

Town unveils plans for proposed multi-use trail

By MELANIE HENNESSEY

The Champion

Local residents could soon be able to enjoy the beauty of nature in south Milton by taking a walk or bike ride along a proposed multi-use trail.

If everything goes right, construction of the trail could start as soon as this fall, said Milton Community Services Director Jennifer Reynolds.

"The plan to date is for the Town to build a continuous three-metre wide asphalt multi-use trail from James Snow Parkway west to Hwy. 25," she said.

"It provides a strong east/west connection between residential areas, the major Sixteen Mile Creek system and park destinations."

A community open house was held last week at the Milton Sports Centre to gather public input, with a turnout of about 50

residents.

Ms Reynolds said overall, comments received were supportive and enthusiastic.

Some suggestions included creating a delineation for bicyclists and pedestrians, installing benches along the trail, planting lots of trees and shrubs for residential privacy and addressing safety where the trail crosses streets.

The trail would follow a Union Gas corridor, and Ms Reynolds said agreements are still being hammered out with the company and are expected to wrap up near the end of August.

"Pending finalizing all agreements, phase one may begin as early as this fall and will continue yearly until completion, linking to parks, other trails and schools," she said.

Grass along the perimeter of the trail is expected to be cut on a regular basis, but Ms Reynolds said the majority of the corridor will be naturalized and cut semi-annually.

Also, if Union Gas agrees, there may be lighting installed along

the pathway.

The company has requested that the Town install barriers at all road openings to restrict cars from driving down the trail.

"Other pedestrian safety elements may be incorporated as well," Ms Reynolds said.

The multi-use trail will conform with the Town's parks and facilities master plan, which recommended major trails as part of overall parkland and open space network.

Once details have been finalized with Union Gas, a layout plan for the trail will be displayed at the Town Hall, 43 Brown St., and on the Town's Web site, www.milton.ca.

Ms Reynolds said it's anticipated the plans will go before town council August 30.

To give your input on the plans, contact Lisa VanderVliet at (905) 878-7252, ext. 2168, or download a comment sheet from the Town's Web site.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached mhennessey@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

Events on Saturday July 17, 2004!

GoodLife Fitness Club
In Parking Lot of Women Only Location
409 Main St. (at Ontario St.)

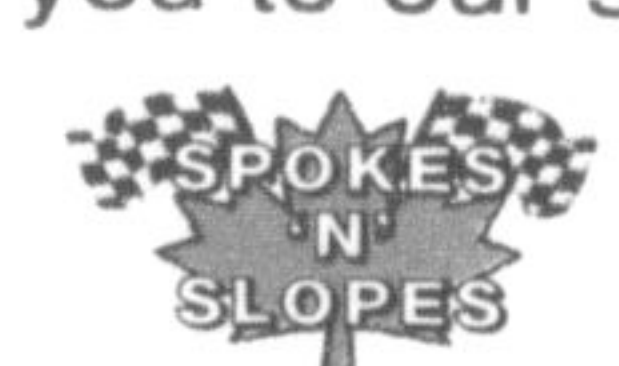
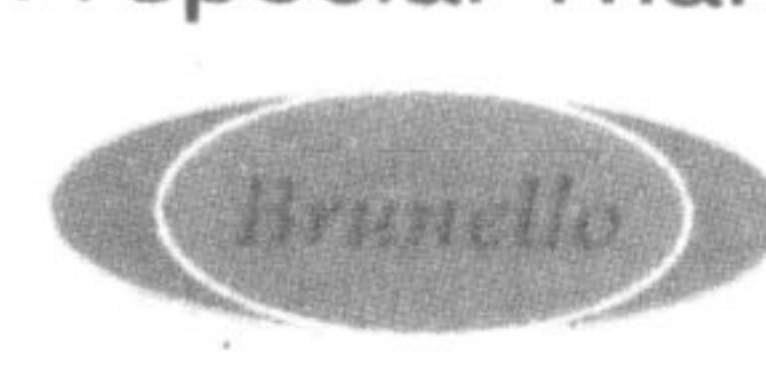
<p>Family Fun Kids Events! Kids Bouncy rooms, Kids Putt Putt Challenge, Dunk Tank, Crafts, Mega Blocks.</p> <p>Cycling Fundraiser Get on a bike & get your day started with a great exhilarating ride.</p> <p>Barbeque! 10am - 1pm</p>	<p>Tent City! Get great specials from vendors.</p> <p>Pepsi Taste Challenge! Popcorn courtesy of BlockBuster Video!</p> <p>Aquafina samples & fun with water!</p> <p>Amazing Bake Sale! Silent Auction</p>
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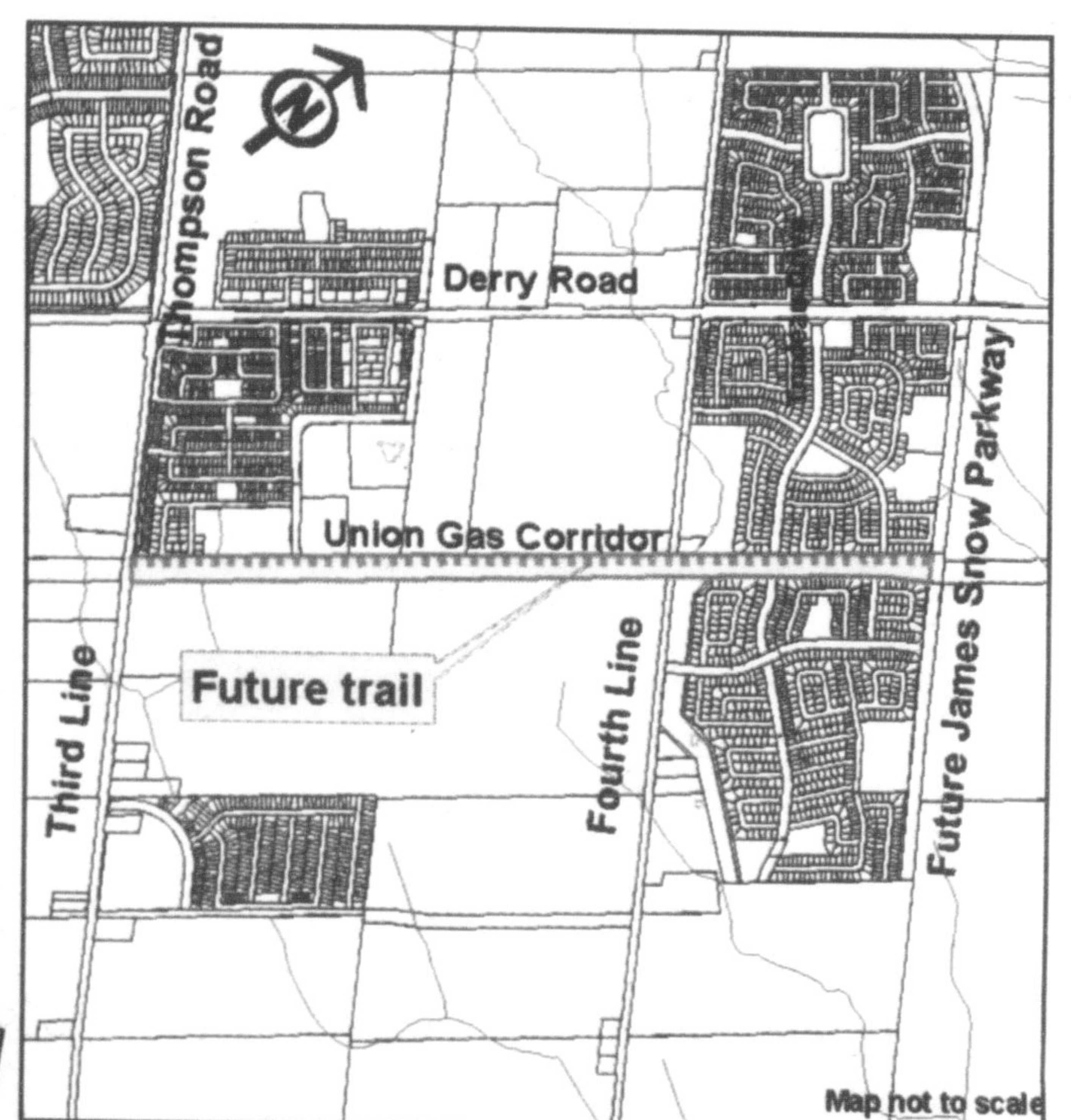


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