



PAY ATTENTION: During last week's Distracted Driving campaign at Acton High School, 300 students signed a petition declaring they will not drive while distracted. The students did on-line polls, watched related videos, played "Wheel of Fortune" and "Distracted" Wii Mario Cart. Vice-Principal, Colin Sell raced students while being distracted by volunteers. - Submitted photo

TOWN DIGEST

NO FRILLS WATER

The proposed No Frills grocery store in Acton East is one step closer to construction with the all-important allocation of water by the Town.

At a meeting Monday, council gave conditional support to a staff report recommending allocation of eight SDE (single detached equivalents),

or the amount of water used by a typical house, for the discount grocery store on the south side of Queen Street beside McDonald's. The water

allocation is conditional on the developer getting a building permit by May 30, 2015. Craft Development officials earlier said they hope to be open by October.

The allocation, would leave 31 SDE in the Acton flex pool of available water and six SDE in the residential

infill pool.

Usually, Halton requires the Town to allocate adequate water for a development before it will clear its conditions for approval.

Council also voted allocate nine SDE from the separate Georgetown non-residential pool to the to the Halton Hills Operations Centre project, leaving 10 SDE.

The No Frills store by Craft Development is a 28,183-square-foot supermarket proposal which is moving through the development process - the water allocation is one prerequisite for site plan approval.

The site plan includes provisions for off-site transportation improvements including a right-turn auxiliary lane on Queen Street into the property, construction of a pedestrian walkway from Tanners Drive and provision of adequate regional services.

PROTECTING CORRIDORS

Tying up 6,000-acres of Halton Hills farmland as a study area for at least five years is "totally unacceptable and its actually ridiculous," according to Halton Hills Mayor

Rick Bonnette who made the comments at a public meeting on Monday into plans to protect potential highway routes from development, and to change the phasing of employment lands.

Both the Town and Halton must change their Official Plans - the blueprints for growth - to provide corridor protection polities in light of provincial plans for north-south highway from Highways 401-407 in Halton Hills, to Mayfield Road in Peel.

Bonnette said the provincial election has put the process on hold as Ministry staff is unable to attend meetings until the June 12 vote. Regardless of who ends up in power at Queen's Park, Bonnette vowed to press the Town's case to "narrow the focus and not hold people up for five years..." he said, leaving some landowners in "limbo."

Public frustration was evident with the eight delegates at the meeting who are worried the value of their property in the study area - Eighth Line to Winston Churchill Boulevard - would be hurt by the planning process.



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