

## Oxford residents win hospital gate dispute

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through parking areas to reach the emergency room on the west side of the hospital.

Security guards and new signs also have been placed at the Oxford gate to prevent exiting onto the street. "In short, we have closed that as an exit from the property," Cooper said. "Our contention now is the system is very effective."

Residents said the traffic problem had improved somewhat but they still see some cars leaving the gate.

"The minute security leaves, traffic comes and goes at a pace you wouldn't believe," Oxford resident Betty Cook said. "Cooper said the Oxford gate is necessary for emergency traffic entry to the hospital because the routing around the hospital is not particularly safe because it cuts through parking areas. This is not a good route, he added."

Yet councilwoman Nancy Bates said she was convinced there is more danger for Oxford residents to let emergency traffic travel down the street rather than have the traffic routed on the hospital campus.

SOME COUNCIL members didn't let the history researched by Kurzeja pass.

"I think it's unfortunate we are where we are in 1991 when all of those things were foreseen in 1962," councilwoman Jean Fox said. "You don't have two entrances. You have one. It seems to me there's been negligence on the part of the city

**'I think it's unfortunate we are where we are in 1991 when all of those things were foreseen in 1962.'**

— Jean Fox, councilwoman

with enforcement and negligence on the part of the hospital."

But councilman Ben Marks didn't totally buy that. He referred to 1974 planning commission minutes with reference of hospital site plans to the Oxford gate. "They (planners) maybe modified it (original plans and prohibitions)," he said.

Kurzeja said stories from 1962 about the rezoning of the property and plans stressed only one entrance to the hospital on Grand River.

She also had copies of homeowners association minutes of a Feb. 28, 1980 meeting at which, according to the minutes, hospital administrator Cooper said the Oxford entrance was for emergency fire vehicles only and "would remain closed as it had always been."

Yet Cooper continued to insist that the hospital always had two entrances and that could be found in hospital records, which he did not provide at the meeting. He was, however, provided Kurzeja's research.

"No, I don't want to see an article from a newspaper," Cooper said.

## Authority narrows down landfill choices

The Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County is narrowing down the choice for a landfill contract to serve its member communities, including Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Such an independent move by the seven-municipality consortium — which is nearing the end of a 10-year period with the Detroit Incinerator — could put a crimp in the solid waste plan proposed by Oakland County.

"It might have an impact on the size of the county facilities such as landfill capacity or an incinerator. If we go out of county with our waste, basically they'll need to reduce the facility size," said RRRASOC general manager Lenora Jadun.

In November, voter approval will be solicited on Oakland County's Public Act 641 solid waste plan, to include a \$500 million bond to build a county landfill, incinerator, composting and recycling facilities.

Oakland County's plan requires 2,000 tons per day of trash before the county will proceed in building a \$287 million incinerator in Auburn Hills. The county also needs 1,000 tons per day of waste and recyclables for its first phase county MRF and landfill program to make the program financially feasible.

The RRRASOC communities together put out about one-third of Oakland County's non-recyclable solid waste — about 1,000 tons per day.

THE BIGGEST impact of RRRASOC

SOC going its own way could be on the Auburn Hills incinerator plan, according to Oakland County Commissioner Kay Schmidt, R-Nov.

The county has already waited 18 months as the state Department of Natural Resources reviews the incinerator's overall mercury emissions policies, thus delaying approval of its air quality permit.

"I'm quite concerned about it myself. The only thing that has bothered us is the fact that we have not been given the state permit to burn. That's holding up the whole county plan," Schmidt said. "I understand RRRASOC's hurry to get it done, but I just don't see the urgency for them to do this now until they see what the county can do."

Jadun said RRRASOC is following

the direction set by representatives from its member communities, including the highly developed and high-trash generating Farmington Hills and Southfield.

"The whole authority wants the most economical and environmentally safe program. That's the bottom line," Jadun said.

The lowest of four landfill bids validated by the authority was submitted by Browning Ferris Industries for their landfill and the member communities in turn would sign a contract with the authority.

"It's convenient for Now if they're going to go forward with the solid waste contract. It allows the small haulers the ability to bid on the service. I know there's been some concern about that," Jadun said.

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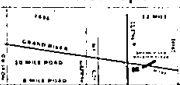
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