

Community

Town attempting to acquire land

By BENDUMMETT
The Herald

The Town of Halton Hills is attempting to acquire land on both sides of Main Street North in Georgetown to enlarge the roadway's right-of-way from 20 to 30 metres, but there are no plans to widen the road at any time in the future.

"I don't see Main Street North (being reconstructed) in the foreseeable future," said Town Engineer Bob Austin during a recent interview. "In fact I can see the roadway being downgraded

at a future date," said the engineer. To downgrade means to place further traffic limits on the road restricting the type and amount of traffic permitted to use it.

Asked why the Town wants to increase the right-of-way, Mr. Austin said, the goal conforms with Council policy. According to Town policy, Maple Avenue North has a maximum right-of-way of 30 metres, however, the current right-of-way is only 20 metres. A road right-of-way is the width of the roadway plus the dit-

ches or sidewalks running along the street.

Town planner Glen Willings said the Town hopes to eventually acquire the right-of-way land running the length of Main Street North.

The Town wants the land as a precautionary measure in case it's needed at some future date, said Mr. Willings. What that need might be, Mr. Willings said, "I have no idea."

Main Street North shouldn't be confused with Main Street South. The former road runs from Maple Avenue to Guelph Street while the latter runs south of Maple Avenue. Town Council is expected Monday to approve a recommendation to shelve the plans to widen Main Street South for at least three years.

Mr. Willings explained under the Ontario Planning Act, the Town is permitted to ask for the potential right-of-way land of a piece of property once it comes under new ownership. For example, the Town successfully obtained right-of-way land from the developer behind the senior's apartment complex slated for the corner of Main Street North and Maple Avenue.

The new property owner is not obligated to give the Town a piece of the property for right-of-way purposes, stressed Mr. Willings.

The Town would always have the right to expropriate the land, but obtaining it free of charge is obviously the better way, he said.



Peter Pan

Starring as Mr. and Mrs. Darling in Halton Hills School of Dancing production of Peter Pan is Beth Cameron and Aaron Gooding. The pair are part of a cast of 50 performers from the dancing school and will present the play at John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown on June 7, 8 and 9. Tickets are available at the school on 142 Mill Street or by calling 877-1581. (Photo submitted)

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