location for prison

lot of time and trouble transporting prisoners."

The two Republican county officials, boasting 65 years of law enforcement experience between them, called a news conference Monday to send their message to the state capita. "I's going to be decided in the political arena in Lansing." Patterson sale

THEY LISTED these reasons for preferring a Pontiac site:

• The prison would bring some 300 jobs to depressed Pontiac.

• The city income tax could be applied to the payroll for \$60,000 or more in revenue.

more in revenue.

• The state has offered to shut down half-way houses in Pontiac, which Patterson said are unguarded residences for murderars and robbers and "spillovers for crime."

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Oakland County's two top law enforcement officials urged the state Department of Corrections to build a planned new prison on county property in Pontlae rather than any of our rural sites under consideration. Prosecutor L. Brooks Patterson asid he "resented" the way state consultant John Dziurman, a Rohester architect, "went around my office" by falling to consult him before recommending a prison site. Sherilf John Nichols said a 612-64 regional prison site adjacent to the county jail would "save a hellum prisoners."

A prison would be far safer, he said.

State prison guards and county aliquerate sould be trainport in prisoners to the state prison at 20 prisoners to th jall guards could be trained together, allowing a sharing of costs.

• The sheriff's department, about three times a week, must transport 20 prisoners to the state prison at Jackson and bring nine or 10 back for court hearings. "That's a day killed for two guards," Nichols said, with a prison next door, prisoners could be walked there, possibly through a tumel, he said.

through a tunnel, he said.
"I'd like to be able to look out my
office window and see the product of
my labor," Patterson said.

my labor," Patterson sald.

"YOU'RE GOING to see a diminution of crime," said Patterson, if a
state prison replaces half-way houses.

He noted that accused family
killer Jesse Marks had escaped from
a half-way house when the crime
was committed, even though he already was convicted of one murder.
"There are not a rash of escapes
(from Jall)," added Nichols, saying
there were only two in his 3th years
in office.
"A modern prison doesn't stand
out like a POW (prisoner of war)
stockade. Modern prison look like a
college campus," the sheriff said.
Pontlac Mayor Walter Moore has
stremously opposed a prison in Pontiae, argoing the county seat already
has its share of institutions.

For 17 years, Jacki Sorensen has

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Pontiac called best Alternate courthouse plans

Yamasaki soothes cost-conscious board

By Tim Richard staff writer

Soothing county commissioners, architect Kim Yamasaki said he would offer alternate master plan proposals for a new courthouse, law line of the proposals for a new courthouse, law line of the law of

THE COUNTY board's planning and building committee gave 7-0 ap-proval to Yamasaki's proposal to al-ternate space plans for a fee of up to

\$218,240.

The proposal was forwarded to the finance committee, which approves all contracts and spending items.

Money was budgeted in the 1988 capital program,

Money was budgeted in the 1988 capital program.

"For projects that have a potential cost of 320 million to \$30 million, the fee represents an investment of about 1 percent and is quite reasonable," said Don Malinowski, manager of the county's facilities engineering division.

Yamasaki will begin by studying operations of both the circuit and probate courts and related functions — prosecutor, friend of the court, probation department and so on.

His firm initially will define the work program and find sits — not cesign and the sits — not cesign and the operations of the county officials decide what they need.

JUDGES CENERALY.

JUDGES GENERALLY favor an all-new facility, citing a need not apparent in the '50s when the present court tower was built.

These include security for judges and witnesses, and separate entrances for judges, prisoners and the public.

"The program has expanded considerably," said commissioner Richard Skarritt, P.Millord, a member of the planning and building committee. "Everyone tells you "we need more." "Everyone tells you "we need more." "What are we going to do with the existing courtrooms, with their high ceilings and all that marble?"

ble?"
Commissioners had envisioned a \$20 million total project with an addition to the courthouse wing. Executive Daniel T. Murphy and judges envision a new court tower and a total project which, by some estimates, could hit \$40 million.

YAMASAKI WAS the overwhelming choice of a joint executive-board-court selection committee, which lis-

He has split the job into a series of

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Assessing the judiciary's space needs based on future caseloads and numbers of judges.
 Forecasting traffic and parking needs.
 Studying capacity of existing utilities and mechanical (heating-cooling) systems.

utilities and mechanical (heating-cooling) systems.

• Olfering alternative plans with a comparison of cots and benefits.

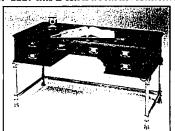
There is general agreement the court wing would be north of the existing courtnoise at 1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac; that the parking deck would be northwest of the courthouse on an existing lot; and that the law library would be south of the courthouse across a service drive.

of the courthouse across a service drive.

A veterans memorial would be part of the library project.

Officials agree on the need for a computer center west of Telegraph Road, but that will be designed un-

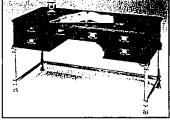
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