

# Controversial drain gets go-ahead

By JACKIE KLEIN  
 Southfield officials are urging construction of the controversial Peterson Drain, the target of a Franklin Village lawsuit and a protest movement by environmentalists.  
 Southfield City Council Monday passed a three-pronged resolution calling for favorable consideration of the project by Michigan Environmental Review Board; extension of the Dec. 31 construction permit date by Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and subsequent execution of contracts for the improvement by Oakland County Drain Commission.  
 The Peterson Drain is intended to serve a 200-acre area in Southfield's Silver Triangle, bounded by Telegraph, Twelve Mile and Northwestern Highway.  
 In February, Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Frederick Ziem denied a request for an injunction sought by Franklin to force the county drain board to conduct an environmental assessment on the impact of the Peterson. The drain would be a tributary of the proposed Pernick Drain. Ziem didn't dismiss the case.

leaving open the possibility of further legal action by Franklin Village.  
 MEMBERS of the Rouge Basin Coalition, including Southfield residents, have gone to Lansing to insist the DNR prepare an environmental impact study of the proposed drain project.  
 Residents groups also opposed construction of an enclosed Pernick Drain, east of the proposed, hotly-debated Park LaSalle high-rise development in the Silver Triangle. Environmentalists fear installation of the drains will destroy the wildlife in the area and compound flooding problems downstream.  
 In December 1976, the drainage board for the Peterson was notified by DNR that the construction permit for the drain would expire Dec. 31, according to Southfield Engineer Franklin Burn.  
 The drainage board said the permit wouldn't be extended until an environmental impact assessment had been submitted to the DNR. Burn said the drain can't be constructed until the permit is renewed by DNR or approval to sell bonds for the project is granted by municipal finance commission.  
 An environmental impact statement was submitted in January, Burn said. But questions were raised by the bureau of land and water management on possible adverse effects of the Peterson project on natural resources.  
 Burn said he was assured by engineers that construction of the Peterson Drain wouldn't adversely affect proposed Pernick Drain construction or water retention.



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# Do-it-yourself repair shop gets done in

By JACKIE KLEIN  
 If you're a do-it-yourself auto mechanic, you'll be hard put to find a rent-a-repair facility in Southfield.  
 Southfield City Council Monday night turned down the request of Mobil Oil Corp. to convert its full-service station at the southwest corner of Swanson and Telegraph to a rent-a-repair bay and self-serve gas filling operation.  
 Council tally on its first petition for self-serve auto repair facilities was split 3-3 which constitutes denial. Missing from the seven-member legislative body was Nelson Chase who is taking a temporary leave of absence.  
 Proponents of the Mobil bid were Councilmen Philip Peterson, Jean McDonnell and Lillian Jaffe. Opposed were Councilmen Martin Hollander, Stephen Cooper and John Marcusky.  
 "I'm concerned with the loss of service at this location," Cooper said. "A change in repair facilities available to Southfield residents and others who drive through the city is detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of motorists."


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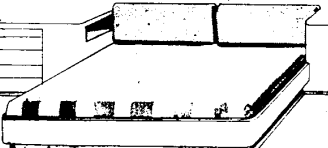
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