

Metroparks to get 68 projects

By Tim Richard
staff writer

A golf course at Hudson Mills, a boat launch at Lake Erie and a hike trail at Lower Huron top the 1988 metroparks capital budget of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority.

About 40 percent of the investment is at the newer parks and 60 percent in the older parks," controller David L. Wahl told the HCMA board of directors as they adopted the new budget.

The \$24.3 million budget will put less emphasis on land acquisition and more on development, he said, continuing the trend as the agency matures. The 68 capital projects will absorb \$4.4 million or 18 percent of the budget. Land acquisition will take nearly \$700,000.

Operations will cost \$12.1 million or 50 percent of the total — "about the level it's been running the last five or six years," Wahl said.

THE HCMA board approved the budget almost without comment last week after a public hearing at which no one spoke.

HCMA is a five-county authority operating 12 large metroparks along the Huron and Clinton rivers in a large area from Lake St. Clair to Lake Erie.

The five counties in the HCMA region and their percentages of the total property tax valuation are:

Wayne, 38; Oakland, 35; Macomb, 17; Washtenaw, 7; and Livingston, 3.

Metroparks are designed for day use and generally cover at least 1,000 acres.

A 0.25 mill property tax approved by voters more than 40 years ago provides about two-thirds of its revenues. Vehicle admissions and park operations provide most of the rest. Federal and state grants are minor.

Park visitors total seven to eight million a year — double the region's population and about four times more people than the Detroit Tigers draw.

HERE is a breakdown of the major capital improvement projects planned for 1988:

- Hudson Mills, on North Territorial Road in Washtenaw County — \$1,087,000 for an 18-hole golf course, turf development, entrance road and service yard.
- Indian Springs, northern Oakland County — \$590,000 for a golf course clubhouse, wells and clubhouse electrical and telephone hookups. So far, this park is mostly trails and picnic area on the largest undisturbed natural area in the county.
- Lower Huron, near Belleville in southwestern Wayne County — \$525,000 for a hike-bike trail and bridge.
- Lake Erie, at the mouth of the Huron River in southern Wayne County — \$563,000 total, including

\$175,000 for 10 boat launch ramps and entrance road. The water-oriented park already has a wave-action pool.

• Willow, near New Boston in southern Wayne County — \$120,000 for two golf course comfort stations.

• Wolcott Mill, an unopened 2,100-acre park on the north branch of the Clinton River in Macomb County — \$365,000 for a mill headrace dam, pump station and water wheel. Altogether, nearly \$400,000 in improvements are planned. Long-term plans include a pool and golf course.

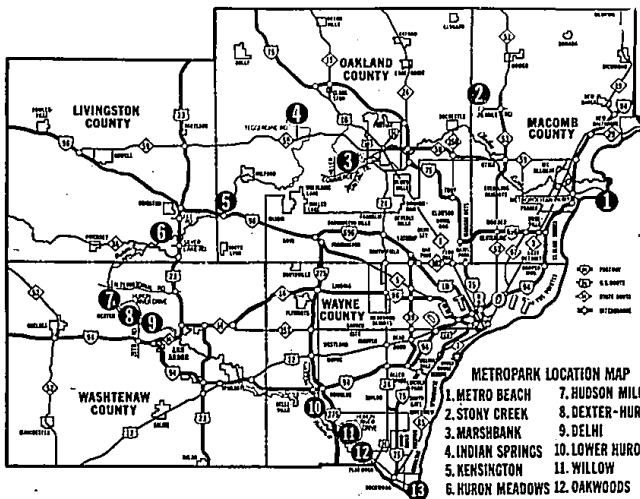
• Kensington, in western Oakland County — \$179,500 in several projects, the largest being \$90,000 for a golf cart storage building.

• Metro Beach, on Lake St. Clair in Macomb County — \$325,000 for a nature center.

IN OTHER business, the board:

• Asked the staff to continue discussions with the Livingston County Road Commission on possible closing of Hammill Road west of the Huron Meadows park entrance. The park is west of US-23 and south of Brighton.

• Purchased 22 acres for \$84,000 for Indian Springs Metropark. The land rounds out park holdings at the southeast corner of the park on White Lake Road.



- METROPARK LOCATION MAP**
- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. METRO BEACH | 7. HUDSON MILLS |
| 2. STONY CREEK | 8. DEXTER-HURON |
| 3. MARSHBANK | 9. DELHI |
| 4. INDIAN SPRINGS | 10. LOWER HURON |
| 5. KENSINGTON | 11. WILLOW |
| 6. HURON MEADOWS | 12. OAKWOODS |
| | 13. LAKE ERIE |

The Huron-Clinton metroparks scene is changing. Even the most recent map still shows Marshbank (3), a tiny park on Orchard Lake

that has been turned over to West Bloomfield Township, but doesn't show Wolcott Mills in Macomb County.

'Grantsmanship' workshop this week

To help local agencies raise funds through government and private grants, Marygrove College, at McNichols and Wyoming in Detroit, will host The Grantsmanship Center's fund-raising workshop on Jan. 6-8.

The intensive, three-day workshop course offers instructions and practical exercises to increase agencies' abilities to plan programs, mobilize board, staff and volunteer efforts, identify prospects and turn them into donors.

The Grantsmanship Center, largest organization of its kind in the

country, is a non-profit educational institution. It has trained more than 30,000 staff members of public and private agencies over the past 10 years.

Bring your agency's brochures, letters and other fund-raising materials to be critiqued by the instructor and other participants.

For registration and course information, call The Grantsmanship Center's toll-free number: 1-800-421-9512, or Sharon Grindstaff at Marygrove College, 862-8000, ext. 307.

Marygrove winter registration starts

Registration for graduate and undergraduate courses for winter term 1988 at Marygrove College will be today through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Evening hours are until 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday.

Classes begin Monday, Jan. 11. Marygrove's campus is located at 8425 W. McNichols at Wyoming in northwest Detroit.

Serving the metropolitan Detroit area for 50 years, Marygrove offers two- and four-year degree programs as well as master's degrees in administration, education and pastoral

ministry.

The coeducational college offers more than 60 areas of concentration. They include communications, allied health, business administration, social work, dance, art, music, computer science, child development and language translation. A new master of arts degree program in human resources management is also available.

For registration information, contact Marygrove's admissions office at 862-8000, Ext. 220.

Home heating help available

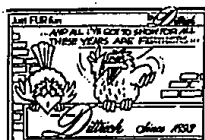
Some Oakland County residents are eligible for home heating bill assistance Jan. 15, according to the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency.

Those eligible can receive a one-time grant of \$50 to \$200 toward their heating costs, said Payson J. Tilden, energy specialist with OLHSA. Payments will go directly to providers — Consumers Power, Detroit

Edison or fuel dealers.

To learn if you are eligible and receive application assistance, call OLHSA's toll free number, 1-800-482-9250, or one of its local offices: Hazel Park, 399-2880; west Oakland, 666-3974.

A state grant funds the program.



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