Roads get \$8.2 million more from state, federal aid

"Oakland County roads will get \$8.24 mil-ant lion in improvements, thanks mainly to higher state transportation taxes and feder-er at aid."

his will help us catch up on some of the

"This will belp us catch up on some of the "long-overdue road improvements and maintenance work." Road Commission Chairman John R, Gana Jr. of West Bloomfield Said Monday.

Said Monday Commission Chairman John R, Gana Jr. of West Bloomfield Said Monday ommission received 45.2 million additional revenue from state-collected gasoline and weight taxes, which were raised by the Michigan Legislature late in 1982. This qualified it for Gederal aid of \$4.7 million. The net adjusted revenue increase will be \$9.6 million, according to Managing Director John L. Grubba.

The new revenue boosts the \$3.14 million budget to \$41 million — the largest in the road commission's 70-year history, Grubba said.

MOST OF the new money will be used for pavennent resurfacing and safety improvements. The exact projects are yet to be determined.

The road commission will be able to resurface and maintain 75 miles of the 126 miles of roads it has identified as being solved to the control of the 126 miles of roads it has identified as being self-county overdue for work. These 75 miles iniciode 25 miles of resurfacing and 50 miles of heavy maintenance in the form of largerarea patches, which Crubba called more satisfactory that "pothole" patching.

In addition to road improvements, the commission plans to spend \$1.64 million

this year for salary increases, additional staff and new equipment.

The road panel set aside \$318,000 for percent pay hikes beginning July 1, who employee contracts expire. "Our employes have not had compensation increases since 1991," Gnau said.

Eight more staffers will be hired for about \$702,000. Five of those positions will be filled by employes who had been laid off since 1991, when the road commission slashed 65 positions from its budget.

THE COMMISSION added \$30,000 to the Engineering Department's overtime budget in anticipation of carrying out the new road improvement projects.

New equipment — including a pavement

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New equipment — including a pavement

M-DOT lets road contracts

Western Construction Co., Utica, was the low bidder — at \$115,508 — on a contract to construct a deceleration lane, partial ramp and retaining wail on the ramp connecting southbound US-24 with westbound Eight Mile in South-field.

field.
The project is expected to be completed in June 1883. It was one of 28 highway, rallroad and airport construction projects on which bids were taken Jan. 19, according to the Michigan Department of Transportation.
Other Oakland County road projects are:

Reconstruction of 0.3 of a mile of Joslyn Road from just north of Lake

Angelus Road to just north of Brown Road. The project will complete the connection between the 17-51/5051/n Road interchange and the new General Motors plant in Ortion Township. Low bidder was B & V Construction Inc., Novi, at \$376/382. Target date for completion is July, 1983.

Removal of existing structure and construction of a single-span, I-beam bridge and approaches carrying Labser Road over the Claire Drain in South-field. The project is expected to be completed in November 1983. Low bid-der was Walter Toebe Construction Co., Wixom, at \$558,605.

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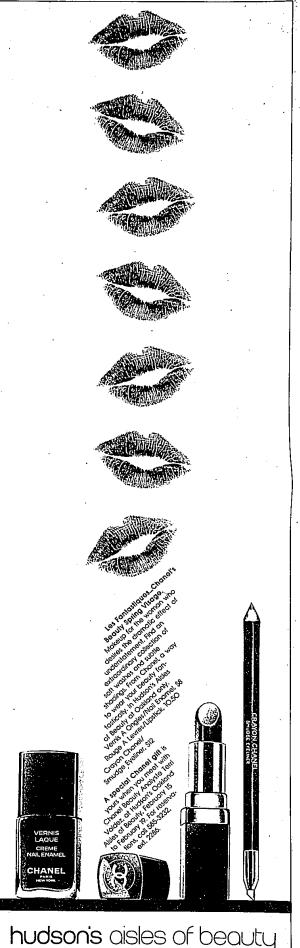
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