## \$28.2 million road budget approved

The Board of Oakland County Road
Commissioners has approved a \$28.2
million budget that embraces construction, maintenance, administrative costs and all other aspects of the road mili \$4.00 to the county.

\*A record \$18.7 million for 1974 new

the road unit's activity.

Previously, the road commission had operated solely with a construction budget and periodic cash-flow retriections.

projections.
The new budget provides for:

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\$700,000 to the county;

A record \$1.87 million for 1974 new construction - an increase of 37.5 percent over the 1973 figure of \$1.56 million;

Allowance of a net \$270,000 to complete projects started in 1973.

The budget rests on pre-energy crists estimates of current 1974 revenue of \$34.7 million, plus a 1973 revenue carryover of \$1.5 million and the pending \$400 the first \$2 million of \$4, million in notes authorized by the \$1.00 the \$1.00

RICHARDS SAID downward adjust-ments may have to be made in the budget to reflect revenue losses from lowered gasoline tax collections, which provide the bulk of road comwhich provide the bulk of road com-mission funding. But he said the budg-et will not be altered substantially be-cause of the energy crisis.

Michigan mirror

"We now have a proposal before the governor to 'minimize the energy crisis effect on roals by allocating a portion of sales tax collections on gasoline to roads, 'he said. "The proposal would cut the Oakland County Road Commission's anticipated loss by about half."

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HE NOTED the budge authorizes in additional employes for the traffic, engineering, maintenance, permits and engineering functions. He said deferred hiring of some or all of the new employes could give the commission additional flexibility in meeting possible revenue shortages. possible revenue shortage

He said the fall in gasoline tax revenues also could be offset by sale of the second \$2 million in notes already authorized and being held in reserve.

Nearly half the commission's \$16.4 million operating budget is allocated to maintenance - \$7 million. Other major operating items are \$2.5 million for engineering and \$2.2 million for combined debt service, utilities and insurance costs.

Additionally, \$147,000 is provided for \$707,000, he said. Of this, \$\$455,700 is seasonal employes. Total budget for for road equipment, \$43,200 for shop equipment and \$18,700 for office equipment.

budget falls short of meeting the le-gitimate road needs of the county at Richards said. "It does, however, pen-vide for substantial improvements in MAXIMUM EMPLOYMENT is 548
full - time positions -- 19 more than at eyes -- end, Richards said.

Capital outlay is budgeted at recognizes that even this record 1974

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ways inadequate resources.



## Vaccine totals show increase

What an increase! Ninety-one per-cent for measles vaccine, 68 percent for rubella vaccine and 58 percent for polio vaccine.

That's the report from the Michigan Department of Public Health after an all-out campaign to acquaint citizens with the benefits of vaccine.

John A. Orris, chief of the depart-ment's immunization program, re-leased the final figures for the Octo-ber 1973 antigen (vaccine) doses, comparing them with doses for Octo-ber 1972.

THE FIGURES show 27,335 doses of measles vaccine dispensed last October, compared with 14,340 doses for October 1972; 28,335 rubella vaccine doses compared with 15,868 for the previous October; and 59,101 pollo vaccine doses compared with 37,962 doses for October 1972.

Orris said in each of the months compared, private doctors used about 40 percent of the total, while health departments dispensed the remainder.

THANKS GO to many folks for helping increase the totals.

neping increase the totals.

Among others was a group of medical students from Wayne State University who helped man vaccination points in the inner city areas of Detroit. The Michigan State Medical Society as well as media representatives throughout the state, also helped wage the continuing war against measles, German measles and polio.

Orris said a small ongoing committee will continue to review prog-

ress and problems in the field of vsc-cinations.

DEPARTMENT director Dr. Mau-rice Reizen stressed immunization against these three diseases in a re-cent speech before local health offi-cers.

Reizen said immunization was among a number of "sensitive issues related to-organization, funding and performance which must be ad-dressed in individual programs right now..." 

OPEN MEETING legislation awaiting action in the legislature would, in most cases, assure Michigan citizens of being able to hear who says what and votes how on a myriad of issues now in a sort of gray area.

With few exceptions – discussions of collective bargaining, lawsuits, employes personnel matters, etc. – public bodies would be required to hold open meetings.

An offshoot of that legislation, assuming another exception isn't written into the bill before it becomes law, would directly affect the legislature itself.

LEGISLATIVE committees now occasionally "round robin" bills out for action by the entire house or senate. That means simply that no formal meeting is called. Instead, a piece of paper is sent around to committee members, who sign the paper if they want to vote the bill out of committee.

According to a senate backer of the open meeting bill, Patrick McCollough, that practice would become a thing of the past if the bill became law.



