# A nuisance

## 'Stop' signs fail as speed breakers, cities told

Local officials are denying unwarranted stop alias more often than they once did.

That's progress to Bruce Madsen, managing director of the Traffic Improvement Association of Oakland County.

A big step toward keeping communities from putting up stop signs for the wrong reasons is a five-minute videolape produced recently by TLA. It attempts to dispel myths surrounding the plagment of stop signs.

signs.
Neighbors frequently band togeth-

er, often armed with petitions, ask-ing their local government officials to put up a stop sign to slow down traffic, stop cut-through traffic and make life safer for youngsters.

Stop signs often cause the opposite to happen — cars speed up and life is more dangerous.

TRAFFIC STUDIES in Oakland County and elsewhere actually show that stop signs installed to be a "nui-sance" or a "speed breaker" cause more problems than they solve, the

ty of the 'nuisance' stop signs. But speeds were actually higher between intersections than they would have been if these signs hadn't been in-stalled," the tape says.

Stop signs and those which indi-cate "Children at Play" also don't help protect children. They can get a false sense of security that drivers will actually stop or at least show more caution.

ABOUT 39 of Oakland County's 61 communities have responsibility for their own roads. The tapes were developed and made available for those municipal

"Our original intention was to show the tape to policymakers," Madsen said. "However, we've found it is a pretty good educational tool for the public."

Toward that end, Madsen sald TIA is working out details to show the tape on the county's major cable companies, United Cable and Booth Communications. In addition, any homeowners organization or other group wanting to show the tape can call TIA at 334-4971.

# Road dust control brine available

Mineral well brine is used to con-trol the dust because it attracts moisture from the atmosphere and ground. This moisture binds together the small particles in the aggregate and keeps them from becoming air-borne. John L. Grubba, managing director of the Oakland County Road Countission (OCRC), amounced that inlieral well brine is available for dust control on county gravel roads. "In our confuning effort to make available all possible forms of road malateinance service and material, we once again are offering for purchase our four-times per-season dust control program," Grubba said.

THE BRINE will be applied at a rate of at least 2,000 gallons per mile, Application width aveages 16 to 20 feet, with no special width or double applications provided. Grubba said increased costs make it necessary to increase rates from 30 to 32 cents-per-foot. He added that some townships share the costs of the dust control program.

of the dust control program.

The first application is slated for

May, the second by July 4, the third by Aug. 15, and the final application of Sept. 15. All orders for participation in the dust control program must be in by April 28.

MANY TOWNSHIP offices have applications and information about

dents should check at these offices first of convenience.

If the township office does not have applications, visit or write the CCRC Department of Citizen Services, 2420 Pontlac Lake Road (at County Center Drive West), Pontlac 48054

#### Bus drivers negotiating

Contract negotiations between the Suburban Mobility Authority for Re-gional Transportation and the Amal-gamated Transit Union Local 1564 were scheduled to resume Wednes-

The union represents the authority's large-bus operators. Their contract expired on March 31, but both sides agreed to an extension of the existing agreement on a day-to-day basts.



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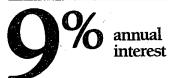
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