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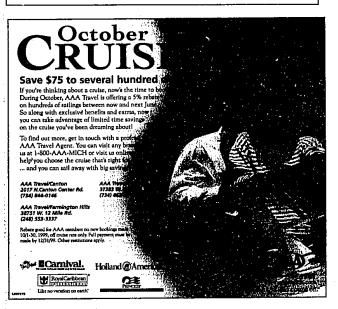
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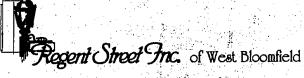
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# Grant money eyed for I-275

### By Heather Needham

Farmington Hills residents living along 1-275 might have pretter views — and quieter sounds in their future.

Hills city council last week approved assigning city staff to pursue state funds to beautify and/or create noise buffers along 1-275.

and/or create noise buffers along 1-276.

The Transportation Enhancement Activity program, created by Gov. John Engler in 1998, is designed to help communities beautify roadsides using state funds with at least 20 percent local matching funds.

There are two deadlines for applying for the funds — December and April.

Councilwoman Vicki Barnett said the April deadline would be more realistic because, it would give the Michigan Department of Transportation time to do a sound study first.

MDOT has said it did not want to do the study until 1275 traffic levels are back to pre-construction levels.

Barnett also acknowledged the continued flight for quieting 1-275 by area residents.

"(The State of Michigan) refuse to cooperate on this parrefuse to cooperate on this parrefuse.

refuse to cooperate on this par-ticular stretch of I-275," Barnett said, citing their refusal to put up sound barrier walls on Farm-ington Hills' stretch of the highway as they have in other com-

recent heated dobate about I-276 road noise. They succeeded in getting the Michigan Department of Transportation to reduce the freeway noise by five decibels through a freeway surfacing method called "random tining." The method creates an unevenlooking road surface that results in a quieter highway.

Meadowbrook resident Larry Shoup, who suggested seeking the grants at an annual quadrant meeting Sept. 22, said council's go-ahead was music to his ears.

ears.
"Our residents thank you very much," he said after council agreed to study the issue.

### Civic from page A1

accessories. Chosen from three submitted bids, four solicited.

■ \$31,765, Northwest Studies Inc., draperies. Lone submitted bid, no others submitted. Because of the renovations' the lack of the submitted. Because of the renovations' the lack of the submitted bid, no others submitted. Because of the renovations' trict timeline and because of the lack of theater seating ventors solicited.

■ \$19,277, Stein Industries,

■\$17,626, Mirage Tile & Marble, ceramic tile work. Lone bid, three were solicited.
■\$3,430, Weis Robert Partitions inc., tollet partitions and accessories. Chosen from three submitted bids, four solicited.
■\$3,780, Northwest Studios Inc., draperies. Lone submitted bid, to the submitted bid, to there submitted bid, to there submitted bid, to there submitted bid, no there subm

re-bid.
Clark also said the bid was too high. "We felt it was at least 20 percent in excess of what it should be," he said.
City council will meet 4 p.m. Friday at city hall to approve additional theater bids. The public is welcome to attend.

lic is welcome to attend.



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