

In redevelopment package

Cities get new growth tools

Gov. William G. Milliken has signed a package of bills to allow municipalities to stimulate urban redevelopment through the creation of Tax Incentive Finance Authorities.

The bills (SB 1216, 1217 and 1218) were introduced at the request of the Michigan Department of Commerce. All take immediate effect.

The new laws permit a city to "plow back" all of the increased property tax revenue resulting from new private development into rehabilitating the streets, facilities and utilities and clearing land to help continue local economic growth.

Cities have the power to create Downtown Development Authority Districts, keeping the new tax revenue generated by urban revitalization in the area where it was generated and stimulating further growth. They now can apply the same procedures to areas outside of the downtown district.

"This legislation is important to the revitalization and self-determination of our older Michigan cities," Milliken said, "allowing them to influence the re-investment of private dollars into areas of greatest need."

"This package can provide an incentive for private business to re-invest in our cities, creating new jobs for our urban unemployed and retaining existing jobs," he added.

The most immediate beneficiaries, according to Commerce Department reports, are industrial development projects in Detroit, Pontiac and Flint. Collectively, they are expected to induce auto industry capital investment of \$1.4 billion and create or retain up to 14,000 manufacturing jobs.

Industrial development projects in Lansing, Battle Creek, Benton Harbor and Kalamazoo also are expected to benefit from the new laws.

Houghten heads road board

Fred D. Houghten of Avon Township has been re-elected chairman of the three-man Board of Oakland County Road Commissioners.

Houghten, 60, was appointed to the road board by the County Board of Commissioners in 1977. He has been the road commission chairman since 1979. Houghten is director of regional development with the Community National Bank of Pontiac.

A county commissioner for eight years, Houghten was chairman of the county board in 1976. He is a former director and president of the National Bank of Rochester, a former stock and securities dealer, and he owned an Oldsmobile and GMC Truck dealership in Rochester for 25 years.

Houghten's term on the road commission board expires in 1983. As road commission chairman, he is also a member of the county Parks and Recreation Commission.

commission vice-chairman replacing John R. Gnaou of Bloomfield Township.

Gnaou, Michigan campaign director last year for President Ronald Reagan, is being considered for a new six-year term on the road board with four other candidates.

The county board is expected to make an appointment at its Feb 5 meeting.

Vogt, 50, works for Chrysler Corp.'s Defense Engineering Division in cost accounting. He is a unit chairman in the UAW.

Vogt, whose road board term expires in 1985, was a county commissioner in 1973 and 1974 and an appointed member of the county Parks and Recreation Commission for three years.

The three road commissioners are Republicans.

CETA grant writing taught

A workshop in writing Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) grants will be held March 10 at Eastern Michigan University.

The workshop will be taught by Robert Jenks, executive director of the Work Education Council of Southeast Michigan, and Bev Stanton, special projects coordinator for adult and community education for Wayne/Westland Community Schools. Jenks and Ms. Stanton have developed, written, implemented and directed more than \$3.8-million in CETA project proposals.


The EMU workshop will focus on an overview of CETA, linking CETA with adult and community education, how to apply for CETA funds, implementing CETA programs and special emphasis on Title II, III and VI.

Registration for the workshop, to be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., is limited to 40 participants. A registration fee of \$50 per person includes lunch and materials. A 10 percent reduction is available for groups of two or more from the same organization who attend the workshop. For more information, call Patrick Barley Jr. at 487-0312.

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correction



A story on Monday's Observer & Eccentric Travel page incorrectly identified Bruce Himrod as Dick Greenough, founder of Airmet charter information service, and also listed a wrong telephone number. The real Greenough is at left; the telephone number for Airmet is 852-7774.

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