Oakland eyeing landfill business

By TOM LONERGAN

Oakland County may be in the trash Oakland County may be in the trash dump business sooner than it planned. The Board of Commissioners last week approved, in a 17-5 vote, a \$49,800 study of two landfills which could lead to county purchase of both. They are in Rose Township and Pontiac.

The county is including the landfills it is solid waster disnosal master plan.

The county is including the landfills in its solid waste disposal master plan, which won't be considered by the state for approval until July 1982. However, Camp Dresser and McKee, a Detroit consulting firm with which the county board contracted with last week, could recommend within 45 days that the county by the 200-acre Marlowe Landfill in Rose Township and/or the 80-acre Collier Road landfill owned by the city of Pontiac.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE Daniel Murphy will present the county's proposed solid waste/resource recovery master plan at 7:39 p.m. Wednesday in the Board of Commissioners auditorium. The plan, which will include landfills and incineration, among other methods, is required of all counties by the state Solid Waste Management Act of 1978.

1978.

The county baord's approval last week of the Camp Dresser hydrogeological study is expected to convince. LE. Marlowe & Sons, of Rose Toynship, to keep its landfill open until the county decides whether to buy is. Marlowe had announced plans to close the landfill last month. Marlowe currently uses 33 acres for the Rose

Township landfill and has been at odds with township officials about expan-

Township landill and has been at ozyan-sion.

County officials persuaded Marlowe to keep the landfill open until the end of February, hus averting a potential solid waste disposal crisis affecting 300,000 county residents.

County Executive and Murphy, and the county described by the Were having to move sooner than our waste disposal system plan is going to permit us to do.

The Marlow landfill, which has op-erated since 1948, is one of four left in the county described and the county described have seen and a city of Troy landfill near M-S9 and Dequinder eroads are the only two available to the public.

CAMP DRESSER will conduct soil,

CAMP DRESSER will conduct soil. water table and groundwater tests at the two sites to determine if they'll meet state and federal environmental

meet state and federal environmental standards.

The county would have the two sites appraised before the county board considers any purchase.

"We can't tell you a price now," Murphy told the board last week. The county plans to issue revenue bonds to finance the landfills and other parts of its soild waste, disposal system. The landfill planning and purchasing costs would be recouped through were fees. The study was approved 17-5. Commissioners Lawrence Pernick, D-Southfield, three other Democrats and Republican John Olsen, of Huntington Woods, voted no.

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The existing homes sales market may slump even further before it begins to rebound in the latter half of 1981, according to the Western Wayne word (WWOCBR). Nationally, the realtors expect to report a 22.7 percent drop in the resale of homes for 1980. Sale of 2.8 million units is the anticipated total when all reports are in. This compares to 3.7 million in 1973 and 3.8 million in the record 1978 year. The word of the record 1978 year. When the record 1978 year and establish a new record of four million in 1982.

WWOCBR does expect a continued edge down to more acceptable levels rise in home prices as the economy later in the year. turns back up.

"HIGHER PRICES will continue to be pushed by inflation and demand," he said. "The biggest increases will occur in the faster growing states, so by com-parison local prices still will appear as bargains.

"These will be offset by rising prices so we don't really see any significant decrease in the cost of buying a home," he added.

"Any delay by those ready to buy might end up costing them more. A national survey showed that average monthly mortgage payments for persons buying homes in 1980 was 33 percent higher than those who bought in 1979. Including principal, interest, taxes and insurance, average payments He added that mortgage interest 1979. Including principal, interest, rates are not expected to show any sharp decline early in 1981, but should rose to \$599 from \$4489."

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