

Hills mayor pleased with state's eye on roads

Continued from Page 1

Some attending the press conference said they feared "a hidden agenda" for reviving an I-275 extension halted several years ago after an environmental impact study. "We support Haggerty Road but we have no intention of supporting that to extend 275," said Janet Lynn, a member of Concerned Citizens for West Bloomfield.

Blanchard and Fessler assured them that was not the state's intention.

Transportation records, cited by Blanchard, show the average daily

traffic volumes on I-696 between Haggerty and Orchard Lake roads have grown from 16,200 in 1984 (the year after the freeway opened) to 67,200 in 1985. Fessler said their sky-borne view Monday morning of Haggerty traffic showed speeds of only 10 to 15 miles an hour.

"Oakland County is one of the hottest growth areas in the country. We have to manage that growth," Blanchard said. "It's not just economic development but safety and quality of life to be considered."

Since 1982, 5 million square feet of business development in Southfield and Farmington alone have added

15,000 new jobs, Blanchard said.

"IT'S HEARTENING," West Bloomfield Township Supervisor John Doherty said with others reacting to the governor's pledge of action. But he cautioned, "Nothing is sure until they start to build it. His (the governor's) intentions are good. I think he is sincere."

Doherty predicts industrial park acreage along Haggerty will generate 20,000 vehicle trips per day with peak-hour traffic up to 6,150 afternoon trips alone. Office and retail uses are expected to generate 19,000 trips per day and 670 residential

homes accounting for another 4,300 trips per day.

None of these figures, Doherty notes, include traffic fed into Haggerty from major mile roads.

Meanwhile other county roads also need relief from congestion. The Oakland County Road Commission says it will take \$700 million for road improvements in the next 10-15 years to accommodate the high technology and office building boom now under way.

Suggested methods of raising money include a property tax, an added gasoline user tax or added sales taxes on automotive items.

Opening procedures for schools announced

Opening procedures for the 1986-87 school year for Farmington Public Schools have been announced.

Schedules can be picked up at local high schools beginning Monday, Aug. 11, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. Middle school students can pick up their schedules beginning Monday, Aug. 25, during the same hours. Schedules will be available each weekday until the opening of school.

Tuesday, Sept. 2, will be a teachers' workday at all levels. No classes will be held.

Wednesday morning, Sept. 3, will be a teachers' preparation day, with students at high school, middle school and elementary levels reporting for half day sessions in the afternoon. High school students report to school at 11:30 a.m.

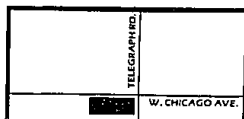
Thursday, Sept. 4, will be the first full day of school for all students.

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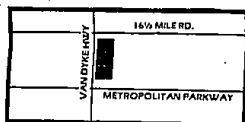
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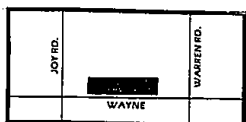
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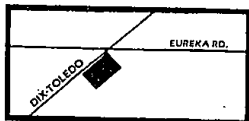
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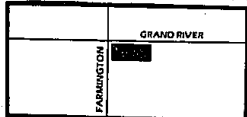
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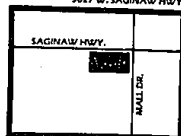
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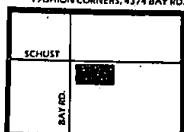
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