

# Boulevard for Orchard Lake Road debated

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

One Orchard Lake Road resident is having a tough time settling his home because of traffic on the busy north-south route. And he's certain a new four-lane boulevard will put traffic at his doorstep.

"If we go with the boulevard that means traffic is closer to the homes," said the Farmington Hills resident.

Orchard Lake Road resident Richard Stokes agreed. "If I wanted to live on a Telegraph I would have bought on Telegraph. You are going to be literally putting that road in my front door."

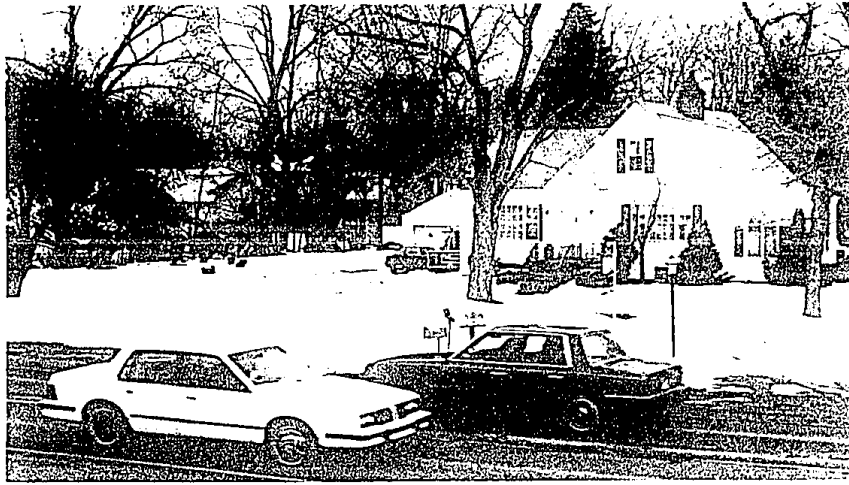
The 25 Farmington Hills residents who spoke at a public hearing Wednesday night offered a mixed bag of opinions and feelings about the type of road that might replace the existing thoroughfare between 10 Mile and 1496.

The choices are building an estimated \$9 million four-lane boulevard or building three lanes for an estimated \$650,000, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, to match the newer three lanes between 1-696 and 11 Mile.

The proposed project would tie in with a \$6.5 million widening to five lanes, from 10 Mile to Grand River. This project is expected to begin later this year, public services director Tom Biasoli said.

THE FARMINGTON Hills City Council made no decision Wednesday following the public hearing. Members agreed that residents, particularly those facing Orchard Lake Road, need an idea of exactly how much right-of-way would be taken for a boulevard.

"It occurs to me we should have



Orchard Lake Road residents, between 10 and 11 Mile, fear losing some of their frontage if the roadway is widened to a four-lane boulevard.

done this before this meeting," councilman Ben Marks said. He asked city administrators to do a "preliminary line design" to show Orchard Lake Road homeowners how much frontage they would lose to a boulevard.

City manager William Costick

said homeowners can assume that 75 feet is needed on both sides of the existing road's center for a boulevard.

Other council members agreed with Marks. "I'd like some more information. They deserve to know how close that is to their front door,"

councilwoman Nancy Bates, adding she would be "enormously influenced" by Orchard Lake Road residents.

Costick said that preliminary engineering for the boulevard would cost \$30,000-\$40,000 and take about four months to complete.

"I'm not looking for a full-blown \$40,000 deal," Marks said. "Don't get wrapped up in the bureaucratic engineering thing."

SOME RESIDENTS believe a four-lane boulevard would accommodate growing traffic volumes, safety

problems and would maintain the area's residential character.

"Instead of playing catch up, let's stay ahead of the game and put no boulevard," Springfield resident David Rosenblatt said.

The Farmington Hills Planning Commission supports a boulevard for safety and as a way to maintain the residential character of the area.

A three-lane road would "be infinitely worse" for safety problems,

planning commission chairwoman Joanne Smith said. "We would like to stay true to our firm conviction that Orchard Lake stay a residential Road."

Yet many residents touted the virtues of building just three lanes between 11 Mile to 10 Mile.

"I think the number one issue here is what we do to restrict traffic in the downtown condominium reader said who supports either two or three lanes on Orchard Lake to restrict traffic. "Traffic is the monster. It's the monster, the danger."

Already Orchard Lake Road carries an average 19,000 vehicles daily. A three lane road would accommodate an average 25,000 and a boulevard an average 55,000.

"I don't see anything residential about 55,000 cars a day about 40 feet from my door. I can't imagine putting my kids in the front yard. I can't imagine letting my dog in the front yard," Orchard Lake Road resident Stokes said.

Some residents support a three-lane road because they believe the center lane would provide easier left turns than a boulevard where cars would stack up waiting to be around for a turn. "You can only get a couple cars in that turn-around," Orchard Lake Road resident Roseanne Jodway said.

## A comparison of three-lane and four-lane proposals

Following is a comparison of a possible three-lane road and a four-lane boulevard for Orchard Lake Road.

- Three lane cross section:
  - Would run between 11 and 10 Mile. It would tie into the newer three lanes between 1-696 and 11 Mile.
  - Would have one northbound and

one southbound lane with a contraflow center turn lane.

- Would include widening and resurfacing of the existing pavement, open ditch drainage, gravel shoulders and no sidewalks.
- Would be built within the existing right-of-way with only minor right-of-way acquisition needed.
- Would have a capacity for an average 25,000 vehicles daily.

- Could begin construction in summer fall 1990 for an estimated \$650,000. The project would be financed through the tri-party program with the Oakland County Road Commission paying \$125,000, Oakland County, \$1,250,000 and Farmington Hills, \$400,000.
- Four-lane boulevard:
  - Would run between 1-696 and 10 Mile.

- Would have two northbound and two southbound lanes with indirect left turns.
- With new pavement would be constructed with a landscaped median, enclosed drainage, curb and gutter and sidewalks.
- Would need a maximum 150

feet of right-of-way with acquisition necessary on the east and west sides of Orchard Lake Road.

- Would have a capacity for an average 55,000 vehicles daily.
- Could begin construction summer fall 1991 at the earliest, depending on the availability of state

- and federal grants.
- Would be financed with an estimated \$9 million in state and federal grants as well as the tri-party program, with the Oakland County Road Commission, Oakland County and Farmington Hills each paying a share.

## Supreme Court to hear case involving Hills man

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

The Michigan Supreme Court is set to hear oral arguments this month in the case of David Michael Schultz, a Farmington Hills resident and former Bloomfield Hills teacher convicted of cocaine delivery charges in 1987.

Changes in the law in 1988 have taken the case before the state's highest court.

"The question is, is it (the change in the law) retroactive to David's case," said his attorney, William Wolfram of Franklin. "That's what we will argue."

A spokeswoman at the high court in Lansing said this week that arguments were originally set for December 1989 but were postponed twice — first to January then, again, to March.

The case has been at the Supreme Court level for 15 months. The court accepted the case after a state appellate court ordered resentencing for Schultz based on changes in the state drug laws.

The Oakland County prosecutor appealed that ruling to the high court in November 1988, contending the sentence was correct. Oakland Circuit Judge Hilda Gage refused to re-sentence, saying that was not within her jurisdiction.

SCHULTZ, A 1980 graduate of

*Schultz, a 1980 graduate of Farmington High School, has maintained he did not know what was in a package he carried to a friend's house on Nov. 13, 1986. Farmington police later conducted a drug raid and discovered 10 ounces of cocaine in the package.*

Farmington High School and former mathematics teacher and coach at Bloomfield Hills Middle School, has maintained he did not know what was in a package he carried to a friend's house on Nov. 13, 1986, where Farmington police later conducted a drug raid and discovered 10 ounces of cocaine in the package.

Schultz was convicted in April 1987 by an Oakland County jury of delivery of a controlled substance between 225 and 650 grams, which, at the time, carried a mandatory 20 years in prison. He was sentenced to 20-30 years.

But Schultz was sentenced under the old Controlled Substance Act. In a statute amendment that took effect on March 1, 1988, state legislators lowered the penalty from a mandatory 20 years to a 10-year minimum and gave judges leeway in sentencing.

Schultz's attorney believes, because of the change, his client should receive a lighter sentence, an opin-

ion upheld by the state appeals court.

SCHULTZ is serving his time at the Scott Correctional Facility in Plymouth, where "he's doing as best as can be expected," said Wolfram.

He has been selected by other prisoners as a liaison to the facility's staff, and is teaching and working in the facility's library.

Schultz's friend, Daniel William Jamieson, 29, at whose house the raid occurred, jumped bail after being arraigned as a co-defendant in the case and has yet to be captured.

Gary Goss, deputy director for the Farmington Department of Public Safety, called Jamieson's case an "open and active investigation."

"It's just a matter of time and time is on our side," he said, adding that the department has had several good leads on Jamieson's whereabouts. "We're not going to go away."

any charge in 4th District Court in Farmington. Jamieson waived his right to an exam, but never showed up for arraignment and trial in Oakland County Circuit Court. He remains at large.

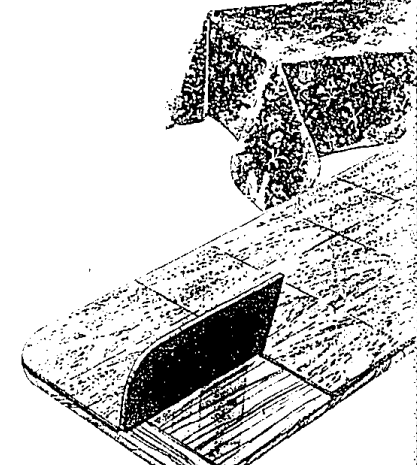
- April 21, 1987 — Schultz takes the stand for perjury testimony in Oakland County Circuit Court, giving his side of the story.
- April 28, 1987 — After daylong deliberations, the jury finds Schultz guilty of delivering 10 ounces of cocaine.
- May 18, 1987 — Schultz is sentenced to the mandatory minimum of 20 years in prison as required by law. He is serving his time at the Scott Correctional Facility in Plymouth.
- Nov. 12, 1988 — A new state statute takes effect, reducing the penalty for Schultz's crime to a 10-year minimum and giving judges power

to depart from that for substantial and compelling reasons.

- Nov. 7, 1988 — The Michigan Court of Appeals affirms his conviction, but orders a re-sentencing for Schultz, based on the new legislation.

- Nov. 22, 1988 — The Oakland County prosecutor appeals the appellate ruling to the Michigan Supreme Court.
- Nov. 23, 1988 — Oakland Circuit Judge Hilda Gage refuses to re-sentence Schultz because of the high court appeal, stating, "I don't believe I have the jurisdiction to re-sentence."

- 1989 — Attorneys file necessary written briefs.
- March 7, 1990 — The state Supreme Court is slated to hear oral arguments on the case.



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