

Commercial development is proposed in the east end

By MELANIE HENNESSEY

The Champion

A gas bar, car wash, restaurants and office/commercial space have been proposed for lands at the corner of James Snow Parkway and Main Street East.

Town council and residents Monday night looked over the plans identified as phase one for an approximate nine-acre piece of land in Milton's east end.

The concept put forward covers about 3.5 acres and includes two restaurants, one with a drive-through, a nine-bay and tunnel car wash, a gas bar with convenience store and about 17,000 square feet of commercial/office space.

"We're developing a unique and excellent looking site," said Karen Bennett, a planner with Glen Schnarr and Associates.

So far, Director of Planning and Development Mel Iovio said no plans have been put forward for the remainder of the property, about 5.5 acres.

The landowner, M. Durante Enterprises Ltd., has applied for a zoning bylaw amendment to take the property from its future development designation to commercial-business special.

The area is designated as business park under the Bristol Survey Secondary Plan, which requires M. Durante to submit a development plan demonstrating how the proposal can be integrated with existing and future uses on adjacent lands.

Given the location at the town's gateway, extensive landscaping will also be required.

Ward 4 Councillor John Challinor asked that an architectural design be brought forward in the future for council review.

Once all comments on the proposal have been received, staff will prepare a technical report and bring it forward for council consideration.

Melanie Hennessey can be reached at mhennessey@milton-canadianchampion.com.

Town may wait for Region to put in traffic light

Local drivers tired of waiting to turn at the intersection of Derry Road and Santa Maria Boulevard/Commercial Street will have to wait until next year to see traffic signals at the tedious corner.

Plans to install traffic lights at the intersection have been called off by town council after learning the signals will be paid for and installed by the Region next year as part of the Derry Road widening project.

Although this means a savings of \$200,000 for the Town, a couple councillors were upset the lights wouldn't be going up this year.

"This is a real disappointment. It can be very treacherous there," said Ward 2 Councillor Mark Curtis.

Wards 2 and 4 Councillor Ron Furik suggested the part of Derry Road in question be widened this year to speed up the traffic signal installation.

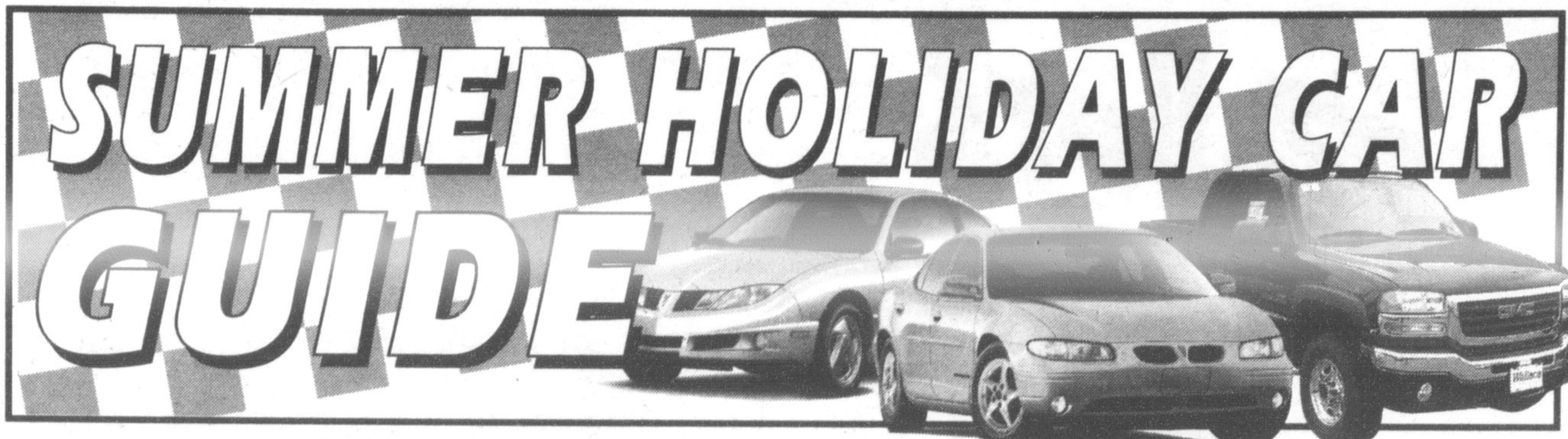
Director of Engineering Services Paul Cripps was directed to look into the feasibility of this idea.

Community park plan moves ahead

A massive community park project in south Milton is forging ahead after town council Monday night approved the master plan and authorized construction.

The new park will feature two baseball diamonds, four soccer fields, a playground, splash pad, multi-purpose court and walking trails and the existing Milton Tennis Club facility on lands south of the Milton Sports Centre.

A report from Director of Community Services Jennifer Reynolds said it's anticipated trail construction will start this fall. Most of the park will be built by 2007.



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