriorated bridges.

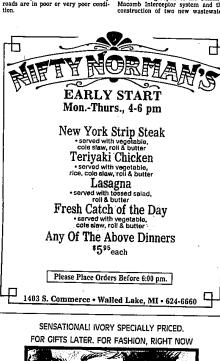
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