Town may offer taxi scrip to youth

By LISA TALLYNStaff Writer

The Town is considering offering a pilot youth taxi scrip program next year similar to what is currently provided to area seniors and disabled residents.

At a recent council meeting Halton Hills council members voted in favour of staff including a \$10,000 expenditure option in the 2015 capital budget process for the program. It would be up to Budget committee to decide at the time if it's a go.

Although all the details haven't been worked out yet, the taxi scrip program would be open to youths between 13 and 19 who have a registered Halton Hills student identification card. Taxi scrip tickets would be available at one location in each Georgetown and Acton.

"By having limited locations available for ticket purchases, staff will

be able to monitor the program and get a sense of its success or shortcomings," said the Town's Fleet and Transit supervisor Paul Sargent in a staff report.

The youths would be able to buy books of coupons to use with Town contracted taxi companies for trips within town with a face value of \$20 for use as cash with taxi companies but would be able to purchase them at a 50 per cent discount— or \$10.

Registered youths would be able to buy up to \$80 of the taxi scrip per month until the \$10,000 program limit is reached.

Council also supported a recommendation that \$65,000 to buy an additional accessible vehicle and an increase in Activan staffing to comply with Accessbility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) also be considered as part of the 2015 capital budget.

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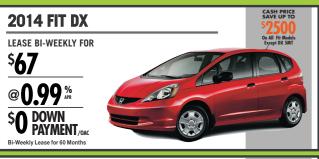
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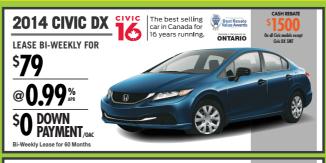
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