

Green light given for more homes

Another batch of houses in the Fieldgate Homes' subdivision have been given the go-ahead by council.

At its meeting Monday night, council approved 228 more homes — a mix of single family, semi-detached and townhouses — in the next phase of the large subdivision that's being built at the northeast corner of Derry and Tremaine Roads.

The plans are coming forward in phases to coincide with when water and sewer capacity is being made available by the Region.

The developer has also offered to build a replica of an historic home that was mistakenly torn down a couple years ago on the property. It would be included as part of the subdivision and situated near its original location.

Air monitor coming

Milton council approved an agreement with the Region for its local air quality monitoring program.

To give local residents a better idea of what they're breathing in, the Region is setting up a new north Halton stationary air monitor at Bishop Reding Secondary School. The monitor will also see how air quality in Milton changes over time as the town grows.

The license agreement endorsed by council will see power supplied to the air monitor from the nearby Milton Leisure Centre. The monitor's hydro usage will be metered separately and charged back to the Region.

The station will measure air levels of fine particulate matter, ground-level ozone, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and carbon monoxide.

Milton potential 'Mobility Hub'

Council has expressed interest in making the Milton GO station a 'Mobility Hub' where transit systems from across the GTA could converge.

A motion was passed that tells Metrolinx — formerly the Greater Toronto Transportation Authority — the municipality wants it to further investigate establishing the hub locally. Metrolinx recently deemed the Milton GO station as a potential spot for a Mobility Hub — a location where a variety of transit forms could come together, allowing for transit riders to move between regional and inter-regional transit systems.

Preliminary discussions have occurred with Metrolinx regarding the creation of a hub pilot project in Milton, including the option of bringing in an additional transit carrier like Greyhound so that passengers from places like Guelph can connect with the GO system.

No specific plans have been made for the potential hub regarding north/south Halton transit connections.

More affordable housing needed: Town

The Town is urging the federal government to take action and respond to the need for more affordable housing.

Council endorsed a motion that calls on the politicians in Ottawa to implement suggestions made in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' recent report, 'Sustaining the Momentum: Recommendations for a National Action Plan of Housing and Homelessness.'

Specifically, the resolution pushes for revisions to current federal tax policies and legislation to remove disincentives to

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rental development and replace them with incentives.

Ward 4 Councillor Wendy Schau, who made the motion, said the lack of accommodation alternatives for low to moderate-income individuals hasn't improved as the town has grown.

"The reason rental accommodations are not being built is there's no money in it," she said, "Our only hope is if conditions change (at the federal level)."

Council supports ECO

Council has thrown its support behind the recent 'green' recommendations made by the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario (ECO) in his annual report.

A motion to that effect was put forward by Ward 3 Councillor Cindy Lunau and supported by council.

The resolution says the Town endorses all 10 of the ECO's suggestions to improve the protection and enhancement of the environment. It goes on to state that the Town particularly supports the recommendation that calls on the Province to reconcile its conflicting priorities between aggregate extraction and environmental protection, specifically source water protection values.

Tender awarded

Toronto Zenith Contracting Ltd. has been awarded a \$1.7-million tender by the Town to replace the Barnstable Bridge on Lower Base Line between Fifth and Sixth lines.

The bridge is currently a single-lane structure with a seven-tonne load restriction. The new structure will carry two lanes of traffic without load restrictions.

A little over \$2 million was budgeted for the project. The extra funds will remain in the bridge budget to fund other aspects of the work. It's hoped that work on the bridge will start this summer.

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NOTICE

The Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. N-2

The Niagara Escarpment Commission has initiated an amendment to the Niagara Escarpment Plan.

Amendment No. 172 proposes:
To undertake a general amendment to the Niagara Escarpment Plan (NEP) to introduce policies to permit the creation and establishment of "agricultural purposes only lots" by allowing the severance of the farmland portion of a property from a parcel having an existing residence that is deemed surplus as a result of a farm consolidation. Once severed, the "agricultural purposes only lot" is intended never to be residentially built upon, re-severed or used for purposes that are inconsistent with the agricultural rationale allowing its original creation. A number of housekeeping matters related to the new policy and agriculture generally will also be addressed as part of the amendment, including the removal of farm retirement lots as a permitted use and the modification of definitions as they relate to farming and agriculture.

A copy of the proposed Amendment together with background information may be examined online or at the office of the:

Niagara Escarpment Commission
232 Guelph Street
Georgetown, ON L7G 4B1
Tel: (905) 877-5191
Fax: (905) 873-7452
Internet: www.escarpment.org/planamendments.htm

Written comments and submissions may be made to the Niagara Escarpment Commission until August 1, 2008 at the address noted above.

For additional information, please contact Ken Whitbread at (905) 877-4026 or ken.whitbread@ontario.ca.

Dated at Georgetown the week of May 26, 2008
Don Scott, Chair

JOIN US!

SATURDAY JUNE 14, 2008
BRONTE CREEK PARK
Registration between 8:30am & 9:30am; Start time 10:00am

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l Stevenson@breastcancersupport.org

Register and pledge online at www.vrpro.ca and set up your own pledge site and email friends.

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Milton: Brunello's Ristorante (395 Main St. East), Milton Photo (Milton Mall)
McCuaig Insurance (208 Main St.), Troy's Diner (295 Main St East)

Oakville: Leslie Music (198 Speers Road, Oakville),
L'Atelier Grignonan (210 Lakeshore Road East)

Online: www.miltonchoristers.com

www.miltonchoristers.com 905-878-1632

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