

Freeway's Busting Up Our Homes

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for the Farmington Road to Middle Belt section in Livonia.

The Newburgh to Farmington section is to be let April 15; Eckles to Newburgh, July; Middle Belt to Inkster, July; Inkster to Beech, August.

THESE CONTRACTS will cover completion of the work involved in the east-west portion of the new I-96 (or Jeffries) Freeway, taking it to the planned four-level interchange at Haggerty Road.

This interchange will link up the Jeffries with its turn to the north, to link with the I-696 Detroit-Lansing freeway; and with the planned I-275 freeway south and planned M-14 freeway west around Plymouth to Ann Arbor.

Plans have not been finalized for the Jeffries north-south routing, generally along Haggerty road, according to highway department spokesman.

All of the Jeffries and the I-275 construction are targeted on a 1974 completion.

CONTRACT LETTINGS for I-275 begin later "because most of it is in more rural areas and thus quicker to build," said the spokesman. First contract is slated to be let for I-275 in July of this year, for the portion from I-96 (Schoolcraft Road) south to about Ann Arbor Road. Other portions are scheduled to be put under contract in 1971 and 1972.

On the portion of the Jeffries alone in Redford Township, Livonia and Farmington Township, the total cost will exceed \$75 million. Original estimates in 1964 were \$54 million. Construction costs have since escalated by more than 50%, and no one seems to know exactly how much.

Department spokesmen point out that I-696 construction was originally estimated to cost \$115 million, and that after eight years of route haggling, the bill more than doubled to \$250 million.

The Jeffries was originally scheduled for 1972 completion. A cutback in federal funding during the administration of President Lyndon Johnson forced the two-year delay.

Another delay is possible but not yet predicted. The Highway Department has voluntarily cut back scheduled construction for this year by 10%, to \$200 million, in compliance with economy requests from President Richard Nixon.

THE FEDERAL government foots 90% of the freeway construction costs as part of the interstate defense highway program.

If federal funds are not cut back by more than 10%, the 1974 date can be met, department officials believe.

They are especially desirous to meet their target because that is the construction deadline set by Congress, which might or might not be inclined to change it.

When all is done, there will be a direct link up between the Ambassador Bridge to Canada in Detroit and points north, west and south—right through the heart of Observerland.



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A News Analysis

Novi's New Town? Not Quite

By TIM RICHARD

It would be an exaggeration to call the housing project revealed last weekend for the Novi area a "new town."

It's just too small and too narrow in scope to earn a genuine "new town" label.

And it's nowhere near the size of a new town envisioned for the Novi-Walled Lake area by TALUS (Transportation and Land Use Authority).

The Detroit News reported that a non-profit group called Metropolitan Detroit Citizens Development Authority (MDCDA) has quietly picked up 765 acres of the 1,000 acres it needs for a housing development in Novi.

THIS SO-CALLED "new town" would hold 13,000 to 15,000 persons and have a variety of housing types—single

family homes, apartments and townhouses—in a variety of price ranges. The development would be integrated racially, socially and economically.

MDCDA has formed a "6th of Michigan Corp." to handle the transactions. MDCDA is foundation-financed; chairman is UAW President Walter Reuther; executive secretary is Edward Robinson, a former Democratic state senator.

The project area is bounded by 10 Mile on the north, Nine Mile on the south, Beck Road on the west and a line a half-mile east of Taft Road on the east.

Total estimated project cost would be \$102 million. Some federal funds are expected.

ALL SORTS of things are called "new towns" these days, but the usual definition is a town of at least 50,000 population with its own industrial and commercial base, as well as homes, schools and community facilities.

The Novi new town would be only 13,000 to 15,000. TALUS had envisioned a development of 75,000 in that general area.

The acreage breakdown shows nothing for industry and only 10 acres "for commercial and community facilities." A real town should have everything.

What the MDCDA project really seems to be is a housing project. One stated aim would be to serve workers who now must commute from Detroit to suburban factory jobs. Suburbs have been hard places for factory workers to find housing, not only because of the tight money market but because of what planners call "snob zoning" by suburban governments.

THE PROJECT could run into trouble in a couple of areas.

One is zoning. The land in question is in the City of Novi, whose mayor says the

MDCDA plan calls for a far greater density of land use than Novi's master plan envisions. Presumably, the MDCDA will have to ask for zoning changes.

New town thinkers have seen local zoning regulations as an obstacle to new town development. One method they frequently discuss is to have zoning authority vested in the developer rather than in the local municipality.

A second problem area for the project could be the MDCDA itself. The Free Press recently reported in a feature article that the agency had a poor record in actually getting buildings put up, and that such professionals as bankers and builders considered MDCDA personnel "naive" and inept in the mere mechanics of housing.

In short, the "new town" project at Novi is far from being as big a thing as it is pumped up to be, and it's got a lot of obstacles ahead of it.

Edgewood PTO Seeks Help For League

"Normal Development of Children" was the title of a talk given recently to the Edgewood Parent Teacher Organization by Howard L. Shapiro, clinical psychologist for the South Oakland Child Guidance Clinic.

The PTO is looking for men interested in taking charge of a PeeWee baseball league for Edgewood. Interested persons are invited to call Keith Gagnon at 476-1062.

Parents were reminded to keep turning in trading stamps to the school for use in purchasing prizes for the spring fair May 9.

3 From C'ville In Major Concert

Clarenceville junior and senior high bands are primed and ready to compete in the Southeastern Michigan district band festivals.

The senior high band will travel to the high school in Milan on Saturday, March 7, while the two junior bands—concert and cadet—will enter competition in the Saline High School March 14.

Under the direction of John Nettek, the senior high band will perform at 4 p.m. Its required number is "First Suite in E Flat" by Holst. Selected numbers are "Second Symphony for Band—The Finale" by Erickson and "March in Glesina" by Delle Cese.

The concert band will play "Evangeline Overture" by Buchtel. Required number is "Ballade" by Erickson.

The concert band will play at 8:25 a.m. and the cadet band at 3:05 p.m.

Kuhn, Beebe Push For Daylight Time

Daylight savings time will again be on the ballot for public vote if five state senators, including two from Observerland, have their way.

Sens. R. Lorraine Beebe (R-12th District) and George Egan (R-4th District) co-sponsored a constitutional amendment proposal to place the issue on the ballot this fall. Daylight saving time failed to be approved in the fall 1968 elections by a paper-thin margin.

Joining with Mrs. Beebe whose district includes Redford Township, and Kuhn, representing Farmington, Livonia, Northville and Plymouth in this area, were Sens. Raymond Drendzel of Detroit, John T. Bowman of Roseville and Stanley F. Rozycki of Detroit.

KUHN ISSUED a statement this week stating he is "anxious" to re-submit the question.

The State Affairs Committee, on which Kuhn serves, has reported the bill to the Senate floor for action.

"I believe that since the people have had a year or so experience with both Daylight Saving time and Eastern Standard time, they are now in a better position to judge what they really desire," stated Kuhn.

"I believe it is of the utmost importance that Michigan once again get in step with the rest of the nation in the areas of finance, commerce, transportation, radio and television.

"Even more important, however, is the matter of ever

increasing violent street crimes. An extension of the daylight hours in the spring and summer could do much to reduce such street crimes as mugging, rape, robbery, etc."

Kuhn concluded. THE AMENDMENT will require a two-thirds vote of both the Senate and the House in order to place the issue on the November 1970 ballot. Voter approval is also required prior to the implementation of daylight saving time.

Income Tax Errors Made On Adjustment

Early federal income tax returns indicate that many taxpayers are making errors in claiming adjustments to their income which may delay their refunds, says the Internal Revenue Service.

The term "adjustments," as used on the tax form, refers only to sick pay, moving expenses, employee business expenses, and payments to self-employment retirement plans. The total of these items is entered on line 15B of the Form 1040, the IRS said.

Some taxpayers are incorrectly reporting on line 15B the total of their itemized deductions such as interest expense, state and local taxes, contributions, medical, or miscellaneous expenses. These deductions should be computed and entered on the appropriate schedules as provided in the instructions.



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