

Public unimpressed with possible growth options

Continued from pg. 3

some who oppose the loss of farmlands, while others who see the sale of their land as a retirement package.

The impact is already being felt, he said, as many farms within the Study Area— while still being worked— are owned by developers and speculators.

On selecting the right option for Halton Hills, Lewis said, "At the end of the day, some will be pleased and some will be upset. My first reaction is to take it slow and right, rather than fast and wrong."

He said the viewpoints generated at the workshop would be educational for Town council— all members attended— before they make their decision later this month.

"I hope everyone takes their chance to say, 'I like this; I don't like that,'" Lewis said.

One of those was a new resident— one of many Brampton refugees who have moved here.

"I don't want to happen here that happened there— excessive growth," he said, explaining growth in Brampton has led to a 40 per cent increase in crime, traffic jams and depressed housing prices.

"It got to the point I had to escape," he said. "Georgetown is one of the prettiest little towns I've ever seen, and I have a very simple philosophy: If it ain't broke here, don't fix it. The only people that benefit from development are the developers and the politicians."

A commuter worries about traffic jams too. She had to leave work at 4:45 p.m. to arrive on time for the 6:30 p.m. event.

"Where are all the people going to work? ...And how are they going to get there? Where are they going to get the money to create all the infrastructure to support all these people?" she asked.

Wards 1&2 Regional Councillor Clark Somerville agrees. He hopes people understand the cost of this proposed development— no matter what concept is selected.

"It's going to be big," he said. "It would be nice if development paid

its way, but it never has.

"Instead of a twin-pad arena, will we now need a quad-pad arena?" he said, adding there are additional parks, roads, soccer pitches, baseball diamonds, and other municipal and regional infrastructure to consider.

"I hope people will wake up and see how important this is because this is the whole future of where growth will be in the next 25 years," he said. "The Province has mandated this, and people have the chance to give their input now, instead of waking up one day, and asking, 'How did this happen?'"

Somerville was encouraged by the turnout Monday night, and hopes there will be a similar one at the Halton Region-hosted event on Tuesday, Sept. 16, 6:15-9 p.m. in the Georgetown District High School's cafeteria. A staff presentation will be made at 6:45

p.m. Halton Region's deadline for residents to comment has been set for Sept. 30.

"We wanted to engage public," said Mayor Rick Bonnette on setting up the Town's own workshop evening. "We didn't want the Region have a monopoly on public input. It was important that we run our own show to at least give a Halton Hills response to the Region."

Halton Hills planning staff expects to release its recommendation report to council, based on public opinion about the five options on Sept. 17. Halton Hills council will discuss the report at a special council meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 24.

To learn more about the Sustainable Halton option plans go to Halton Region's website, www.halton.ca or contact Town of Halton Hills planners John Linhardt, manager of Planning Policy, 905-873-2601, ext. 2294, johnl@halton-hills.ca or Steve Burke, senior planner-policy, 905-873-2601, ext. 2254 or stevebu@haltonhills.ca

Copies of the discussion papers are available from the planning department, on the website, www.haltonhills.ca or at both branches of the Halton Hills Public Library.



CLARK SOMERVILLE

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GreenCart Acceptable Liners



It's up to you whether you line your GreenCart and Kitchen Catcher. Acceptable ways to line your GreenCart and Kitchen Catcher include:

- Newspaper/flyers
- Cardboard
- Yard waste bags
- Paper food waste bags
- Certified compostable bags

Choose what is most convenient for you; however we will not accept regular plastic bags (for example, plastic shopping bags). By excluding regular plastics, we supply the composting facility with a clean material, resulting in a higher quality final compost product. Your GreenCart will not be collected if you use a regular plastic bag.

Certified Compostable Bag Liners

Paper bags are acceptable and will not have a certification logo. Paper food waste bags specific to GreenCart are accepted, as well as other paper shopping bags.

Certified compostable bags with the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) logo are acceptable in the GreenCart. When purchasing certified compostable bags, look for the following logo:



Bags or plastic films that display the BPI logo on their packaging and on their product are designed to compost quickly and safely when composted in a commercial composting facility.

For a complete list of acceptable liners, and where they can be purchased, visit www.halton.ca/greencart

Fall Compost Give Away at the Halton Waste Management Site

Friday, September 12, 2008
Saturday, September 13, 2008
and Monday, September 15, 2008
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Thanks to the participation efforts of Halton residents, about 26,000 tonnes of yard waste is collected every year and turned into rich, garden-friendly compost. Halton Residents are invited to come out to the Fall Compost Give Away to pick up some of this compost as a 'Thank You' for helping divert a usable material from the landfill, thereby extending its life!

- All Halton households are welcome to collect a maximum of seven bags (or equivalent) of compost.
- Residents are responsible for shovelling and bagging their own compost.
- Please bring your own bags/containers and shovel.
- Non-perishable food items or cash donations will be gratefully accepted on behalf of Halton area food banks.



Helpful Hint – When applying your compost to your gardens, ensure you blend it with topsoil or another gardening fill. Recommended application for best growing results is a 60/40 split (60% topsoil and 40% compost).

House cleaning? We can help! Bring your reusable clothing and household items to the Salvation Army Depot at the Halton Waste Management Site.



A Community Partnership

