Supporters ready to change SMART

Confident of victory in Tuesday's election, SMART backers any they are ready to make Changes to encourage communities to rejoin the system.

"We're ready to revamp (the transit system) from the bottom tup" to persuade communities that withdrew from SMART to get back in, Deputy County Erecutive John L. Grubba said Wedneaday at a press conference at the Troy Marriott.

Possible changes include new neighborhood-based routes and increased municipal credits (or state money) to communities that are part of SMART, according to Grubba and business, labor and community officials.

They gathered to again voice wavered for the SMART millare.

community officials.

They gathered to again voice support for the SMART millage proposal on Tuesday's ballot. In that election, voters in 20 Oakland communities will decide

whether they should raise property tare by one-third of a mill to provide funds for SMART (Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation).

Similar ballot proposals have already been approved in Machand where confident it will pass in Oakland.

"We're not home yet," caulioned County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. "We let our selves be fulled into a false sense.

tioned County Executive Menois Patterson. "We let ourselves be fulled into a false sense
of security."
Patterson acknowledged that
officials have no contingency
plans in the event the SMART
millage proposal falls in Oakland,
although they admit failure would
be a "disaster" for people and
businesses dependent on bus
transportation.
But polling indicates a backup
plan won't be needed. "We're running' to 5 in favor of the SMART
millage," said Matthew W. Wir-

gau, a Hioomfield Township resident who is chairman of the SMART board of directors.

The biggest danger, Wirgau and others said, is lettered with the foreign of the first effort was put together and financed — by much of the same business-labor-government coalition as was at the next same business-labor-government coalition as was at the press con-

same oussiess-isnorgovernment coalition as was at the press conference.

Ironically, Patterson, Wirgau and Grubba — among the most vocal supporters of SMART — won't be able to vote on Trues and the support of the sup

privatization.
Patterson, Wirgau and Grubba
said they are mindful of that criticism and ready to restructure
SMART. It will be a system they
want to rejoin, said Wirgau.

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Local teachers attend: Attending the recent Walsh College workshop on the use of the Wall Street Journal are (from left) Dan Hamann, Walsh College's director of high school relations; Farmington High economics teachers Floyd Ross and Linda Siggia; Melinda Patterson Grenier, editor and publisher of the Wall Street Journal classroom edition. "We sponsor the edition to expose high school students to timely, informative business information," said Hamann. "It's our way of investing in the business leaders of tomorrow."



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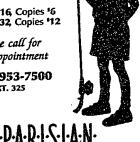
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