

Industrial land re-zoning concerns new association

Rezoning of industrial land to commercial is top priority in the minds of a majority of members of the Georgetown Business and Professional Association according to a questionnaire circulated at the group's November 21. Results of the November questionnaire were reported by chairman Murray Lawton at the association's second meeting last Tuesday night at the North Halton Golf and Country Club.

They show other priorities, ranked in diminishing order, as being: residential growth; industrial, commercial and residential balance; high utility

deposits; uniform water rates; garbage - present and future; and GO and local transit.

OTHER CONCERNS
Following discussion among the 13 members attending the second meeting, vandalism and retention of shopping dollars in Georgetown were added to the list of concerns.

Vice-chairman Rick West reported GO Transit service was restored to Georgetown January 7 through the co-operative effort of GO, the association and the mayor's office.

The service restoration is on a six-month trial, and its performance will be monitored

by the association, with the assistance of the Downtown Merchants' Association.

Mr. West said a number of local residents, particularly senior citizens, have called to voice approval of the return of service.

An experiment in restoring local bus service appeared less well-received, but this may have been because too few people were aware the service was available and, the trail was conducted just before Christmas, after the peak shopping period.

Discussion with Travelways on downtown local bus service continues.

Mr. West said the Ministry of Transport may help subsidize any such service, but makes grants only to municipalities. He suggested the association do the "leg work" and then take their findings to municipal council. This preliminary research would include determining which days of the week service is required and overall affordability.

Association member Ernie Sykes recalled a consultant's report some years ago indicated local bus service could cost \$50,000 per annum to operate.

CURRENT PROPOSAL
The current proposal, how-

ever, would be on a smaller scale, aimed primarily at serving senior citizens.

"We could be looking at a small van," Mr. West said. A proposed organizational structure was accepted as presented by the chairman.

Three main committees under the chairman and vice-chairman are communications issues and fact-finding. The communications committee will organize regular meetings, produce a monthly newsletter, recognize and welcome new business and professional people and attend to public relations.

The issues committee will examine and act on the priorities established by the membership.

The fact-finding committee will attend meetings of local and regional council, planning board, chamber of commerce, downtown merchant's group, ratepayers, utilities, Ontario Municipal Board; as well as study reports from Statistics Canada, commissions, etc.

Prior to the next meeting Wednesday, February 21 at 8 p.m., an attempt will be made to contact all business and professional people in the area with a flyer outlining the association's aims.

New Varian contract

From the Ottawa Bureau
Of The Herald

OTTAWA - Varian Associates Ltd. in Halton Hills has won a \$102,358 federal contract to provide the defence department with electron tubes, the department of supply and services has announced.

It was among 287 unclassified contracts worth \$10,000 or more that were awarded by the department to Canadians during the week ended Dec. 22. Total value of the contracts amounted to \$16,805,298.

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