

Deteriorating roads will cost plenty to repair

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available at this time.

• **11 MILE, HALSTED TO DRAKE** — In the last two budget years this section of the roadway has been a high priority. With the reduction in state gas and weight funds, resulting in the reduction of the construction program, this project for general improvements has been eliminated from this year's construction program. Estimated total cost: \$270,000.

• **DRAKE from 11 to 12 MILE** — A recent study from a traffic consultant and the subsequent hearing has indicated

the need for paving this section of roadway. Because of the topography and high traffic volume, this section isn't susceptible to normal assessment policies without major contributions from the city at large. Estimated total cost: \$900,000.

• **12 MILE between Middlebelt and Farmington Road** — Along this section of the roadway, there are gaps and widening that were created as developers widened the road. In addition, there is a cross section of pavement surfaces consisting of both asphalt and concrete. A program has been consid-

ered to fill in the gaps to provide for a continuous four-lane pavement and the resurfacing to allow a uniform surface. Estimated total cost: \$400,000.

• **SILWASSEE and NINE MILE** — Intersection improvement — The intersection of Silwassee and Nine Mile has an "acute geometry" that makes it difficult for some turn movements and sight distance. City administration recommends Silwassee be straightened to intersect into Nine Mile.

• **FARMINGTON and 13 MILE** — Widening and curb controls to direct

traffic around the intersection have been suggested. No cost available at this time.

• **ORCHARD LAKE and 10 MILE** — With the recent high turnover development in this location, there have been congestion problems at the intersection. It should be widened to accommodate five lanes of traffic, according to city officials.

• **HAGGERTY and 13 MILE** — The city of Novi has received federal funding for intersection improvement of this intersection. The city recently

received a request from Novi to participate in the program to improve the intersection to provide for a straight alignment across Haggerty and to provide three lanes. Soon to be brought before City Council for consideration. Estimated cost: \$27,000.

• **MOST MAJOR ROADS** that are paved in the city should be upgraded by completing normal base repair improvements and placing a bituminous overlay work each year. All major roads could be resurfaced every 15 years. Estimated total cost: \$180,000.

• **I-696** — Discussions have been held with the state Highway Department, the city, county and the 12 Mile Road Task Force on the necessity for an additional interchange on I-696, west of Orchard Lake Road. No cost available at this time.

• **M-102 and GRAND RIVER** — The State Highway Department has prepared preliminary plans for the improvement with regard to safety and capacity. No cost available at this time.

• **LOCAL SPECIAL assessment district improvements** — City officials recommend continuation of special assessment districts to pave roads. If 50 percent of the project areas are constructed in 1983 that have contacted the city regarding potential paving, next year's special assessments would total in excess of \$1 million.

MADD strikes major legislative win

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increase over current law by three years.

• Preliminary breath tests may be administered by police officers to motorists stopped on suspicion of drunk driving. Although the results are inadmissible in court, drunk driving arrests may double or triple, since officers will have increased proof to cause to arrest drunk drivers.

• It will be harder for convicted drunk drivers to obtain restricted licenses, currently issued to facilitate transportation to work, school or alcohol-rehabilitative treatment.

• Refusal to take a breath test will mean six points on the driving record and a six-month license suspension. The offense currently carries a three-month suspension. For repeat offenders, licenses may be suspended for up to a year.

• Reinstating a license after a drunk-driving suspension, currently done for free, will cost an offender \$25. "The new legislation closes some loopholes that were allowing not only first offenders but persons with a history of alcohol-related driving, arrests and accidents to continue to drive," Siefert said.

"THERE STILL are a number of things that need to be implemented. It's anticipated that the three-bill reform package that passes is only the first portion of several additional reforms."

The police community is most concerned with the amount of plea bargaining that occurs in connection with drunk driving cases, he added.

Nationwide, about one drunk driver in 500 is arrested — one-fifth of 1 percent. Although nearly three-quarters of those arrested are ultimately convicted of a drunk driving charge, most cases are plea bargained.

In Michigan in 1979-80, only 21,095

of 96,393 driving-while-under-the-influence-of-liquor arrests (22 percent) resulted in DUI convictions.

The figures were included in a report prepared for Gov. William Milliken and the Legislature by a task force formed by the Office of Substance Abuse Services and the Office of Highway Safety Planning.



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