Waste plans drawing fire

staff writer

Rochester Hills Mayor Billie Ireland Is rallying opposition to Oakland County's \$470 million solid waste program, which is in the final stages of preparation. Ireland is threatening to revive a lawsuit against an expanded landfill within her city and she's preparing to muster two city councils to fight within her city and she's preparing to muster two city councils to fight the waste-loc-nergy incherator to be located upwind in Auburn Hills. Ireland outlined her opposition—and plans to organize it—Friday, the day after the county's 641 committee (short for Oakland County Solid Waste Management Planning Committee (short for Oakland County Solid Waste Management Planning Committee of Public Act 641) began approving the final version of the plan. The 641 committee met for more than three hours Thursday before a largely hostile crowd in the county auditorium. The meeting will be continued at 7 p.m. April 25 in the courty auditorium. "We expect to complete our work

tinued at 7 p.m. April 25 in the county auditorium.

"We expect to complete our work at that time and submit the solid waste plan to the board of commissioners," said James G. Meenahan, committee chairman.

committee chairman.

AS OF THURSDAY, the plan included six recycling centers (either
existing or in the planning stage),
three waste-to-energy incinerators
and 10 existing or proposed landfills.
Meenaban said the plans include
major changes made on the basis of
public comment effered during the
90-day period concluded March 29.
He said they include:

Abandoning plans for a countyowned landfill with a 40-year capneity.

owned landfill with a 40-year capre-tity.

The county may yet own landfills, but they will be much smaller, with relatively short expected life expectancies—less than 20 years.

Otherwise, the county will rely on existing privately operated landfills to accommodate ash from its incinerator and trash that can not be recycled.

14 communities including Birming-ham, Troy and Madison Heights. Un-der the existing solid waste plan, that landfill would be expanded, al-though it would be enclosed in a bub-ble-like dome to minimize odors, noise and other nuisances.

bough it would be enciosed in a businesse bis-like dome to minimize odors, noise and other nuisances. In a letter to commissioners, Ireland said continuing to operate the landfill encode seems of the adjacent terrain and population. The mayor said contamination from the landfill could adversely affect wetlands, the Clinton River and Ellomer State Park. She also notes that a mobile home park with 1,80% residents is located adjacent to the landfill's west property line. "The proposed landfill is wrong; for many reasons," freland said in the Clinton River, the wetlands and the floodplain makes absolutely no sense. The city appeals to you two to remove the site from the updated sold water plant and the floodplain makes absolutely no sense. The city appeals to you two to to remove the site from the updated sold water plant and the floodplain makes absolutely no sense. The city appeals to you two to to remove the site from the updated sold water plant that Inched the facility had not yet been approved. "We will reinstate that suit if the landfill is not removed," Ireland vowed.

BEELAND SAID the is countly dis-

IRELAND SAID she is equally dis-

Piezze Dezause the plan includes the incinerator in Auburn Hills, directly west of — and upwind from — Rochester and Rochester Hills. Ireland said she plans to call "one heck of a meeting" with the city councils from Rochester and Rochester Hills to muster and organize opposition.

chester Hills to muster and organize opposition.
She wants the incinerator canceled or moved, Ireland said.
Commissioners were expected to receive Ireland's letter over the weekend or sometime today.
When informed of Ireland's sentiments, the vice chalrman of the board said the mayor was overreacting.

'The preposed landfill is wrong for many reasons. Allowing the landfill . with the Clinton River, the wetlands and the flood plain makes absolutely no sense.'

— Mayor Billie Ireland,

Abandoning plans for landfills in Holly and Novi townships.
Requiring that subsequent additions to the solid waste plan get final approval from the Oakland Board of Commissioners, rather than the county executive.
The final change was a political concession, Meenahan acknowlided Hills.
She was referring to the General Motors trash-to-energy facility at concession, Meenahan acknowlided Hills.
Road south of South Boulevard in Portice.
THAT FACILITY, which converts the plant, is one of three incincrators recrutiny, and pressure, over commissioners on the explosive issue of solid many confidence of the plant, is one of three incincrators is upwind of waste.

That incinerator is upwind of master.

That incinerator is upwind of mostifed Hills much the same as

Mayor Ireland, however, wants more changes. Specifically, she wants one of the three landfills— the one north of Avon Road, south of Bloomer State Park — closed rather

THE LANDFILL is owned by the Southeast Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority, which includes

Pontiac.

THAT FACILITY, which converts trash from GM into power used at the plant, is one of three inclinerators included in the 641 plan.

That incinerator is upwind of Bloomfiled Hills much the same as the proposed Auburn Hills incinerator is upwind of Rochester Hills, said McConnell.

"It doesn't cause problems and it doesn't lower property values," said McConnell. "and the technology used for the new incinerator will gar more sophisticated (and presumably have cleaner air emissions)."

Conservative dash.



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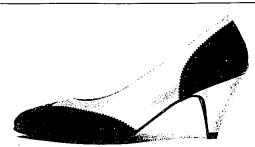
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