

State leans to boulevard to ease Haggerty traffic

By Darrell Clem
staff writer

Despite concerns about urban sprawl and environmental damage, a recommendation to build a multi-lane boulevard west of Haggerty Road is expected to be made within two weeks, a state transportation official indicated Friday.

However, final project approval from state and federal officials is not likely to occur until mid-1990 because environmental questions remain unanswered, project manager Mike Flajole said.

Flajole strongly indicated a recommendation will be made for a new boulevard from 12 Mile to Pontiac Trail instead of a plan to widen Haggerty, but he stopped short of confirming it.

He said 90 percent of public comment, including government support from such communities as West Bloomfield, Farmington Hills, Walled Lake and Commerce Township, has favored a boulevard.

The proposal for a six- to eight-lane boulevard is designed to ease traffic congestion and provide access to interchanges at I-275, I-96 and I-96. Under the latest alternative, the road would be built about a quarter-mile or half-mile west of Haggerty.

Flajole said a new boulevard would cost an estimated \$72 million, while widening Haggerty could cost up to \$114 million. He said the federal government would pay for 76 percent of the project, with state officials picking up the remaining tab. Meanwhile, battle lines continue

to be drawn between citizens opposed to the project and those who view it as vital to accommodating the area's growth.

On Thursday, the Walled Lake Board of Education voted 7-0 to have Superintendent James Giesler send a letter to the Michigan Department of Transportation in support of the boulevard. The school board also favored a controversial proposal to extend the boulevard north from Pontiac Trail to M-59.

School officials said they support a boulevard because traffic congestion has caused problems for school buses and school employees traveling to and from schools.

Flajole welcomed news of the board's decision, saying "we need all the help we can get."

Other groups, such as Concerned Citizens for West Bloomfield, remain vehemently opposed to a boulevard, saying it would spark uncontrolled development, encroach on wetlands and result in more traffic problems.

COCW co-president Lorna McEwen said new development that would result from the proposal would simply increase the magnitude of traffic congestion — not ease it.

Flajole conceded the boulevard "would only be part of the solution."

McEwen suggested widening Haggerty by one lane would ease traffic congestion without contributing to the urban sprawl that she said hurts Detroit and "inner suburbs" such as Southfield.

She criticized city governments

such as West Bloomfield for adopting a "hypocritical position" by which they support the boulevard but simultaneously favor controlled growth and the protection of wetlands.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also has voiced concerns about wetlands. In a letter to transportation officials in Lansing, EPA officials note that the boulevard "will cause serious adverse impacts to the environment and the residents living in the vicinity of the proposed improvements."

The EPA also wrote: "It is crucial that the remaining wetlands in Oakland County be protected to the maximum possible extent."

McEwen, meanwhile, said it also appears that transportation officials

have failed to determine the effects of "dumping all the traffic from this new road onto Pontiac Trail."

Some supporters have suggested an extension of the new boulevard from Pontiac Trail to M-59 would resolve that problem. However, Flajole was careful not to draw such a conclusion, saying only that an extension would be considered along with other proposals for addressing traffic problems between I-96 and M-59.

Flajole said an environmental impact statement will be completed in coming months, after which project approval will be sought from the state transportation department. Final approval, however, must come from the Federal Highway Administration.

Auto dealer gives homeless couple an early Christmas gift

By Sue Duck
staff writer

A homeless couple, who moved into a van Oct. 21 in the back parking lot of Bob Saks Motor Mall-Jeep-Eagle, was given the 1976 Dodge Sportman Wednesday, thanks to Farmington Hills dealership and its employees.

Gordon and Margaret Armstrong, homeless for 15 years, selected the green van because it had a bed in it, said Steve Radulovich, sales manager.

"It was a little unbelievable for us," Radulovich said. "Used car manager Gary Forgach found them living in one of our vehicles Monday. They had food in there and everything. What had happened, I guess, is that they were driving through (town) and their (1970 Opel) car broke down. It was not worth fixing and they have no money anyway, so that's a moot point."

"The initial reaction was to call the police and get them out of here," Radulovich said. "Then we realized that our employees were sneaking food back to them and kind of adopt-

ed them. It became more and more difficult to throw these people out, even with the Farmington Hills police officer, who showed up Tuesday. We gave them a grace period. It kind of breaks your heart."

Wednesday morning, Frank Lopez, the general manager, OK'd giving them the van.

"Most people don't think of car dealers as places with much of a heart," Radulovich said. "But if we didn't give them the van, those people would be gone."

THE DEALERSHIP and its employees raised \$400 for the van and a six-month insurance premium, discounted through Tim Little of Allstate Insurance in Canton. The couple also was given \$200 to spend.

"No transportation and no job — that's not a prerequisite for success," Radulovich said. "They got themselves a fresh start."

"With that many people helping them, it's got to be a lot easier than what they have been going through," Little said.

MARGARET ARMSTRONG, 49, viewed the dealership's generosity

as a Sweetest Day gift.

"We were down, but now we are up," the Niles native said. "We had all of our stuff out there. All of a sudden, we can feel good. We can celebrate."

She broke into tears.

"We left 15 years ago from Pontiac because the unemployment rate was so high," said her husband, Gordon, 46, from Pontiac.

TRAVELING THROUGH the southern United States from California to Florida, they had difficulty finding a job because they couldn't speak Spanish, he said.

"We were living in a house in Georgia owned by an old man and an old lady," he said. "We did a lot of work around there and painted the inside and made almost \$200."

They gave up a 1970 Opel station wagon. We came back up here about

a month and a half ago. We were riding around picking up bottles and cans in Oakland County. That's the only way we can make money, \$7-\$9 a day. We've been turned away for other jobs.

"I haven't had a full-time steady paying job since 1972. I haven't made \$1,000 in one year. People say, 'Get away from here. We don't want you around. You are low-class scum.' We've gotten clothes out of dumpsters."

THE ARMSTRONGS have been living on \$173 in general assistance applied for in Walled Lake, they said. By the end of last week, Gordon was offered a job by a local restaurant and by a Redford janitorial company.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Farmington Hills offered to let the couple park their van there for a limited time. It also was looking into a permanent home for the couple, Radulovich said.

The Armstrongs were married 16 years ago on Valentine's Day. They recalled how they met. Margaret said Gordon asked if he could help carry a TV up to her apartment in Pontiac. Later, they went to a benefit dance.

"He called me Kleibasa Nose and

I called him Pug Nose," she said.

The Armstrongs have three sons, who they say were taken from them, put into foster homes and adopted. They haven't seen them for a long time.

"Our babies are all over," Margaret said.

The children are John Arthur, 16, Melbourne, Fla.; Michael Anthony, 15, Pasadena, Calif.; and Christopher Lee, 11, Dayton, Beach, Fla.

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.

It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.

CITY OF SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That a Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 1989 at 7:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 26000 Evergreen Road, City of Southfield, County of Oakland, Michigan, at which time and place the Planning Commission will consider the following proposed street vacation pursuant to section 4.10 of the Charter of the City of Southfield, to wit:

(1) Vacation request of VMS Peblecreek Limited Partnership (previously Property Company of America) to vacate a road easement (30'x132'), located on the extreme easterly boundary of Lot 22 of Supervisor's Plat #7 (Sidwell) Parcels 2418-177-008 and 009, in the north half of Section 18, (V-360)

After said public hearing is concluded, the Planning Commission will make a report and recommendation concerning the proposed street vacation to the City Council.

PAT FLANNERY, City Clerk

Published October 30, 1989

CITY OF SOUTHFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, November 13, 1989, at 8:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, in the Council Chambers, 26000 Evergreen Road, City of Southfield, County of Oakland, Michigan, at which time and place the Council will hear any objections to the request of Dr. Willard S. Holt to vacate the following:

A portion of George Washington 17'x 194' in length and Santa Barbara 17'x 192' in length abutting Lot 250 of altered Plat of J. Lee Baker's Washington Heights Subdivision (Sidwell Parcel 2426-207-012).

Section 28, City of Southfield, County of Oakland, Michigan.

PAT FLANNERY, City Clerk

Published October 25, 1989

CITY OF SOUTHFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 1989 at 7:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 26000 Evergreen Road, City of Southfield, County of Oakland, Michigan, at which time and place the Planning Commission will consider the following proposed special land uses pursuant to Title V, Zoning and Planning, Chapter 45, Zoning, of the Code of the City of Southfield, to wit:

(1) Special use request of K & M Enterprises for a gasoline service station on part of Lot 9 of W.J. Vaughan's Small Farms Addition Subdivision (Sidwell Parcel 2433-476-038), located on the north side of Eight Mile Road between Telegraph and Lahser Roads, Section 33, in accordance with the provisions of Article 4, Section 5.21, and Article 18, Section 5.189, Paragraph (2), Sub-Paragraph (c) of Chapter 45, of the Code of the City of Southfield, (GP-904)

(2) Special use request by Wendy's International, Inc. for an outside patio for additional seating on the southerly 135' of Lot 1 of Burton's Triple Hwy. Little Farms (Sidwell Parcel 2432-228-011), located on the west side of Telegraph Road between Sargent Drive and Harriett Drive, Section 32, in accordance with the provisions of Article 4, Section 5.21, and Article 20, Section 5.185, Paragraph (2), Sub-Paragraph (b), of Chapter 45, of the Code of the City of Southfield, (GP-898)

Written comments may be mailed to the City of Southfield Planning Department, 26000 Evergreen Road, P.O. Box 2055, Southfield, Michigan 48037-2055, prior to November 15, 1989.

After said public hearing is concluded, the Planning Commission will make a report and recommendations concerning the proposed special land uses to the City Council.

PAT FLANNERY, City Clerk

Published October 30, 1989

CITY OF SOUTHFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 1989 at 7:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 26000 Evergreen Road, City of Southfield, County of Oakland, Michigan, at which time and place the Planning Commission will consider the following proposed street vacation pursuant to section 4.10 of the Charter of the City of Southfield, to wit:

(1) Vacation request of VMS Peblecreek Limited Partnership (previously Property Company of America) to vacate a road easement (30'x132'), located on the extreme easterly boundary of Lot 22 of Supervisor's Plat #7 (Sidwell) Parcels 2418-177-008 and 009, in the north half of Section 18, (V-360)

After said public hearing is concluded, the Planning Commission will make a report and recommendation concerning the proposed street vacation to the City Council.

PAT FLANNERY, City Clerk

Published October 30, 1989

SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS BROCHURE PRINTING

Southfield Public Schools will receive bids for the Winter Brochure printing. All bids are to be sealed and clearly marked "WINTER BROCHURE PRINTING" and returned to:

Dr. Ronald E. Rohlfman
Associate Superintendent
Southfield Public Schools
24661 Lahser Rd.
Southfield, Michigan 48034

no later than 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, November 1, 1989 at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read.

Specifications are available:

Southfield Public Schools
24661 Lahser Rd.
Southfield, Michigan 48034
(313) 740-5519

Published October 26, 1989

CITY OF SOUTHFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, November 13, 1989, at 8:00 o'clock P.M. Eastern Standard Time, in the Council Chambers, 26000 Evergreen Road, City of Southfield, County of Oakland, Michigan, at which time and place the Council will consider the following proposed amendments to Title V, Zoning and Planning, Chapter 45, Zoning, of the Code of the City of Southfield, by amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of Southfield, by changing the Zoning Classification of the following described parcels of property to wit:

Hereon from R-4 (Single Family Residential) to O-S (Office Service), the following described parcel of property:

Lot 191 of Supervisor's Washington Village No. 5 (Sidwell Parcel 2426-151-007).

Proposed R-4 to O-S

The above described property being located at 22240 Evergreen Road on the East Side of Evergreen Road between Northwestern Highway and Nine Mile Road, City of Southfield, County of Oakland, Michigan.

PAT FLANNERY, City Clerk

Published October 26, 1989

CITY OF SOUTHFIELD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 1989 at 7:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 26000 Evergreen Road, City of Southfield, County of Oakland, Michigan, at which time and place the Planning Commission will consider the following proposed amendment to Title V, Zoning and Planning, Chapter 45, Zoning, of the Code of the City of Southfield, to wit:

(1) Rezoning request of Kiroo Realty & Development, Ltd. to rezone part of Lots 16, 17 and 24 through 28 of Tudor Estates (Sidwell) Parcels 2422-102-005 through 011, 2422-104-001 and 002, located at 21681 through 21761 Coral Cables and 26505 through 26700 Lois Lane, between Eleven Mile Road and Northwestern Highway and east of Lahser Road, from R-2 and O-S to EHO, Section 22, (ZIR-1200)

In accordance with the provisions of Section 5.51, Community Impact Statement, of Title V, Zoning and Planning, Chapter 45, Zoning, of the Code of the City of Southfield, notice is hereby given that a copy of the Community Impact Statement is available for inspection and review in the Planning Department, City of Southfield, 26000 Evergreen Road, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., for the following project:


(1) Site plan review request by Luckenbach/Ziegelmans and Partners, Inc. for the development of an office/hotel/commercial complex, high rise and mid-rise complex and mid-rise residential development on Sidwell Parcel 2417-351-014 and 2418-004-024, Sections 17 and 18, (SP-925 IC)

After said public hearing is concluded, the Planning Commission will make a report and recommendation concerning the proposed amendment to the City Council.

PAT FLANNERY, City Clerk

Published October 30, 1989

Words can hit a child as hard as a fist.



Get the picture?

What you say to children can determine how they feel about themselves. And how they feel about you. When you're upset, get hold of yourself. Stop and think about what you're saying. Stop using words that hurt. Start using words that help.

Stop using words that hurt.

For helpful information, write: National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse, Box 28466, Chicago, IL 60629