Townhouses get green light

By Melanie Hennessey CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

A small batch of townhouses in east Milton have been approved by town council, despite concerns raised by some councillors regarding their proximity to Hwy. 401.

The plans, from Octavian Meadows Estates Ltd., call for 47 townhouse units on a property located on Maple Avenue, beside Hwy. 401.

Prior to council approving the plans at its meeting Monday, Wards 2 and 4 Councillor Colin Best once again voiced his opposition to the development.

He said putting residential land beside a highway that's eventually going to be widened is "ridiculous."

"People that have to live there will have significant noise and air quality concerns," he said.

He also pointed out that the land was originally intended for employment uses. The previous town council approved residential zoning for the property.

Ward 4 Councillor Wendy Schau said she also has concerns about the development, but given the zoning that's already been put in place, she wouldn't vote against it.

"I believe in the future we should be very, very vigilant in not converting employment land to residential," she said.

She said she also has concerns about the closeness of the planned homes to the 401.

Fellow Ward 4 Councillor Paul Scherer said he suspects existing residents would be happier with houses going on the property, rather than more business development.

Ward 3 Councillor Cindy Lunau said the Hwy. 401 expansion should be kept in mind for future planning decisions.

While Best requested a recorded vote on the issue, he was the only council member who voted against it. Ward 1 Councillor Rick Day and Wards 1 and 3 Councillor Barry Lee were absent.

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Push on for bottle return

The Town is joining forces with the Region to ask the Province to put a deposit/return system on pop cans and water bottles.

A motion with the request, instigated by Ward 3 Councillor Cindy Lunau, was approved by town council Monday night. The move, if ultimately approved by the Province, is expected to lead to less roadside littering.

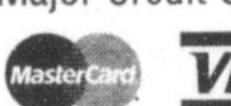
Regional council previously passed a motion asking for Regional Chair Gary Carr to write to the Province requesting consideration of such a deposit.

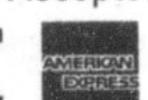


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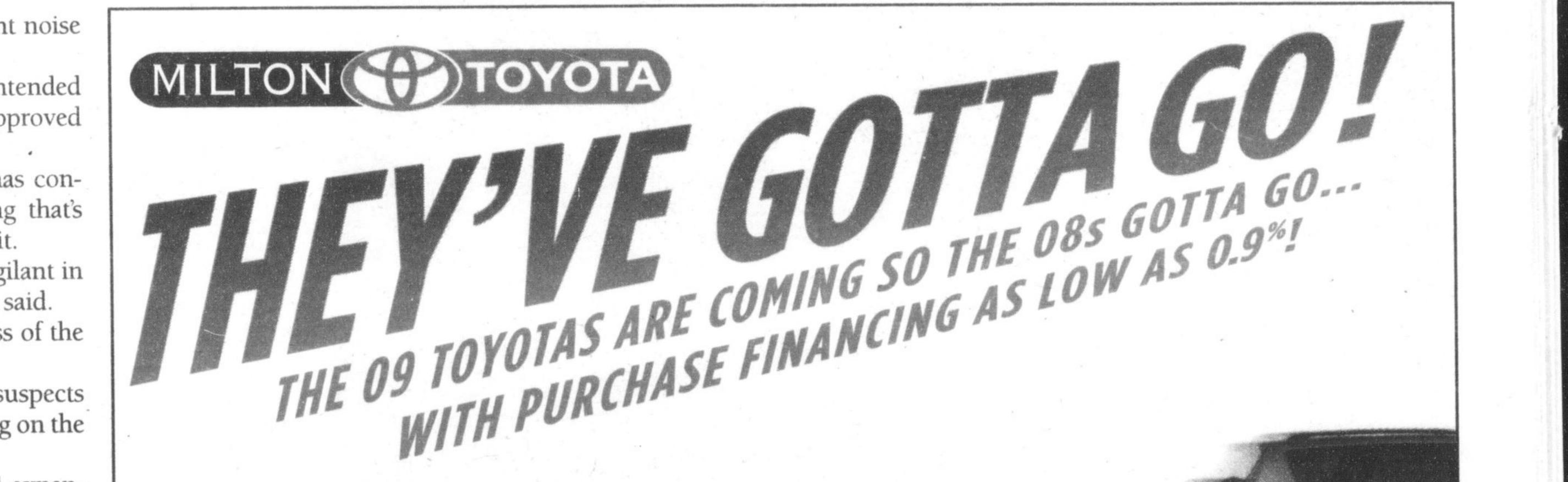
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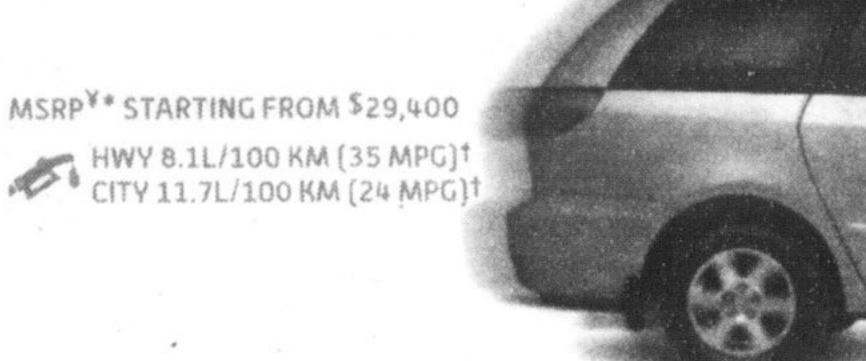
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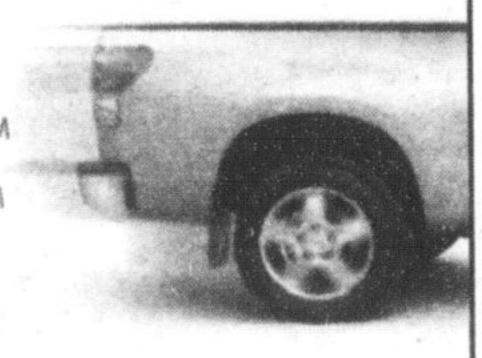
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she didn't believe a word Bakinsh said.