

All-way stop near park likely to remain

Proposed removal nixed by committee

By Melanie Hennessey
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A proposal to remove an all-way stop at the intersection of Barclay Circle and March Crossing was given the red light by a Town committee last week.

The matter went before the community services committee, which decided to go against Town staff's recommendation and instead support keeping the signage in place.

A report from Director of Engineering Services Paul Cripps explains his staff recently noticed the all-way stop had been put up by the subdivision's developer. The signs were actually erected several years ago.

Subsequently, staff completed traffic counts at the intersection and, based on those numbers, found the stop signs aren't warranted. "A review of the three-year collision history at this intersection indicates that there have been no reportable collisions," the report says.

It goes on to note that, "During the counts, numerous children were observed crossing the roadway to utilize the park and further that they could safely cross as there were adequate gaps in the traffic."

However, Yates Drive resident Mike

Cluett argued that the high volume of children crossing the road means the stop signs need to stay in place.

"During the spring and summer months, the amount of pedestrian traffic increases throughout the day and the removal of these stop signs can pose a risk to the people, mainly children, who use that park," he told the committee. "The removal of the stop signs can impose a risk and confusion for children who have now been accustomed to these safety rules that they have learned."

Cluett, in conjunction with the residents in the area of Barclay Circle and March Crossing, requested that the stop signs remain installed.

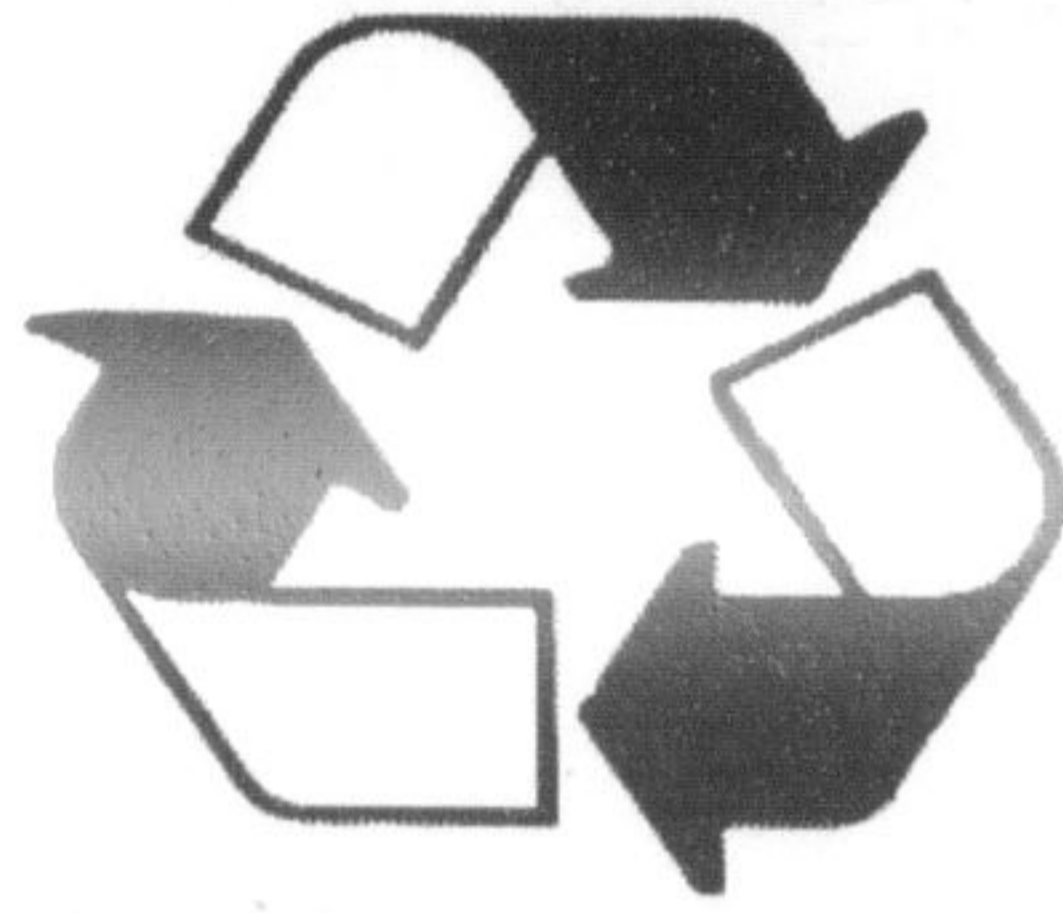
Cripps said staff is afraid motorists in the area will begin to ignore the stop signs, creating a dangerous situation if a child assumes the vehicle will stop.

He said he spent an hour at the intersection one day and of the 122 cars he saw, only 56 stopped, 25 made rolling stops and 41 didn't stop at all.

Ward 1 Councillor Rick Day put forward a motion, which the committee endorsed, to retain the all-way stop at the subject intersection. It also supported implementing an all-way stop at the intersection of Bennett and Armstrong boulevards.

The matter will now go before town council for consideration June 26.

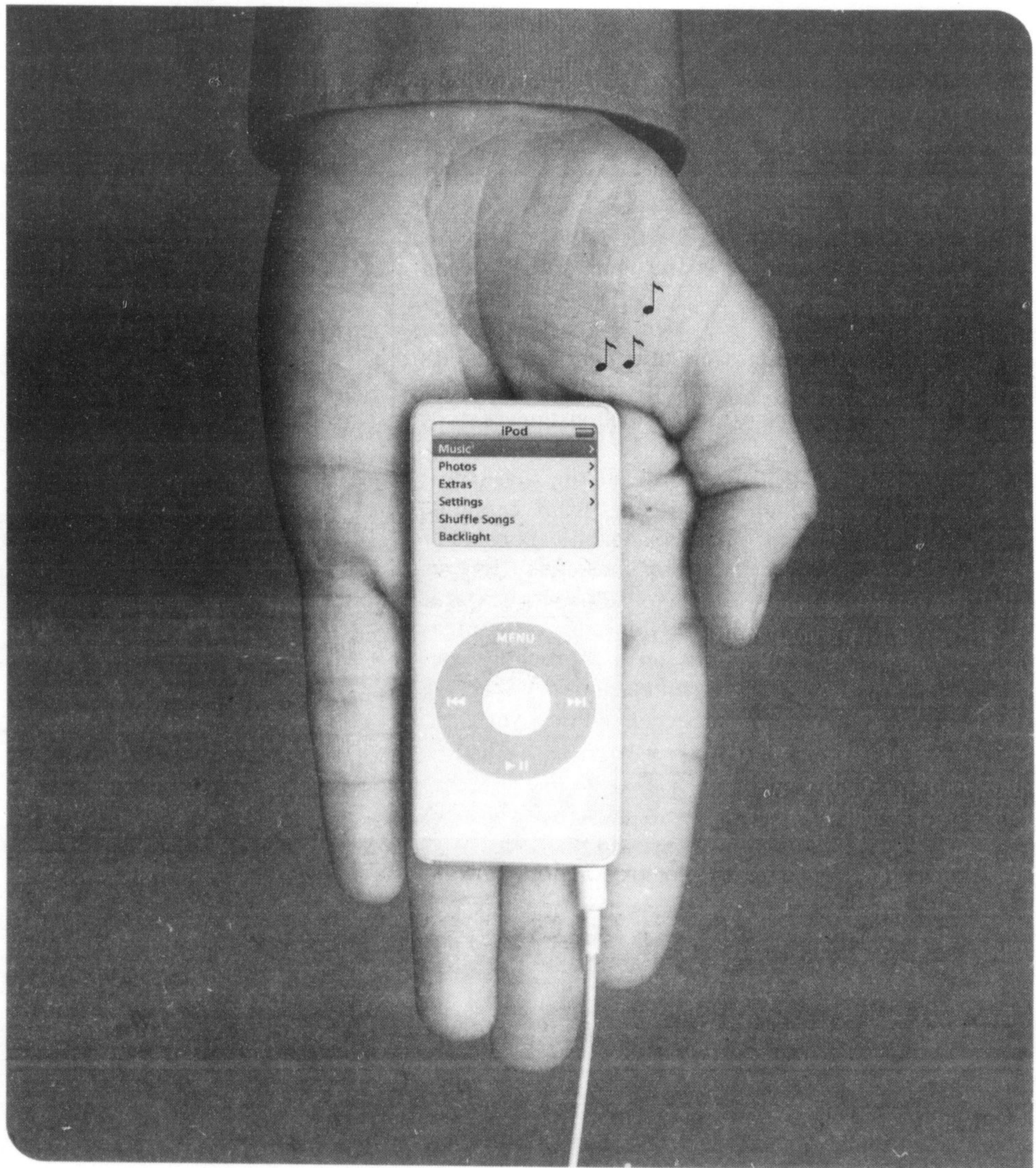
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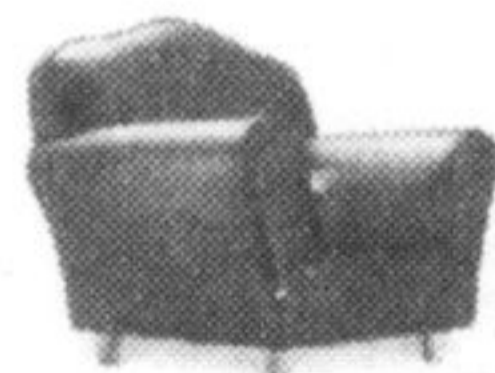
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