Gambling from page A1

"Atlantic City has had gambling for 18 years," he said. "It hasn't brought them back." Carr should know. He and several members of Archer's communities with casinos and legalized gambling as the communities."

munities with casinos and legalized gambling.
He's seen plenty of evidence to support his view that gambling is no economic panacea.

is no economic panacea.
"They approved a brand new
casino in New Orleans on the
riverfront but then put up a temporary one in a poorer area of
the city," he said.

There were problems with crime and poorer people gam-bling away money they could not afford while the affluent tourists

stayed away.
"And the new casino never

Among the many people Carr has asked for input is Al Horner, president and CEO of Credit Counseling Centers, Inc. of Farmington Hills and a longtime opened," he said.
There are other horror stories, and Tew successes, said the father of four and grandfather of x. But Detroit is planning educa-"But Detroit is planning aduca-tional programs for the schools and training for anyone involved with gambling in order to avoid catering to gambling addicts. And the city plans to get financial support from any gaming company that profits from casinos in the city.

"The encouraging thing is that when we visit another city, they say, "You are doing it the right way," he said. "Most cities had not done enough before casinos came."

rarmington ruis and a longuine friend.

"Because of the business we're in, we have to consider how this will affect people," Horner said.

"We have a small amount of experience with casinos in Michigan," he said. But (Credit Counseling Centers) offices in the Upper Peninsula and near the Indian casinos in Mount Pleasant, Traverse City and Sault Ste. Marie are beginning to see problems as people become addicted."

Horner, whose company is a

Horner, whose company is a not-for-profit counseling service, spelled out his findings in a let-ter to Carr that would make

anyone reconsider how much good gaming does for a city.

In Windsor, Las Vogas and Fargo, North Dakota, Horner said, "local casino operators will not admit to the fact that people have become indebted due to gambling. In fact, none of the casinos in these three areas support either local human service agencies or CCCS agencies.

And local governments aren't doing much to help either, Horner said.

Ontario collects about \$1 mil-

Horner said.
Ontario collects about \$1 million annually in tax from Windsor casinos and distributes it, with Toronto getting the lion's share and Windsor getting only \$200,000, all ear-marked for Gamblers Anonymous.

Gamblers Anonymous."

"They totally have their head in the sand," Horner said.

Time to ante up

BY WILLIAM COUTANT

In Detroit, any gaming company will have to ante up before the cards are dealt, Carr said.

The Farmington Hills Police Department is being reorganized with the idea of eliminating a layer of bureaucracy, making the chain of command more efficient, giving officers more paths to advancement and saving the city

money.

Chief Bill Dwyer presented his proposal to the city council at a January goals session.

The change will eliminate one civilian job but add a one new position above the rank of lieutenest.

Under the old system, the patrol division commander, a captain, reported to one of three inspectors. They all reported to the deputy chief who then

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The city's approach should be to provide entertainment, including shows, that attracts patrons from outside of the area. "Gambling shouldn't be the main draw and the draw should include from 50-60 percent visitors," he said. "It really is a science."

tors," he said. "It really is a sci-ence."
United Way raised more than \$58.4 million for human services in Southeastern Michigan through the 1985 Torch Drive along with an additional \$4.8 million and \$2.4 million during the campaign for United Way of Oakland and New Detroit, Inc. respectively.

That success, however, could be undermined by a heavy social follout from gambling, Carr said.

In Biloxi, Miss., they have included child care and planned ahead," he said, adding that riverboat gambling and enter-tainment money have been used

to build an auditorium for the city. "It's part of the community. They had leadership and plan-

They nan leasurem in the ming."
Without those elements, gambling could burn a whole in the city's comeback.
By the time we see a person addicted to gambling, they have pretty much used their credit, money, there home is foreclosed, they are divorced and there is a limit to what we can do." Horner said.

said.
That is the challenge the city That is the challenge the city faces now that it is preparing for casinos. The committee will schedule a public hearing at Cobo Arena on March 1. It plans to submit its report to the mayor by summer's end, Carr said.

"We estimate there will be

8,000 buses a day traveling in the city. There will be parking needs, road construction, a lot o changes," Carr said. "But it's

Finances from page A1

Patterson supports the idea.

Livonin receives about \$400,000 a year through the sur-charge and can replace commu-nications equipment and hire dispatchers with the money.

Another initiative this year will focus on making sure rental properties are properly main-tained.

Hobbs said by the year 2000, 43 percent of the city's 13,000 rental properties will be at least 20 years old.

"We respond to complaints only, at this point," Hobbs said. "We don't want to have a situa-tion where the owner is not investing in the property. We

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can't afford to lose one of those areas. It has a ripple effect."

Addicts in debt

Vagnozzi said the city is look-ing at an ordinance to give the city's strategy of inspections teeth. The city is also consider-ing some increased police pres-ence at some of the larger rental properties. properties.

properties.

In keeping with the concept of maintaining a maturing community, rather than continuing fast paced development, the city wants to assign a staff person, without adding new staff, to the Economic Development Corp. to give the city more of an active role in business development and retention.

"We've had \$1 billion in devel-

opment over the last 10 years," Hobbs said. "We have to maintain that, expand business and redevelop areas, such as the Grand River corridor."

The city would like to establish a rehabilitation board, made up of citizens, to review commercial properties in the city and identify those that could use upgrad-

The city plans to upgrade its computer systems, hoping to begin installation and training in June.

The council also proposed con-tinued improvements for the decentralized youth program, including transportation improvements for children who need a ride home from a center.

And the city will propose a policy on political activities at city facilities.

reported to the chief.

Police trim from the top

The new organization eliminates the deputy chief rank and has the three assistant chiefs

report directly to the chief.

The change will result in a reduction in salary of about \$38,000 initially.



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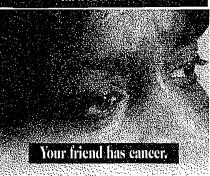


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