# ART AUCTION! "50" plus Robert Bateman Prints Sunday, April 27 · Halton Hills Cultural Centre 9 Church St., Georgetown Preview 1:30 p.m. · Auction 2:00 p.m.

# Council flip-flops on sidewalk issue

By Frances Niblock Special

In an about-face move predicted to upset some Main St., Georgetown residents, Halton Hills council revived plans

for a sidewalk on the east side of Main between Maple Ave. and Park Ave.

All councillors except Ward 2's Rob Heaton voted to reinstate the sidewalk in the Main Street reconstruction project at a recent council meeting, but not before

several complained that they were "concerned" and "confused" to hear that the Georgetown Central BIA (Business Improvement Area) Board and some members of the town's Residents and Neighborhood Group (RNG) committee want the sidewalk.

BIA board chair and RNG committee member Nathalie Ramakers urged council to include the sidewalk for the safety of seniors and school children walking to the downtown and to help create a pedestrian-friendly gateway to the core.

"Having a sidewalk on the east side is a great concern to the BIA and some members of the RNG committee," Ramakers said, adding it would be foolish and more expensive to install a sidewalk later, if necessary, as suggested by staff.

Acton Councillor Norm Elliott said he was frustrated and puzzled that the BIA's position on the sidewalk hadn't surfaced until after council approved the final design and suggested that the project's public input process was flawed.

Ward 4 Councillor Ron Chatten echoed Elliott's concerns, suggesting the public input process shouldn't be used again because it didn't work.

Peter Linn, the town's manager of design and development, said staff removed the east side sidewalk from the final design, based on the RNG consensus report and on a letter from the Cote Terrace seniors indicating that they didn't see a benefit to the sidewalk.

"We felt it was more prudent not to install the sidewalk given, at that time, that it was clear that the public did not want the sidewalk on the east side of the road," Linn explained.

Although he didn't think another public meeting was necessary if the sidewalk was put back in the plan, Linn said he'd be "somewhat concerned" if other RNG committee members didn't get to voice their concerns and warned council that it was "only hearing one side of the story."

In support of their motion for the east side sidewalk Ward 3 Councillors Moya Johnson and John Day argued that it will be safer, cheaper and less destructive to install the sidewalk now and not later, as proposed by staff.

"All along I felt the sidewalk was necessary and was quite disappointed when it was out of the plan," Johnson said, adding that concerns about the safety of children and seniors must be considered.

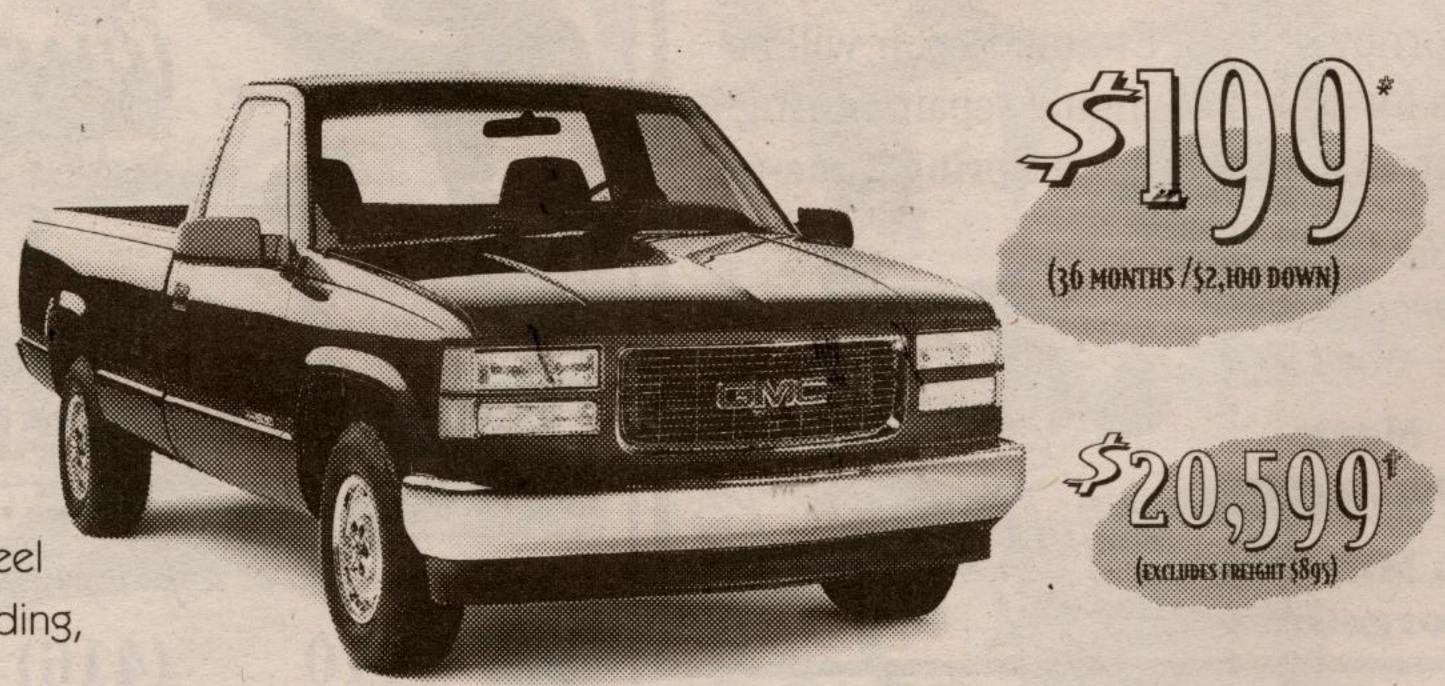
The \$719,000 budget for the entire reconstruction of Main Street from Maple Avenue to Church Street—originally estimated at \$425,000—already includes \$20,000 for the sidewalk. Staff said that changing the design plan would not delay the proposed summer construction schedule.

### TRUCK DEALERS

in this world,
it's survival of the fittest.
MEET THE FITTEST.

# 1997 KODIAK SIERRA REGULAR CAB

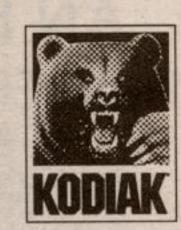
200 HP Vortec 4300 SFI V6
engine, 4-speed automatic
transmission, cloth seats,
4-wheel ABS, dual air bags,
air conditioning, deluxe
chrome grille, galvanized steel
8 ft. cargo box, two-tier loading,
speed sensitive steering





Offer Available For A Limited Time Only.

KODIAK SIERRAS





230 HP Vortec 5000 SFI V8 engine, 4-speed automatic transmission, air conditioning, 4-wheel ABS, dual air bags, cloth seats, cruise control, tilt-wheel™ steering, chrome wheels, galvanized steel cargo box, two-tier loading, speed sensitive steering

## See Your Dealer Now For Details!



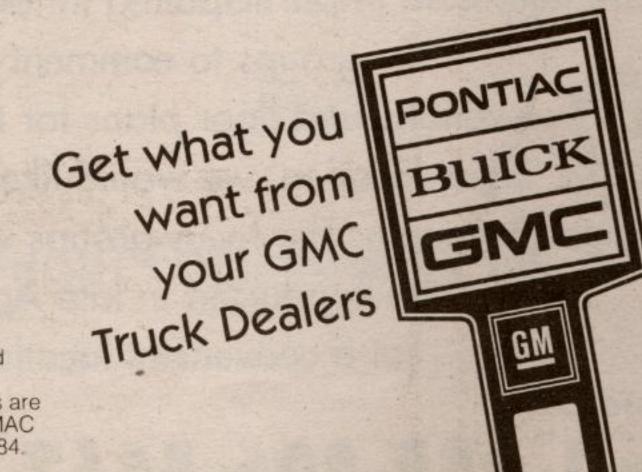
Don't forget to use your GM Card Earnings toward The Total Purchase Price or lease down payment of your next new GM vehicle.†

What's your card done for you lately?

+GM Card Earnings may be applied toward The Total Purchase Price or lease down payment of any eligible new General Motors Vehicle. Fleet sales and commercial leases excluded. For complete details on vehicle eligibility, see your General Motors Dealer.



You Should Know This: \*Based on a 36 month lease for 1997 GMC Sierra Regular Cab 1SH and 1997 GMC Sierra Extended Cab 1SB equipped as described. Annual kilometre limit: 20,000 km. \$0.08 per excess kilometre. A minimum down payment of \$2,100 and \$300 security deposit are required. OAC. Other lease options available. \*†Freight \$895, licence, insurance and taxes are not included. Dealer trade may be necessary. Dealer may sell/lease for less. See Dealer for details. \*\*Financing on approved GMAC credit only. Example: \$10,000 borrowed at 3.9% APR, the monthly payment is \$225.33 for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is \$815.84. Total obligation is \$10,815.84. Down payment may be required. \*†\*\*Offers apply to 1997 new or demonstrator models only and applies to qualified retail customers only. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. See Dealer for details.



ASSOCIATE TAX CONSULTANTS
TAX RETURNS

Same Day Service

101 Guelph St., Georgetown

877-2917