

'People whose property are included in the study area will be notified directly in the next stage.'

—MTO's Jin Wang



'Surely there are options less insane.'

—Former MP Julian Reed



'We will try and reduce noise effects by potentially building noise walls...'

—Consultant Mike Bricks

Fight against proposed highway is 'winnable', says ex-politician

Continued from pg. 1

"This highway will cause a huge swath of industrial and residential development over Class A farmland," said another resident.

Former Halton MP Julian Reed said opposing the highway would be a "long haul issue" and urged everyone to keep in touch with Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott, who was at the meeting, Mayor Rick Bonnette, who was also there, and other elected officials.

"It's doable, it's winnable," said Reed.

"Only 8 per cent of the land mass of Canada has been considered tillable, and yet we cannot wait to destroy it. Our grandchildren will never forgive us. Surely there are options less insane," said Reed. "It's time to turn the corner and contemplate new paths, narrow-minded selfishness must come to an end. Otherwise the costs of availability of food will bring our country to its knees. Look around the world and wake up," said Reed, to cheers and applause from the crowd.

Another man asked for a public information centre on how the preferred alternative was selected before the close of public commenting period—now extended from June 30 to July 8.

Jin Wang, MTO project coordinator for GTA West Corridor Study, said he would take that request back to the government and Minister.

Looking more closely at widening Hwy. 401 in the Milton, instead of building a new east-west highway, was a suggestion made by another resident at the meeting.

"You have put me into a state of uncertainty," said one woman who lives in the study area and was planning to sell her home within seven years so she could retire.

"I have no way to move. I'm stuck there now until you make a

decision," she said.

"You're putting our lives on hold. I think five to seven years is outrageous to make this type of decision," in reference to a comment made by Mike Bricks, a planning consultant working on the GTA West Corridor Study.

Bricks, while answering questions they had received about the project, said it would take five to seven years to get approval to build the highway, and the earliest it would be built is 10 to 15 years.

He said in the event someone's property is required for the highway the provincial government

'(Option 4-3 offers) zero benefit to the town.'

—Mayor Rick Bonnette



would try to acquire it at fair market value, but if there was no agreement then the land could be expropriated.

On a question about compensating adjacent landowners, Bricks said there are nuisance effects such as increased noise, changes in air quality and visual esthetics.

He said they try to avoid as many effects as possible—"mitigate effects instead of compensate for those effects."

"We will try and reduce noise effects by potentially building noise walls, berms, depressing the corridor, landscaping."

He said they will try to work as quickly as possible through the study period.

Wang addressed a question about the loss of farmland because of the highway corridor. He said the next phase of the study will determine the actual alignment.

He said they will try to avoid farmland and agricultural operations and follow the lot lines.

He also answered the issue about notification raised by some

residents.

"Many of you had not heard about this study until you were sent a letter from the Mayor of Halton Hills recently," said Wang.

He said there's no specific requirement on how people have to be notified, but added as they heard from the public on the issue "there was a huge gap there, there's a lesson learned."

"From now on people whose property are included in the study area will be notified directly in the next stage," said Wang.

Mayor Rick Bonnette, who with council members, is spearheading a campaign to fight the 4-3 option, said Town of Halton Hills staff is recommending not to support option 4-3, and that there is "zero benefit to the town."

He said he thinks support for that staff recommendation will be unanimous from council.

"4-2 might bring a very valuable Norval bypass," he added.

"This is a tough nut to crack," Bonnette admitted, saying that Town of Milton's staff is supporting the 4-3 option.

He urged everyone to band together and to fill out a Bonnette-generated postcard handed out at the meeting and available at the Civic Centre to be sent to Minister Kathleen Wynne opposing 4-3 option, and for people to send their comments in to the GTA West Project Team. To view the draft Transportation Development Strategy and comment visit www.gta-west.com.

Arnott said he would continue to work with the public and Town Council to ensure their concerns are heard.

Area resident Wendy Bruchal, who organized the meeting, said area residents are in the process of forming a citizens' group in opposition of the highway. Anyone interested in taking part is asked to email bruchals@aol.com.

Tooth Chatter



SMILE ADVICE!!!

There is just something about a smile. You see someone with a big goofy smile or even the faintest hint of a grin, on his or her face and you can't help but smile back; a smile is something you always want to return to sender. It doesn't matter who's smiling, either it is your best friend, your spouse, a baby, a dog, the supermarket cashier or a movie star. A smile is infectious in the nicest way!

Best of all, a smile is 100 percent natural. Babies smile almost from birth. Infants (even some as young as two days old) tend to smile at faces. By the time they are one year old, babies are able to recognize the important people in their lives, and many have a special smile for these individuals. And smiling is not necessarily something we learn by imitation. According to Frank McAndrews, psychology professor at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, babies who can't see, smile, just like everyone else. It seems our faces were made to smile!

So next time you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours, because no one needs a smile more, than he has none to give.

Creating confident smiles since 1982.

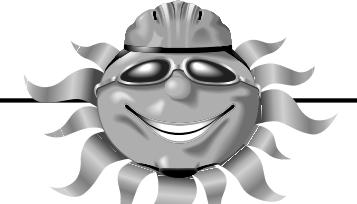
Alexander Trenton, DD, F.C.A.D. (A)

Denturist

Georgetown Denture Clinic,
18 Church Street,
Georgetown, Ontario

905-877-2359

(Across from the Library and Cultural Centre)



It's a no-brainer...

WEAR A HELMET!

Sports injuries are preventable, and wearing a helmet can help, especially when in-line skating, biking or climbing.



HALTON HILLS

Working Together Working for You!

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

CANADA DAY
JULY 1, 2011

CIVIC CENTRE - 905-873-2600

The Civic Centre will be closed on Friday July 1, 2011.

ACTIVAN - 905-873-2601 ext. 2617

Activan service will be available on Friday, July 1, 2011 on an after hours basis. The booking office is closed.

CANINE CONTROL - 905-877-6235

FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
14007 10 Sideroad - 905-877-1133

Halton Hills Fire Department Administration will be closed on Friday July 1, 2011.

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works will be closed on Friday, July 1, 2011.

Public Works After-Hours Contact
905-873-2600 - press 2 to connect to the Public Works After-Hours Line and follow the prompts.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Acton Branch 519-853-0301
Georgetown Branch 905-873-2681

The Acton and Georgetown branches of the Halton Hills Public Library will be closed on Friday, July 1, 2011.

RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT

Gellert Community Centre
Leisure Swim 1:00 - 2:30 PM
*Regular admission applies
Regular programming canceled

Acton Indoor Pool
Closed on Friday July 1, 2011.

Acton Arena & Community Centre, Mold-Masters SportsPlex & Memorial Arena
Closed on Friday July 1, 2011.

Georgetown and Acton Seniors Centres
Closed on Friday July 1, 2011.

FOR EMERGENCIES

- FIRE/POLICE/AMBULANCE: DIAL 911

1 Halton Hills Dr.,
Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2
Tel.: 905-873-2601
Fax: 905-873-2347

HEARING CLINIC

We care about your hearing!

Professional Arts Building

99 Sinclair Ave., Suite 210

Georgetown

(905) 873-6642