

State Land Use Bill To Get Public Hearing

Public hearings on a bill which would create a state land use and tax structure commission are scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 30, at 2:30 p.m. in the commissioners' auditorium, Oakland County Service Center in Pontiac.

The hearing will be conducted by the House taxation subcommittee on assessment practices.

The land use commission would identify and designate areas of the state of critical environmental concern and areas of development and land use of regional benefit.

STRESSING PRESERVATION of open land and farm land, the commission would strive to protect and preserve land which conserves or benefits natural or scenic resources.

This would include such resources as water supplies, soils, beaches or tidal marshes, adjoining parks, forests, wildlife preserves, recreational opportunities, historic sites and tracts of land in urban areas.

According to Rep. Phillip Mastin (D-Hazel Park), who sponsored Substitute House Bill 6256, the commission would assure "that local regulations do not restrict or prevent development and land use which would be of regional benefit."

Such a commission would also be responsible for developing policies influencing the location of new communities and land use around them. Under the bill, a tract of land which is at least five acres could be preserved if it were located in an urban area and open to public use.

"The proposal would also develop that type of tax structure that would allow and encourage the preservation of open land and farmland," explained Mastin.

This would involve application by an owner for a "use value" assessment on his property. The property would have to be certified by a planning agency or county equalization director according to its zoning or land use for three of the preceding five years.

Conservatives Set Convention

The Conservative Party of Michigan will hold its first statewide convention since becoming an official political party on Saturday, Aug. 26, in the Sheraton Cadillac Hotel in Detroit.

Theme will be "Defeat McGovernism through positive conservative action," according to Mary G. Rice, executive secretary.

District and county chairmen will be elected. Candidates will be nominated for Congress, state, county and township offices and will appear on the November ballot under the Conservative Party of Michigan label. A party platform will be adopted.

Luncheon speaker will be Paul L. Adams, Ph.D., academic dean at Hillsdale College. Dr. Adams was the New York Conservative Party's nominee for governor in both 1966 and 1970. Guests are welcome. Information on registration and luncheon reservations is available at the headquarters of the Conservative Party of Michigan.

Lampman Is Nominated For Purple Cross

LIVONIA Clyde A. Lampman, 29825 Westfield, Livonia, has been nominated to receive the purple cross of York, the top York Rite award of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America.

The award is presented at a general assembly in Detroit. It is given annually to a York Rite Mason for outstanding service to Masonry, his community, state or country.

This year 34 men from across the country were nominated for the award.



A BRUSH PILE obstructs the flow of the Middle Rouge river in Westland and will be one target of the Sept. 16 "Rescue the Rouge" project sponsored by Jaycees in western Wayne County. A similar project will be conducted the same day in Farmington. (Observer photo)

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Auto Show Chief Named

Gordon Wilson, president of the Detroit Auto Dealers Association has named Jerry Biefield, vice chairman of last year's show, to the post of chairman of the 57th annual Auto Show.

In making the announcement, Wilson said, "We will introduce the industry's new family-sized model; bigger, glossier and more exciting than any previous Auto Show."

Biefield said he is already engaged in plans for the show, which will be held Nov. 18 through 26 in Detroit's Cobo Hall.

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