

Hills road improvements planned

By next fall, long-planned improvements along Orchard Lake and Middlebelt roads in Farmington Hills are expected to become a reality.

The proposed improvements are ones that were postponed last year because the city received higher-than-expected construction bids.

The cost of the projects would be shared between Farmington Hills, Oakland County and the Oakland County Road Commission.

City officials last year agreed to re-bid the projects in spring 1986. The decision to seek new bids involved the condition that an additional project —

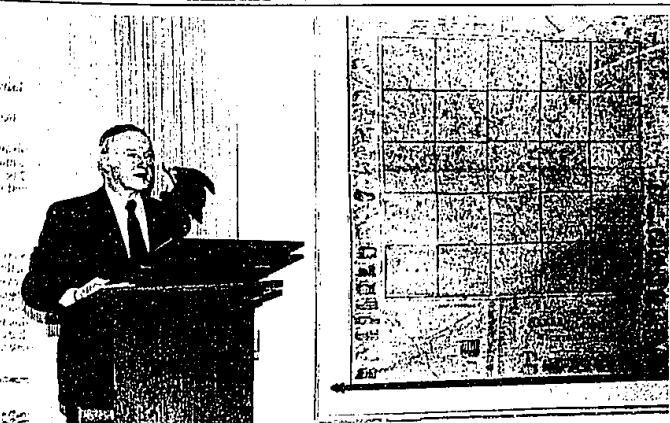
widening Orchard Lake to three lanes, from Oakland Community College to 11 Mile — is included in the 1986 tri-party financing package, said Thomas Blasell, Farmington Hills public services director.

estimated total to \$319,835, Blasell said.

As was agreed when the projects were first proposed, total costs will be shared by the city, county and road commission.

Under the tri-party program, the county and city will each pay approximately \$83,000 while the road commission will pick up the greatest share at approximately \$153,000. The city's share of the projects has been allocated in the budget's major road fund.

A construction bid is expected to be awarded in April with construction beginning in May.



John Anhut, president of the historic Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills, at the dedication of an 1857 map of Oakland County. The map, the oldest known document in Oakland County, was found in the attic of the inn three years ago.

Map dedicated at Botsford

Oakland County Executive Daniel Murphy and John Anhut, president of the Botsford Inn, shared a Sesqui-centennial event today as they dedicated an 1857 map of Oakland County, the oldest known document available.

The map was discovered in the attic of the Botsford Inn three years ago by Angel Bakos, public relations consultant for the Inn. Recognizing the possible value, she and the owner of the Inn, John Anhut, closely examined the piece and decided it was an important part of the history of Oakland County.

Anhut and Bakos said they first thought to mount the map on one of the more prominent walls of the Inn but finally concluded the map was too massive for the walls of the Inn. Anhut said he wanted to ensure that the map would be available for

the citizens of Oakland County to use and appreciate. Calling the county executive's office, he suggested to Murphy they accept the donation of the map for use in the Executive offices. It was accepted.

After three years of restoration through the expertise of the Detroit Institute of Arts, the map was mounted, placed under glass and set for permanent display in the lobby of the County Courthouse at 1200 Telegraph Road.

Both Murphy and Anhut called the work of the DIA "remarkable." Anhut remembered the "yellow-grey" coating of soil and lauded the outstanding skills of the restoration experts.

The map displays 25 townships, encompassing 300 square miles. Each township measured six miles by six miles. In his comments, An-

hut noted that the number of townships within Oakland County coincided with the number of states in the union in 1857.

The townships were: Holly, Groveland, Brandon, Oxford, Addison, Rose, Springfield, Independence, Orion, Oakland, Highland, White Lake, Waterford, Pontiac, Lyon, Milford, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield, Troy, Novi, Farmington, Southfield, Royal Oak and Avon.

Murphy explained to an audience of 60 that the map was prepared as Oakland County's tribute to the Michigan Sesqui-centennial celebration in 1957. He said it was presented to the public this year since it was the 150th anniversary of the Botsford Inn, established in 1836.

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