

Feds pressure area for clean air plan

By TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

A clean air program for the metropolitan region is coming down to a matter of costs.

"It's imperative that we proceed quickly," said Milton Mack, who chairs the air quality task force of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

Mack told SEMCOG delegates last week that the seven-county region can be punished if it fails to reduce emissions by 15 percent. The federal government can withhold highway money and industrial permits, and it can design the region's cleanup act.

"Has anyone done a cost-benefit analysis?" asked Jack Olsen, a conservative Oakland County

SEMOG

commissioner. "Are we going to pay \$1 billion to get a 0.0001 percent improvement?"

SEMCOG must come up with a plan by 1993 under the federal Clean Air Act reducing emissions by 15 percent from 1990 levels. That means, said Mack, the goal may be even higher when the program kicks in in the mid-1990s.

Here is what Mack, a Wayne County probate judge from the city of Wayne, says drivers and consumers can expect:

■ Vapor recovery devices at the gasoline pumps — 4-percent reduction.

■ Centralized vehicle emis-

sions tests rather than the current tests at the neighborhood service station — 7-percent reduction. No one knows how centralized that will become.

■ Reformulated fuels — possibly a 7.5-percent reduction. This is not the same as alternative fuels such as ethanol. Nine regions of the U.S. must begin using reformulated fuels. Estimated cost: 7 to 11 cents a gallon.

But public transit is out as an air-pollution control device. "The draft proposal suggests we will not be able to rely on transportation control measures to achieve the short range 15-percent reduction," said Mack. "If we were to double the use of public transit by 1996, there would be only a 1-

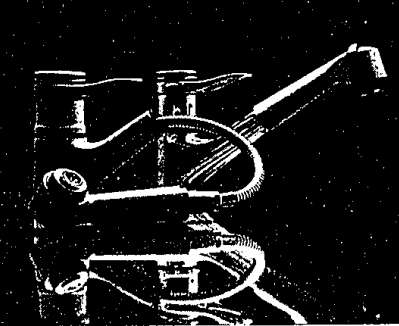
percent reduction."

Olsen, R-Huntington Woods, raised questions about the cost in an Oakland County caucus. Told the new emissions tests would cost \$17 every two years (versus \$10 annually for current tests), Olsen said, "It's not the \$17 that clears the air. It's the \$17 it's only gonna identify the problem."

Mack's task force includes state natural resources and transportation officials, Big Three auto engineers and chemical company leaders. He intends to have a plan ready for SEMCOG approval early next year. Deadline for any state enabling legislation is November 1993.

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Call 683-4747 for a nomination form. The award is sponsored by the Oakland County Chamber of

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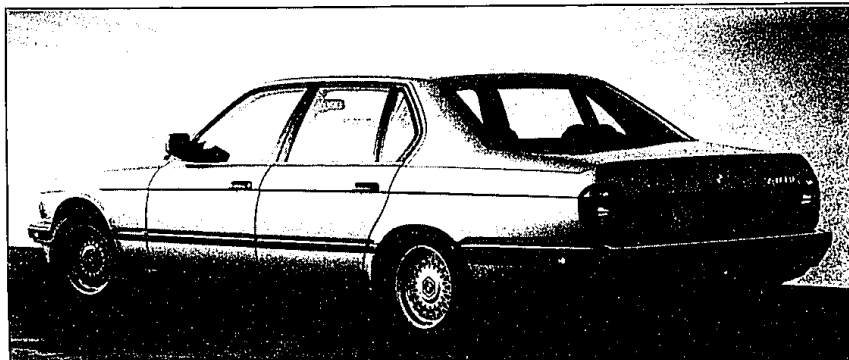
ADULTS WITH CONSTIPATION SOUGHT FOR STUDY

Gastrointestinal Specialists, P.C., associated with William Beaumont Hospital, is testing a medicine called Brinitree 851 for constipation in a clinical study of adult outpatients.

Healthy men and women over the age of 18 with at least a three-month history of constipation are sought for the study.

The study will last three to four weeks and will include three to four office visits. Diagnostic tests, barium enema and flexible sigmoidoscopy will be performed as part of the study. Office visits, laboratory workup, diagnostic tests and the drug will be free.

Details may be obtained by calling (313) 647-4100 Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



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Saturday, October 31, 6:30 p.m.
Trick-or-treating to the stores at Twelve Oaks — complimentary photos of all children in costume — enter to win a trip to Universal Studios, meet QPS radio personality Kevin O'Neill, Farmington Community Band "Spooktacular" performance at 7:30 p.m. center court.

JONATHAN B PUB

Saturday, October 31 — Halloween Party
All day, all night, discounted creative drinks, special foods and prizes.

CUSTOM SHOP SHIRTMAKERS

Sunday, November 1, 12:00 noon-6:00 p.m.
Trunk Show—Paco Fernandez, master tailor will be in store with special introductory prices for gents custom-made to individual measurements.

JOIN THE TWELVE OAKS WALKERS

Incentives, Monthly Programs, Health Screenings and more. Sponsored in cooperation with University of Michigan Health Centers. Stop by the Information Center to register.

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