



The youngsters that turned up at the Toronto International Dragway property on the weekend were in for a shock on arrival. A bulldozer operated by Wheeler Haulage was hired to rip up sections of the Strip to stop any visitors from their playful and dangerous antics.

Cedar Road plan deferred

Cedar Road Developments won't be able to go ahead with a 13 lot subdivision near Acton High School but an 18 lot project owned by Peter Civierno on the other side of the street has been given the green light.

Cedar Road Developments president Paul Nielsen spoke to region planning committee last Tuesday and committee rejected approving his proposal at this time.

Previously Halton Hills passed an official plan amendment for Nielsen and Civierno's developments, which are both in Esqueving, but the region hadn't given its approval.

Three lots of the Civierno plan and all of the Cedar Road project are outside the urban area of Acton according to Halton region's official plan.

Way back in 1978 region staff said an urban area boundary line on the official plan could be interpreted, it was flexible and could be bent a bit.

However since then

Ottawa-Carleton region was taken to court, lost and the courts ruled a boundary line on an official plan is definite and can't be moved.

Thus Halton must follow the Acton area urban boundary line on the official plan and exclude three lots on the Civierno plan and all of the Cedar Road proposal.

Planning chairman Councillor Roy Booth noted legal advice the region has received indicates the region can't make an exception for the 18 lots on Churchill Road North without appearing to favor one developer over others who are being denied permission for their projects because they don't conform to the region official plan and are outside the urban boundary area.

Committee has been advised by legal staff that the municipality would greatly weaken its case

against a plaza being built on the east side of town when it goes before the Ontario Municipal Board if it makes an exception for Nielsen.

All proposals on the fringes of Acton have been given deferred status, Booth noted, until a study is completed which will redefine the Acton urban area boundaries.

Planning committee decided the 16 lots in the two projects outside the urban area must remain deferred until the study is completed.

Nielsen complained his firm has spent nearly \$50,000 on reports and studies for the 13 lot development and only the region is holding things up now.

The region had been deferring this issue for several months now before committee made its decision last week. Nielsen noted both local and regional

planners are against the plaza proposal but say his development makes planning sense. They support this small residential infilling project, he said.

He said he can't comprehend how there can be a connection between the town and the region's case to the OMB over the plaza and his small development.

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No racing at dragway

In the wake of the tearing up of the tracks at the former Toronto International Dragway there was no racing or wild parties there for the first time in many weekends.

Mayor Peter Pomeroy didn't have to hire off duty police officers to guard the property from Trespassers who had been regularly been invading the former dragway throughout the summer.

Some young people drove up to the dragway only to find a large earth berm at the entrance and the track unusable. Some hung around a bit, a truck even got onto the site, but the scene was peaceful, police informed the mayor. On duty officers patrolled the area, he said.

The mayor reported earlier in the week he became convinced it wouldn't be necessary to

hire off-duty officers after talking to Halton Regional Police officials. The removal of the track late in the week assured a peaceful weekend.

There were fears the youths who had been racing and abusing both drug and alcohol laws would come into Acton or Georgetown and maybe even seek revenge. Police were on the alert for this remote possibility.

Pomeroy said another reason he was so concerned about the dragway problem was he feared a tragic accident. There have been up to 200 cars and 1,000 people, some from as far away as Detroit, at the dragway on weekends.

He said he understood spectators were closely lining the sides of the track and he was worried about people being hit.

Esqueving regional councillor Russ Miller said he was pleased to see the track out and the problem solved. There are now about 50 goats and sheep grazing on the land, he added.

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Jelinek forum

Otto Jelinek, MP for the riding of Halton will be holding a forum in Acton sometime within the next month, announced Brian Cargill, president of the Acton Progressive Conservative Association Monday.

Jelinek will be available to anyone wishing to ask questions or discuss issues for a full evening.

Cargill said the Jelinek office has planned the visit after Parliament has been in session for three or four weeks.

Parliament resumes later this month.

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