

New \$1 million fire station OK'd

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 district is bounded by Farmington and Haggerty roads, and Eight and 11 Mile roads.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE time for the existing industrial park station is hampered by the need to travel over the heavily congested Grand Flyer bridge over M-102 to reach other areas of the fire district, fire chief Richard Marinucci said.

"It's a long haul to get to Eight Mile and Farmington roads. This station has the longest response times," Marinucci said.

In 1988 the station's average response time was 6.56 minutes, almost a minute longer than at two of the three other fire stations. The fastest response time at 4.72 minutes, was at the Wheeler station last year.

A new station at Nine Mile and Drake will be more accessible for the fire district's paid call-back firefighters, who will be able to respond faster. With the existing station, only 4-6 firefighters live within 1 1/2 miles of the station. At least 15 firefighters will live within 1 1/2 miles of the new station, Marinucci said.

"It's going to help improve service to the community," Marinucci added.

ORIGINALLY, The fire station's construction on two acres on the south side of Nine Mile, west of Drake, was expected to cost \$650,000. The lowest of 11 bids received was \$59,000 for construction, landscaping and paving. The acreage cost approximately \$170,000.

Costs were higher than expected because of the architectural difficulty of building on the heavily wooded site, saving as many trees as possible and increased construction costs, city manager William Costick said.

"The building is designed to be compatible with residential on all sides," said architect Allan Tuomala of Slego/Tuomala, Farmington Hills. The building, for example, will be brick, consistent with the character of the surrounding residential area.

THE NEW station will be paid for with state shared revenues, resulting from the city's increased population

In a special mid-decade census, as well from the city's general fund.

The proposed sale of the existing station to the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission for an estimated \$190,000 also will be used. SWOCC represents the cities of Novi, Farmington and Farmington Hills in a 15-year franchise with MetroVision of Oakland County cable company.

The existing station will be used for cable studios and offices for SWOCC staff. MetroVision will contribute to refitting and equipping the fire station for cable uses, SWOCC executive director Lark Samouelian said.

City officials also plan to build a new, fifth fire station in the center of the city, near city hall at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

Five workers were on the second floor setting and securing roof trusses, but no one else was hurt in the collapse. Thirty roof trusses had been set in place on the house wall frame when the accident occurred.

As plywood sheets were delivered by crane to the second floor, the roof began to rock back and forth. Holt was in the center of the second floor when he fell.

HOLT WAS handing plywood sheets on the flat portion of the trusses when the entire roof section collapsed and he rode the framework down, said Tim Swindlehurst, a state safety inspector.

There were no diagonal braces to prevent lateral movement, Swindlehurst wrote in a report the Observer obtained through a Freedom of Information request.

Subcontractor fined for mishap

A Union Lake subcontractor was fined \$280 in the wake of a Farmington Hills construction accident in which one its carpenters was seriously hurt Oct. 23.

On Nov. 1, the Michigan Department of Labor-Division of Safety and Regulation in Lansing fined Timber Works Inc. of Union Lake \$280 for allegedly violating state law.

Timber Works allegedly "failed to furnish to each of its employees employment and a place of employment which is free from recognized hazards that are causing or likely to

cause death or serious physical harm to its employees," according to the citation notice.

A message was left on Timber Works' telephone answering machine but no one returned the Observer's call for a comment.

ACCORDING TO investigators: A 24-year-old carpenter was hurt after falling 20 feet from the second floor of a house under construction on Birchcrest Way on Oct. 23 in Farmington Hills.

David Holt suffered a lung puncture, facial cuts and broken bones in the fall and was admitted to Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Farmington Hills firefighters found the Westland resident lying on his back beneath construction material when the two-story house collapsed at 12:20 p.m.

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City services cluster complex

A new cluster condominium complex in Farmington Hills will receive water and sewer services from the city of Farmington.

Longacre Woods straddles both cities, but is mostly in Farmington Hills. But Farmington Hills does not have utilities available to the site.

Milo Properties is developing the

property into a 14-unit cluster condominium complex. Plans have been approved by both cities.

On Monday, the Farmington Hills City Council authorized its city manager to enter into agreement with Farmington and Milo Properties allowing the water and sewer service arrangement.

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Holiday closings

Thanksgiving on Thursday will mean several closings this week.
Farmington City Hall, Farmington Hills City Hall and the 47th District Court will close Thursday and Friday.

Trash collection in Farmington will not be affected.
 In Farmington Hills, the normal Thursday pickup will be done Friday and the normal Friday pickup will be done Saturday this week only.

The Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce will close Thursday and Friday. The Farmington Observer will close Thursday only.

Farmington Community Library will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday. It will close Thursday. It will be open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

There will be no window service, post office box service or residential/business mail delivery on Thursday.
 Normal holiday mail collections will be made, and special delivery and express mail service will be provided, Farmington postmaster Kenneth Harris said.

Normal mail service resumes Friday.

Botsford exec elected to post

Beverly Weiss, manager of personnel operations, Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills, was elected vice president-membership of the National Employee Services and Recreation Association.

A non-profit, professional organization established in 1941, NESRA is dedicated to the principle that employee services, fitness and recreation programs are essential to sound business management.

NESRA is the oldest association in the human resources field, promoting programs which serve to improve relations between employees and management, increase overall productivity, boost morale and reduce absenteeism and turnover.

Today, NESRA serves as a communication and resource network for nearly 4,000 members nationwide.

A certified employee services and recreation administrator, Weiss has served as president, vice president, director of communications and director of public relations of her local NESRA chapter, the Michigan Employee Services and Recreation Association.

She has also been the moderator of 1988 and 1989 chapter leader seminars held in conjunction with NESRA's national conferences and she now serves as NESRA's Region III director.

At Botsford General Hospital, where she has been employed for 24 years, Weiss is responsible for the direction of employee services and recreation programs for 1,000 employees and volunteers.

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