

# How \$25 vehicle fee would be split in county

Oakland County's six largest cities and Waterford Township will each receive more than \$1 million in new revenue annually if a countywide road proposal passes Nov. 8, according to estimates by the Oakland County Road Commission.

Troy, Southfield, Farmington Hills and Rochester Hills are among the top gainers if voters say yes to a \$25 per vehicle county registration fee.

"Working with data from the secretary of state, our staff, along with a committee of four city managers and four township supervisors, has prepared these figures for planning purposes within individual cities, villages and townships," road commission chairman Fred D. Houghten said.

"We have identified approximately 95 percent of the vehicles in Oak-

land County, so these numbers may change slightly," said Houghten. "But we now think that the total may be higher than originally projected. We feel it could exceed \$20 million."

THE LIST shows an estimate of fee revenues that would be generated. It includes the amount each city and village would receive directly plus the road commission share allocated to that unit.

The road commission committed last month that all revenue generated within a local unit of government would be returned to that local unit. The largest beneficiaries, with all numbers rounded off, would be:

- Troy, \$1.7 million.
- Southfield, \$1.56 million.
- Pontiac, \$1.39 million.
- Royal Oak, \$1.27 million.
- Farmington Hills, \$1.24 million.
- Rochester Hills, \$1 million.

HERE IS HOW other cities in the Observer & Eccentric area, in alphabetical order, would fare:

- Birmingham, \$404,000.
- Bloomfield Hills, \$31,000.
- Farmington, \$187,000.
- Lathrup Village, \$82,000.
- Orchard Lake Village, \$39,000.
- Rochester, \$139,000.

Here are estimates for the villages:

- Beverly Hills, \$208,000.
- Bingham Farms, \$29,000.
- Franklin, \$49,000.

All township funds would be administered by the road commission, but the spending decisions would be made by the local communities, Houghten said.

Bloomfield Township would be allocated \$791,000 in work, based entirely on the county's share of the revenue.

West Bloomfield Township would get \$834,000 in road work.

Oakland Township, north of the Rochester area, would get \$152,000.

Southfield Township, outside of the villages area, would get a token \$687.

## Trailers exempt from fee

Trailers are excluded from a list of vehicles to which the proposed \$25 registration fee would apply according to Oakland County Road Commission chairman Fred D. Houghten.

"This exclusion is based on an opinion from the Attorney General's office which was interpreted and reviewed by both the road commission and the Secretary of State's office," Houghten said.

It is estimated that about \$18.6 million will be raised annually for local road improvements and services if voters approve in the general election Nov. 8.

THE FEE would apply to automobiles, vans, pickups, commercial trucks, semi-trailers, hearses, ambulances, wreckers, taxi cabs, motorcycles, station wagons, carryalls, motor homes, buses, trucks and moving vans.

It also would apply to truck-mounted cranes and similar truck-mounted equipment, along with all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and off-road vehicles (ORVs) if they meet safety codes and are licensed for road use. Excluded are all trailers — boat, semi, camping, pole, utility and tanker.

Other exclusions are snowmobiles, historic vehicles, mobile homes, agricultural vehicles, road graders, bulldozers, earth movers, mopeds and boats.

Also excluded are ATVs and ORVs which do not meet safety standards and which are not registered for road use.

## Holloway bid low for I-696 widening

Holloway Construction Co. of Wixom was apparent low bidder at \$21.5 million for widening the I-696 freeway through Farmington Hills and Southfield, the Michigan Department of Transportation said.

Bids were taken last week on 6.7 miles of widening.

MDOT said completion of the project will coincide with the completion in late fall 1989 of the "missing link" of I-696 through the Southfield and Royal Oak areas to I-75 in

Macomb County.

Holloway was lowest of eight bidders. The final contract must be approved by the State Transportation Commission and state administrative board.

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