

SEMCOG ducks hot transit issues

By TIM RICHARD

In football the rule is: When in doubt, punt.
In regional planning, the rule is: When the politics get hot, use a "study band."

That's what the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) did with the proposed Northwestern Freeway extension and several other locally hot issues last week as it almost unanimously approved a 1990 transportation plan.

The 102-member voluntary agency covering seven counties outlined a plan of rapid transit lines, intermediate express bus lines and highway improvements as a guide to federal, state and local funding agencies.

Clearly knocked out of the package, however, was any plan or study to extend Greenfield Road north of Fourteen Mile to Woodward. Bloomfield Township Supervisor Homer Case and Birmingham City Commissioner Dorothy Conrad persuaded SEMCOG's general assembly that the Greenfield extension didn't even deserve a "study band."

Communities in Oakland County were split on the state's plan to extend Northwestern Highway beyond Orchard Lake Road. Franklin Village opposed it. Southfield, Farmington Hills, Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield and Commerce favored it.

Instead, Northwestern's extension

will appear on the map in a wide, grey band—a compromise idea hatched recently in SEMCOG's Council on Regional Development (CORAD). Says the 1990 plan text:
"Future facilities within study corridors are subject to detailed locational and design analysis. Upon approval of the proposed facility location and design by the U.S. Department of Transportation and concurrent action by the SEMCOG committee structure, the facility will be added to the plan as part of the annual plan reappraisal process."

CORAD Chairman David Shepherd, mayor of Oak Park, gave a more conversational explanation: "It's a band of indeterminate width to see if there are ways of resolving traffic problems in a particular area."

HERE IS HOW SEMCOG resolved other mid-Oakland County issues:
• In Birmingham, "express bus service would be consistent with the character of the area through which the facility was operating and would not disrupt historical areas."

• In Birmingham, Lincoln Road between Cranbrook and Woodward was removed from the plan.

• "The location and community impact of the high level (rapid rail) transit stations are to be studied by SEMTA, SEMCOG and the Cities of Birmingham and Troy."

• In Birmingham and Troy, Big Beaver Road from Woodward to I-75

was designated a "regional major" (grade level, controlled access) road. But to the west, Quanton Road from Woodward to Telegraph was placed in a study band.

• As for public transportation, Long Lake Road between Woodward and Mound was designated a study corridor.

THE RAPID (rail) transit portion of the 1990 plan was approved in much the same form as designated by the Transportation and Land Use Study (TALUS) of the 1960s with six corridors.

One would be the Woodward corridor from Detroit to Birmingham. A second key corridor would be from downtown Detroit via Grand River,

Schoolcraft and Southfield roads to Northland Center in Southfield.

Intermediate (express bus) corridors in this area include Southfield Road from Birmingham to the downriver area; the Lodge freeway; Eight Mile Road from Northville to the Detroit River; and the new I-480 freeway from the Lodge to I-94 in St. Clair Shores.

After the general assembly passed the plan with only one audible dissent, Oakland County Commissioner Larry Pernick (D-Southfield) urged support of Gov. Milliken's proposed \$175 million transportation bond package.

"Our constituents see many plans but few achievements," said Pernick. "Get to your legislators and support the transportation plan."

BUSINESS PEOPLE



D.A. Randsell



S.L. Loria



J.E. Masterson

DOUGLAS A. RANDSELL, of Troy, has been promoted to second vice president and international banking officer at Manufacturers National Bank of Detroit.
Randsell joined the bank in 1970 and was promoted to loan officer in 1972.

S.L. (SAM) LORIA, of Lathrup Village, has been named vice-president of marketing for the Gaylord Printing Co.
He was formerly executive vice-president of Madison Co.



L.G. Stohler



T.S. Bindra

L. GENE STOHLER, of Birmingham, has been appointed to head a new service parts sales organization which has been formed as part of Automotive Operations, Rockwell International Corp.
Stohler will be responsible for directing a total business approach to the service parts business, improving market penetration with the manufacturers of vehicles and increasing sales potential among the independent brake and fleet specialists and warehouse distributors.

TJINDER S. BINDRA, of Troy, has been appointed corporate secretary at American Natural Gas Service Co.
Bindra joined the legal department of the company in 1974 as an attorney.

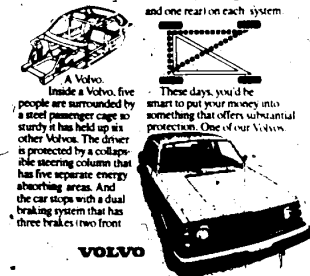
BETTY M. GEARE, of Birmingham, has been appointed assistant vice-president of Maple Associates, Inc. Realtors, Birmingham.
Mrs. Geare has been a licensed Realtor for eight years in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area and has been a licensed associate broker for the past three years.

\$49 Weekend Special: A luxury room, breakfast for two, and Three Dog Night.

Think of 4-10 beds for two to the show of this knob, plus the elegant accommodations of Troy's Somerset Inn. And that means great food at LaBerge, swimming in our four seasons pool and shopping at famous Somerset Mall with its fifth Avenue shops. All of this and more are yours for a surprisingly low \$49 including a delicious breakfast for two in La Petite Maison. Reservations are invited—so call us before the Monday prior to the performance you want to see. We'll let us about future performances, as well as our two-night package!

SOMERSET INN
Big Beaver Rd., east of Coolidge, Troy, Mich. 48064
Phone (313) 643-7800

THIS YEAR, PUT YOUR MONEY INTO SOMETHING SOUND.



BIRMINGHAM MOTORS, LTD.
Sales • Service • Parts
479 So. Woodward, 2 Blocks So. of Maple
Birmingham • 646-3960

SEMI-ANNUAL SALE

NINON SHEERS SPECIAL \$1.99 per yd. Reg. \$4.50 per yd.	SPRING CREST FABRIC PREMIER, SKLARE UNIT TREND PRIOR DEL MAR GOLDEN WEST LAYAWAYS AVAILABLE	WYVER WOODS 25% OFF CUSTOM BED SPREADS 25% OFF LA-2-BOYS 40% OFF 25 to 30 sq. ft. Floor samples Cash & Carry
--	---	---

LA-2-BOYS

Ryan's SPRING CREST Draperies

Please Stop In At...
VILLAGE FASHION MALL
19183 MERRIMAN AT 7 MILE, LIVONIA 478-2340
175 Stores—U.S.—CANADA-JAPAN

In Stock For Holiday Entertaining

2 INCHES THICK

48" round redwood table and 4 curved benches.
List \$173.09 **OUR PRICE \$149**

Chaise
List \$77 **OUR PRICE \$69.95**

2" thick and as sturdy as the tree itself. Crafted to a smooth clear finish so that rain drops just bounce off.

Dimmie's Rustics

CLOSED JULY 4th

LIVONIA STORE
OPEN SUNDAY 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

BIRMINGHAM
221 Hamilton Row (East of Demerys) 641-6919
DAILY 9:30-5:30 THURS & FRI. 9:30-9
MON.-TUES.-THURS.-FRI. 9:30-9
WED.-SAT. 9:30-5:30

LIVONIA
29500 W. 8 Mile (West of Middlebelt) 478-8908
DAILY 9:30-5:30 THURS & FRI. 9:30-9
MON.-TUES.-THURS.-FRI. 9:30-9
WED.-SAT. 9:30-5:30

GROWERS SURPLUS
THE "HOMEOWNERS" WHOLESALE NURSERY

INSTANT PRIVACY WITH TREES
We Will Deliver And Plant

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENS USES & ADVANTAGES

- Shades • Noise Reduction • Windshield

OPEN JULY 4th

PRIVACY FOR

- Swimming Pools
- Decks • Patios

This Week's Inflation Fighting Special
Large Bushy 10 to 12' White Pines
8 to 10' White Spruce
Reg. \$89.95 **NOW \$39.95**

Builders and Landscapers Welcome
Hundreds of families are enjoying instant privacy with our moderately priced trees. Order now with satisfaction guaranteed.

2 LOCATIONS
Take a Nice Drive and Personally Select Your Tree or Order by Phone

OPEN 7 DAYS TIL 8 P.M. CALL 274-4555