

County Unit Backs Hines Park Winterizing

By W.W. EDGAR

A plan to develop Middle Rouge Parkway -- the area on either side of Hines Drive -- into an outstanding winter activity center is being submitted by Wayne County to the State Department of Natural Resources.

The Rouge plan is one of eight projects that have been approved by the Ways and Means Committee of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors, according to Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth), who represents the 26th district on the board.

"This request will be for part of the \$25 million urban

area plan that was approved by the voters last year," Pursell explained.

"It is estimated that Wayne County's share will be \$8.5 million," he continued. "And if Ways and Means Committee approved an amendment last week to the effect that not less than one-half of the total still be spent in the City of Detroit."

ACCORDING TO the risk approved -- and which must obtain approval of the full board, \$350,000 is to be earmarked for the Middle Rouge Parkway winter activities.

The development is to include four toboggan runs, control platform, lighting, freeing equipment and snow machine, parking facilities and shelter.

This proposed development will be located between Inkster and Middle Belt Road and, if granted by the state, will be the first step in "winterizing" the entire parkway.

Included in the latest request to the state is the development of the Maybury Sanitarium property. This project will entail 700 acres of land at an approximate cost of \$1.5 million.

OTHER PROJECTS on the request include:

- Neighborhood Youth Centers.
- Nature Center Development of Eliza Howell Park with the cooperation of the City of Detroit -- \$65,000.
- Detroit River frontage, including gas company property immediately west of Ambassador bridge and Mud Island.
- Elizabeth Park in the City of Trenton -- \$2 million.
- Parkway development, including golf course, between Inkster and Middle Belt Roads in the City of Inkster -- \$565,000.
- Parkway Development, City of Wayne, between Merriman Road and Hannan Road -- \$0.5 million.

NO APPROXIMATE costs have been placed on the Neighborhood Youth Centers or the Detroit River frontage. They will be determined in conference and review with the state officials.

All told, these eight projects will absorb the \$9.5 million share of the \$25 million urban area allotted to the State Department of Natural Resources.

The request is the "second proposed by the county," the first, covering the three area

lakes -- Newburgh, Wilcox and Phoenix -- was submitted some time ago. The funds for this project were to come from the \$30 million segment of the bond issue for local units.

While no official announcement has been made, it has been hinted that all projects in the first request have been delayed for further study and investigation. Among the projects set aside for the time include \$175,000 asked by Garden City.

The second list of recommended local and state urban projects for which money is being sought has been submitted to the State Legislature, according to Glenn C. Gregg,

deputy director of recreation for the Department of Natural Resources.

THIS LIST contains 39 projects from various areas in the state with a total estimated cost of \$3.1 million.

As a counterpart to the local phase of the recreation bond-tying program the Department of Natural Resources also recently submitted 14 new state urban projects for legislative approval. Approximately \$6.1 million is requested for those projects, which place emphasis upon underwriting recreational facilities to serve large numbers of people in or near urban areas.

Proposed under this program are the development of fishing piers, game interpretive areas, shooting ranges, intensive park improvements, nature and educational areas and multi-purpose buildings to serve a broad sweep of leisure-time activities.

Gregg points out that \$21 million worth of recreation bonds will be offered for sale in March to provide funds covering the first series of submitted local and state-urban projects which have been or will be acted upon by the State Legislature.

Taft Helps McDonald; Griffin Visits Plymouth

Ohio Congressman Robert Taft Jr. drew about 285 people and helped raise about \$13,000 at a \$50-a-plate congressional report breakfast in behalf of Michigan 19th District Congressman Jack McDonald.

In contrast, Michigan junior sen. Robert Griffin drew about 300 persons to a Lincoln Day dinner in Plymouth Saturday, but the Republican Party profited "very little."

Two problems beset the Griffin engagement, money-wise.



First, sponsors charged only \$10 for tickets, and handed out 15 free ones for 38 steak dinners -- the last of the Lincoln Day circuit -- according to GOP State Chairman William McLaughlin of Northville.

Second, the party had a few debts to pay off which were caused by Griffin's inability to appear at a \$50-a-plate breakfast in Plymouth last fall. He was then forced to stay in Washington, D.C. for minority leader Everett Dirksen's funeral.

CAMPAIGN EXPOSURE—Carl Pursell (right), Wayne County Supervisor from Plymouth and Livonia, gets next to U.S. Sen. Robert Griffin for all-important "image," Pursell is readying his campaign to unseat fellow Republican George Kuhn of Birmingham in a state Senate primary battle. (Photo by Evert)

Ken Schenden, Harger Green and Owen McKenny.

REDFORD TOWNSHIP had a similarly large delegation of supporters, including Republican Township Trustee Robert Anderson and Republican Director of Public Services Horace Engler, former Democrat-crow Circuit Court Judge James L. Ryan, and Township attorney and Democratic Party member Harry Young.

Others included Margaret Larspeary, Cliff Hendricks, Charles Step, Paul Boraks, Julian Lloyd, Harold Teagan and George Grafe.

Notables at the Griffin Dinner included known office-seeker Carl Pursell, a Wayne County supervisor for Plymouth and Livonia now, Pursell makes no secret of plans to challenge fellow Republican George Kuhn for the 14th District State Senate seat.

Weldon Yeager, now a Republican representative who is seeking the secretary of state post, and his wife accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Robert Swanson of Livonia, who acted very much like he's a candidate for something but declined to say he is.

MRS. CECILIA PHELAN of Plymouth, the Griffin dinner chairman, said the "very little" proceeds will eventually be used to help defray expenses of 2nd District Congressman Marvin Esch's district headquarters and post-primary Republican campaigns.

The Taft dinner proceeds will go to a special fund outside regular party channels, according to dinner and fund chairman Robert Smith of Livonia.

"They'll be used to pay expenses of Congressman McDonald's congressional reports, newsletters, questionnaires, two district offices, and trips to and from the district," said Smith.

He said Friday's was the "biggest and best" of four such special-purpose breakfasts held so far.

HELPING TO make it so were numerous area people, including several spring election office seekers—Democrats and Republicans alike.

"We do have a number of known Democrats who every year participate and who are favorable to Jack," said Smith.

Ron Mardres, Wayne 19th District Democratic Party chairman, said he has attended the last three Mondays, who is seeking the treasurer's office in Livonia city elections, was there Friday.

So was Livonia Mayor Harvey Moeke, who is seeking re-election.

Also noted from Livonia were businessmen H.T. Bing Price, Al Connor, Mel Crover, Marshall North, Bob Leeds,

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