

City eyes plan to upgrade sidewalk conditions

By Jean Adamczak
staff writer

In a continuing effort to keep Farmington beautiful, the city council Monday night unanimously approved a \$57,000 sidewalk improvement program.

Scheduled to begin in September or October of this year, the program will be paid for in this way: \$21,000 will come from the city's community development grant, \$21,000 from property owners who need new sidewalks,

\$12,000 from property owners who need to repair or replace existing sidewalks and \$4,000 from the city's general fund, according to Robert Deadman, Farmington city manager.

About 16,000 square feet of new sidewalk will be constructed and about 11,000 square feet of sidewalk will be replaced, Deadman said.

Before approving the sidewalk expenditures, Mayor Ralph Yoder questioned the amount of work to be done.

"IT APPEARS we have an exten-

sive sidewalk replacement program here," Yoder said to Deadman.

"No," Deadman said, "it's actually very small," adding that typical Farmington sidewalk repair programs encompass 35-50,000 square feet of sidewalk.

The city has allocated \$21,000 from the Community Development Program for construction of portions of sidewalks along its major roadways which service senior citizens or handicapped persons.

The city will help property owners

by paying no more than half of the expense for walkways in areas where sidewalks were not required by city ordinance at the time the property was developed, Deadman said.

Property owners needing new sidewalks will pay \$1.30-\$1.55 per square foot for the construction, Deadman estimates.

Property owners who need to have old sidewalks repaired or replaced will pay about \$30-\$40 for a 25-square-foot area, Deadman said.

Replacing old sidewalk is more ex-

pensive than constructing new walks because the contractors must pull out and dispose of broken concrete, Deadman said.

THE CITY will take bids from contractors and award the sidewalk improvement project to the lowest bidder, Deadman said.

Although property owners have the option of making the repairs themselves, Deadman said most of them will let the city do it because the city can get a lower price for the job. Property owners who will be assessed for the improvements can pay the fee in a lump sum or follow a five-year payment schedule outlined by the city, Deadman said.

The program includes replacing sidewalks along all public right-of-ways south of Grand River and constructing approximately 50 additional sidewalk ramps in the same area.

New sidewalks to complete existing walks include areas on the east side of

Gill Road, on the north side of Oakland Street east from Gill Road, the northwest corner of State Street at Wilbur Street, a small section on Cass Street and along Freedom Road east of Fleming to the southwest property line of the Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club.

PLANS ALSO call for a sidewalk on the west side of Farmington Road south from the Wynset Condominium project to Nine Mile Road.

Sections of walkway around the city hall and Cloverdale School will be extended to add to the aesthetics of the buildings.

In a related item, the council approved the transfer of \$5,500 of 1984-85 Block Grant Funds from the downtown beautification project to the sidewalk and barrier-free project.

"This transfer of funds will complete the ramp program for just about the entire city," Deadman said.

Fire inspector is back in business

Farmington Hills City Council members Monday unanimously approved the reactivation of the fire plan review officer position.

Council members approved a transfer of \$13,000 from the General Fund budget balance to the fire department budget for funding of the position. During the recent city budget review process, the fire department had requested one additional position to be used for fire plan review and fire prevention activities.

During review of the 1985-86 budget, the item was deferred and in its place \$10,000 was budgeted for either outside consulting services or part-time plan review help.

The fire plan review officer is primarily responsible for overseeing commercial and industrial property, the city manager said.

Funding for the fire plan review officer position is planned as follows:

- Anticipated promotion from within

in would create a vacancy in the full-time ranks. The difference between a fully paid firefighter and a probationary firefighter is \$9,475, which would be added to the \$10,000 budgeted for consulting services/part-time plan review help.

• The \$13,000 transfer from the General Fund budget balance would cover the remaining wages and benefits for one full-time fire plan review officer.

Physician appointed technology director

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Dr. Ronald L. Krome, chief of the department of emergency medicine at William Beaumont Hospital-Royal Oak, has been appointed physician director of the Oakland Community College Emergency Medical Technology Program.

He succeeds Vikas Kapriel, who will pursue a fellowship in public health at the University of Michigan.

Krome, who received his bachelor's and medical degrees from the University of Maryland, served his internship at Detroit Receiving Hospital. The Southfield resident taught in the Wayne State University School of Medicine's Department of Surgery from 1988 to 1984.

Krome's professional activities include service as Medical Director, Detroit EMS; Chairman, Graduate Education Committee, American College of Emergency Physicians; Chief Examiner, American Board of Emergency Medicine; and Chairman, Southeastern Michigan Task Force on Emergency Health Care. He has also participated on the Mayor's Committee on Substance Abuse, and the Governor's Task Force on Victimless Crime.

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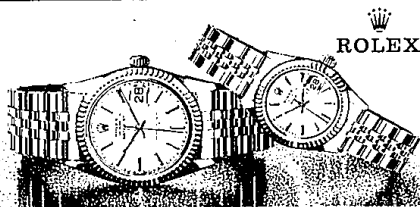
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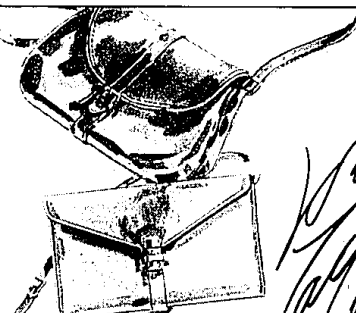
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