

# Residents happy stop sign saved

Residents living on Barclay Circle and March Crossing are breathing a sigh of relief now that town council has ruled the all-way stop in their neighbourhood won't be taken down after all.

At its meeting last week, council voted to keep the signage in place, following the recommendation from its community services committee but going against staff's advice to remove it.

Staff recently noticed the all-way stop had been put up at the intersection of Barclay Circle and March

Crossing by the subdivision's developer.

Subsequently, traffic counts were completed at the intersection and, based on those numbers, staff found the stop signs aren't warranted.

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

In addition to approving the retention of the stop signs at Barclay Circle and March Crossing, council also supported implementing an all-way stop at the intersection of Bennett and

Armstrong boulevards.

Ward 4 Councillor John Challinor went on to suggest that staff needs to look in other subdivisions as quickly as possible for additional stop signs that've been put up by developers.

He noted that a developer created an all-way stop at the intersection of Matheson Gate and Fitzgerald Crescent — signage he said should remain in place.

Challinor put forward a motion amendment, which was supported by council, to retain the all-way stop.

# Bridge to be fixed

A Pine Street bridge will receive a facelift this summer.

At its meeting last week, town council approved a reconstruction project for the bridge, located east of Commercial Street.

It also supported closing the road to traffic for about eight weeks between July 10 and September 29 to allow for the work. Staff will keep pedestrian access open if safety permits.

Plans include repairing the concrete sidewalks and abutments, replacing the expansion joints and resurfacing the bridge deck, with a budget of about \$170,000.

"Completing maintenance activities such as these can extend the life of significant pieces of infrastructure and delay their replacement. This in turn can avoid costly repairs," said Town Engineering Services Director Paul Cripps.

"Inspections are done biannually on existing bridges and major culverts to ensure that repair needs are addressed in a timely manner."

The bridge was assessed in a condition survey in 2004, when it was estimated that the remaining life expectancy of the structure might be extended by 10 to 15 years if the repairs were done.

The project has been assigned to the McCormick Rankin Corporation.

For updates, advance information on road closures and detour routes, watch for signs being installed throughout the urban area, visit [www.milton.ca](http://www.milton.ca) or call (905) 878-7252.

# Pre-trial continuing

A pre-trial for a Milton couple facing numerous charges in connection with a series of mortgage frauds will continue August 24.

The pre-trial — which is a meeting held to hammer out legal issues before trial — will take place at Superior Court of Justice in Newmarket. The return date was set June 8.

Frank Basso and his wife, Catherine, were charged with a total of 16 and 10 counts respectively of fraud over \$5,000, conspiracy to commit fraud, uttering a forged document, obtaining money by a forged document and obtaining credit by false pretence along with three other non-Milton residents.

The charges relate to two incidents in 2001 and 2002 in which fraudulent mortgages were arranged on houses unbeknownst to the owners — relatives of the suspects — to obtain money.

York Regional Police allege \$1.7 million was pocketed by the five suspects from a total of three incidents in Toronto and Vaughan, one in which no charges were laid against the Milton couple.

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