Road from page A1

"What you've seen here is well over \$50 million," Hills Director of Public Services Tom Blasell soid, "We haven't got that in the

of Public Sorvices Tom Binael said. "We haven't got that in the pocket, so we have to aggressively go after federal funding."

In addition, the communities have asked consultants such as Purdy and Wes Butch, a senior project manager with DLZ, civil and environmental engineers, to identify smaller pieces of the puzzle. Things like signal timing or adding a turn lane won't cost as much, but could improve trafic flow and reduce the accident rate, Biasell said.

"After we've identified recommended alternatives," Butch said, "we prioritize improvements. Which gives us more bang for our buck, which are more easily fundable, I think it would be hard to expect construction to begin before four or five years from now."

Between now and then, officials will hold public meetings required by federal law. Those won't be completed until this winter, after which a specific plan will be selected, beautifica-

tion and landscaping designed, and plans made to make up the loss of any wetlands or other valued resources, Butch caplained. And then all officials have to do is figure out how much construction will cost and where they'll get the money.

"There's a lot that has to happen," Butch said.

Among the solutions suggested thus far, the most unique may be roundabouts," or circular intersections. They can accommodate more vehicles because traffic approaches at an angle, and then merges. Common in Europe and Australia, they are only new being introduced in the United States, with a few projects proposed in Michigan.

Another plan would have traffic bearded ant Northwestern

posed in Michigan.
Another plan would have traffic headed onto Northwestern
from southbound Orchard Lake
Road taken through an underpass across 14 Mile. The road
would only be recessed; no

NORTHWESTERN

above-ground structures or tunnels would be constructed.

"The advantage of that is, if you can sparate high-volume traffic, you can get more traffic through the intersection." Purdy explained.

Other 'minor adjustments' may include widening 14 Mile to three lanes, turning Wast Maple into a four-lane boulevard and expanding Orchard Lake Road to four or six lanes.

"We're looking at each and every one of the intersections, evaluating signals and lane configurations to see if there could be improvements," Purdy said. "We haven't determined yet how many, or even if there will be any avardabatic in the how many, or even if there will be any roundabouts in the

how many, or even it there will be any roundabouts in the study. The next step involves a more detailed analysis of proposed diternatives, citizens comments and concerns. Purdy said the steering committee will come up with one or more remedies for such intersection.

Developed by evaluating the benefits, costs and impacts, the

Existing crash rates at major intersections



final recommendation will prob ably be a combination of the best alternatives identified through the public hearings. An enviro mental assessment will also be

mental assessment will also be propared, Purdy said.
Citizens can contribute to the discussion by attending a meet-ing this fall (location and time to be determined), calling (800) 336-0883; sending e-mail to nwconnector @dlzcorp.com or visiting the project Web site, www.dlzcorp. com/seg.

Writers from page A1

ment and support have had a direct effect on his success as

direct effect on his success as a writer.

"I'd written a couple of articles for 'Student Life' (magzino), and I silways aced my college English courses, but I'd never thought about getting into writing as a hobby or even a money-making venture," Murphy said.

Having had a couple of his college essays published, Murphy became interested in finding a writer's group. He found the Ridgewriters through the Farmington Public Library, Members encouraged him to enter a "Writer's Digest" magazine contest, and he received an Honorable Mention.

"It's good as far as having a supple of the property of the success of the supplementation of the supple

Mention.

"It's good as far as having other people with experience who will help guide you and lead you and give you all the encouragement you need," he

said.

After spending nine months working on a cruise ship, Murphy plans to turn his adventures into a book. He'll read one of his poems at the

聞 'I'd written a couple of articles for 'Student Life' (magazine), and I always aced my college English courses, but I'd never thought about getting into writing as a hobby or even a money-making venture.'

Brian Murphy

Ridgewriters Festival of the Arts event, an ode to the daily rind of working 9 to 5.

grind of working 9 to 5.

Murphy will also emcee the event, giving listeners some background about the group, its members and philosophy.

Listeners who find them-

selves wanting to read more from these local writers will be able to purchase their books at this event.

ATTENTION WINE LOVERS:

25% OFF EVERY BOTTLE ON OUR LIST (OVER 300 LABELS)

Every Monday through Thursday Now through May, 2000

> Discount offered with meals only Wines by the glass are excluded. Call for Reservations at (248) 348-5555



TOO CHEZ RESTAURANT

27155 Sheraton Drive, Novi Just N.W. of I-96 & Novi Rd.

12-Month CD

With a 24-Month Guarantee!

\$5,000 minimum CD deposit, plus savings or checking account with \$10,000 combined balance

\$5,000 minimum CD deposit, plus savings or checking account with \$2,500 combined balance

\$5,000 minimum CD deposit Lock in one of these great rates now for 12 months. If you leave your funds on deposit at maturity, we'll roll over your deposit for another 12 months at the same great rate!

WORLD OF FLOORS IS TO NEWEST LOCATION



ON SALE!

New Era In Floorcovering.

World of Floors is changing the way you shop for floorcovering. We've made it simple. You need bring only your fashion sense to our self-guided idea Center. Then, on your own-investigate an experience shop after shop of the latest carpet styles, colors and textures it all performance-rated according to your lifestyle.

NO DOWN PAYMENTS • NO INTEREST • NO PAYMENTS FOR ONE FULL YEAR ONE FULL YEAR FREE CREDIT ON EVERYTHING AND ANYTHING IN OUR STORES. DON'T MISS OUT...SALE ENDS SATURDAY

rallial

IN 32 OF TODAY'S MOST **WANTED COLORS**



QUPUND

*\$300.00 Minimum Purchase. Sales Tax portion of Order Must Be Pald. See Store for Details.

REPUBLIC BANK

Moomfield Hills • 1700 N. Woodward, Suite B (248) 258-5300 rmlogron Hills • 31155 Northwestern Highway (248) 737-0444 Pymouth • 186 S. Main Steet (734) 439-7800 Northville • 39901 W. Eight Mile Road (248) 735-0775

1-800-758-0753

Field (APY) as of 411700. Second APY mount of accounts. Funds may be wisherness af-

low Open S. Lennis R.

139 Main Street Rochester 248-652-6900

5.8D-7H 11.0

465111 Van Dyke Shelby Twp. 810-254-2000

WEST SIDE

R • !

CARPET • CERAMIC TILE • WOOD • NO WAX VINYL • LAMINATE