



## Driver airlifted to hospital with non-life threatening injuries

A 20-year-old Limehouse man remains in hospital with serious injuries following a

single car crash Monday afternoon on the Fifth Line, just south of Limehouse

The homeowner of the property where the crash occurred said the car apparently passed

another vehicle, lost control on the icy road and hit a tree.

The driver was

trapped in the vehicle for 1.5 hours before being extricated and airlifted to Hamilton

General Hospital. The Halton police collision reconstruction unit is investigating.

## Mayor decries growth plan 'insanity'

### Golden Horseshoe plans premature

With the "ink not dry" on the province's Places to Grow legislation, it is "premature" for the province to extend growth plan horizons for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH) 10 years past 2031 at this

time, according to Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette.

He made the comments last Monday as councillors dealt with a joint submission from planners from Halton and its four municipal-

ities to new provincial growth forecasts. They are concerned about the cost of providing growth related infrastructure – including roads, hospitals, transit – needed to support the new growth.

If the growth horizon is extended it would mean Halton would grow to just over one million people by 2041, a 15 per cent increase from the planned 780,000.

Noting the Region had set aside 19 weeks in the fall for the Ontario Municipal Board to hear appeals of the

Places to Grow decision, Bonnette said the new growth and employment number targets will drive up the price of vacant land. "Let the OMB decide what's going to happen with the Places to Grow," Bonnette said, adding, "Let's put the brakes on," and calling the provincial policy to look to 2041 "ridiculous."

Regional/Acton Councillor Clark Somerville said the province must "stop the insanity" and give them enough time to catch up and approve the

Places to Grow growth plans, before making additional changes.

Council endorsed a joint planners' submission to wait until the scheduled growth review in 2016 before dealing with the latest proposed changes from the province.

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Councillors want the province to pick up the tab for its costs for Ontario Municipal Board appeals of efforts to bring the Town's Official Plan into conformity with the province's Places to Grow legislation. Halton has budgeted \$4.5-mil-

lion for OMB costs and the Town will also have to earmark a lesser amount.

Mayor Bonnette said the province mandated that Halton's population must almost double to 780,000 by 2031, and that it is wrong for the Town to have to pay to defend provincial growth decisions at the OMB. "Maybe the provincial politicians will think a little bit before they start implementing programs onto us," Bonnette said, adding the cost to defend the growth decisions at the OMB end up on tax bills.

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