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School officials await Wednesday vote totals

By Tim Smith Start Write

"Crossroads Wednesday"
might be the way this week's vote
on Proposal A is being viewed by
business administrators in the
West Bloomfield and Walled
Lake school districts.

Lake school districts.

Rejecting the controversial plan undoubtedly would signify the start of crunch time for those in charge of bringing 1993-94 budgets to their school boards for adoption before the state-mandated July 1 deadline. Wednesday's result will determine whether belt-tightening needs to be more pronounced.

"If it passes my June will be a whole lot easier," said Thomas Goulding, assistant superintend-ent for business and operations in West Bloomfield schools. "If it doesn't pass we've got some real financial uncertainties around here."

Namely whether to lay off em-ployees, chip away at programs or trim services.

"There's no question, if this fails there'll have to be a significant reduction including layoff of staff," said Goulding, estimating the district would face a \$2 million budget deficit in that case.

In the Welled Lake Consolidated School District, the election result will mean the difference between having a projected \$2.5 million shortfall—if A is adopted—or one between \$8.5 million.sed Smillion.sed Sandra Motz, executive director of business services.

tive director of business services.

Whatever happens this week,
budget planning probably won't
be a major headache for Mote to
ther Walled Lake officials. In
April, Superintendent James Geisler directed all departments to
project a 12 percent cut for next
year as a "worst-case scenario" in
the event Proposal A falls.

And while board members May 6 approved a recommendation to lay off 47 teachers if the measure

- ÑÖTÖРНОТО '

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Thomas Goulding WB school official

is defeated, Geisler that night said "Proposal A passing would mean a majority would be re-called."

"We're prepared," Motz said.
"We're ready to roll on June 3rd
(the day after the election). We
have to be prepared."

Motz said Proposal A would be a good fit for the rapidly growing Walled Lake district because it guarantees all students at least \$4,800 in per-pupil funding no matter how big the student body

Recause of Walled Lake's cor Because of Walled Lake's con-tinued growth, other plans that base funding on the previous year's enrollment would ultimate-ly shortchange the district, Motz added.

added.

Both the West Bloomfield and Walled Lake school boards were among those adopting resolutions in support of Proposal A. The controversial plan seeks to level the educational playing field in Michigan by raising the sales tax 2 cents while cutting property taxes and increasing revenue to districts by 3 percent.

"No plan is perfect," Goulding said. "I'm more leery right now if this plan fails than if it passes . . . What's going to happen with

public schools three years from now (if it is defeated)? I don't know."

know."
Goulding cited a couple key reasons for such endorsement. The proposal's victory would mean no more parity-driven schemes such as "Robin Hood" and tax base revenue sharing.

and tax base revenue sharing.
And it would end recapture.
That's the process where the state
provides money to out-of-formula
districts (such as West Bloomfield and Walled Lake) for programs including transportation
and special education — but then
takes some of it back.

"No more recapture of the \$2 million bucks that they're now taking away from us," Goulding said with emphasis. "That's im-

To those doubting whether the state will deliver the goods if Pro-posal A wins, Goulding said they should consider Gov. John En-gler's blitz for the measure in re-cent weeks, which included a May 18 stop at the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield.

"Because of the way Engler is campaigning for this, if this thing doesn't work their political credi-bility is going to be on the line," Goulding said.

INCREASING PROPERTY TAXES

The City Council of the City of Farmington Hills will hold a Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 7, 1993 in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, on the levying, in 1993, of a proposed increase of \$.4211 Mills (\$.4211 per \$1,000 SEV) over the base tax rate for storm drain construction, the acquisition of property and other capital improvements as well as increased constitution of the control of the

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON

and other capital improvements as well as increased operating costs, including additional public safety personnel, pursuant to Act 5, Public Acts of Michigan 1982 and on the proposed 1993-94 Budgets. If adopted, the proposed additional millage would increase revenues from ad valorem property taxes in 1993 otherwise permitted by Act 5, Public Acts of Michigan, 1982, by approximately 5.14% over the 1993 base tax rate of \$8.1906 Mills. The City presenting in the property of the 1993 base tax rate of \$8.1906 Mills. The City presenting the property of the 1993 base tax rate of \$8.1906 Mills. The City presenting the property of the 1993 base tax rate of \$8.1906 Mills. The City presenting the property of the 1993 base tax rate of \$8.1906 Mills. The City presenting the 1993 Mills of the 1993 Mills of

purposes and rate of \$6.1906 Mills. The City present-ly is authorized to levy \$8.9110 Mills for operating purposes and parks capital improvements. The millage rate increase results from adjustments to the 1992 tax levy of \$.2223 Mills to make up for required rollbacks and \$.1988 Mill increase to bal-ance recommended budgets as follows:

Drains (Roll up to \$.6000 Mills) McMahan Property Debt
Parks (Roll up to \$.5000 Mills)
Added Public Safety Personnel
Capital (Roll up to \$.3575 Mills) .0503 .0109 .0579 .0078 Operating Costs

The recommendation for 1993-94 levy is \$8.1117 Mills (\$8.1117 per \$1,000 SEV) for operating and capital improvement purposes. The \$.5000 Mill (\$.5000 per \$1,000 SEV), approved by the voters on May 7, 1991 for Parks and Recreation Capital Improvements, will also be leviced in addition to \$.4552 Mill (\$.4532 per \$1,000 SEV) for exempt debt. The amounts actually levied during the past several years part of the par are listed below:

Fiscal	Operating & Capital		Parks & Rec	Exempt Debt	Total Millage
Year	Millage	Drain	Millage	Millage	Levied
1988-89	8.2648	.0000	.4401	.6951	9.4000
1989-90	7.7759	.0000	.4137	.6406	8,8302
1990-91	7.3490	.6000	.3910	.5310	8.8710
1991-92	7.2731	.6000	.5000	.4979	8.8710
1992-93 PRO	7.2731 POSED	.6000	.5000	.4930	8.8661
1993-94	7.5117	.6000	.5000	.4532	9.0649

The purpose of this Hearing is to receive testimony and discusthe levy of the additional millage rate. The City Council will approve all or any portion of the proposed additional millage rate on June 7, 1993, after the aforementioned Public Hearing.

whileh: May 27 and 31, 1992

KATHRYN A. DORNAN,





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