

New signals on their way

More pedestrian countdown signals will soon be installed at busy intersections around Milton.

At its meeting Monday night town council approved an implementation plan for the signals, which count down the number of seconds a pedestrian has to cross the road before losing their right-of-way.

Currently the Town has installed pedestrian countdown signals at five intersections along Main and Ontario streets.

Staff has developed a list of 20 more signalized intersections that will be upgraded to include the countdown signals this year.

These include seven intersections on both Main Street and Thompson Road, four intersections on Ontario Street, the intersection of Maple and Galbraith avenues and the intersection of Main and Bronte streets (to be completed during reconstruction next year).

The cost to replace the signals is estimated at \$61,000, which will be funded by the Town's traffic infrastructure capital budget.

Walkway project advanced

A popular downtown walkway will be getting a facelift this year.

A motion that supports revamping the path — which runs between Bergsma's Home Decor and the Milton Bible Church — in 2010 rather than next year was endorsed by town council.

The resolution also directs staff to enter into discussions with the pathway's neighbours to develop a reconstruction plan for the path.

The issue was originally raised by Ward 2 Councillors Mike Boughton and Greg Nelson due to esthetic and drainage concerns along the path that connects Main Street to Mary Street.

Council Briefs

The project, which is estimated to cost \$70,000, will be funded by the Town's capital works reserve fund.

Plans in works to boost bus ridership

A plan designed to boost ridership on the Milton Transit system was endorsed in principle by town council.

The 'Mobility Milton 2010' marketing strategy proposes a variety of new initiatives, such as a partnership with residential developers to provide a six-month transit pass to new Milton residents and a two-for-one summer student pass program.

Since the Town's new transit service contract came in about \$170,000 under budget this year, the savings will be used to fund the initiatives in the strategy.

Physical Activity Plan moves ahead

A five-year plan designed to increase Miltonians' physical activity has been given the go-ahead.

The Physical Activity Plan, which was approved by council, aims to promote the physical activities that exist locally, ensure they're fully accessible to all residents and encourage those who currently aren't active to become more active.

The document includes many recommended actions, such as introducing physical activity in every Town-run day camp and providing maps of all active play and sport areas in the community on websites.

The next phase of the plan will kick off this year and includes branding and messaging, engaging community partners to work collaboratively on physical activity initiatives and an event to formally launch the plan.

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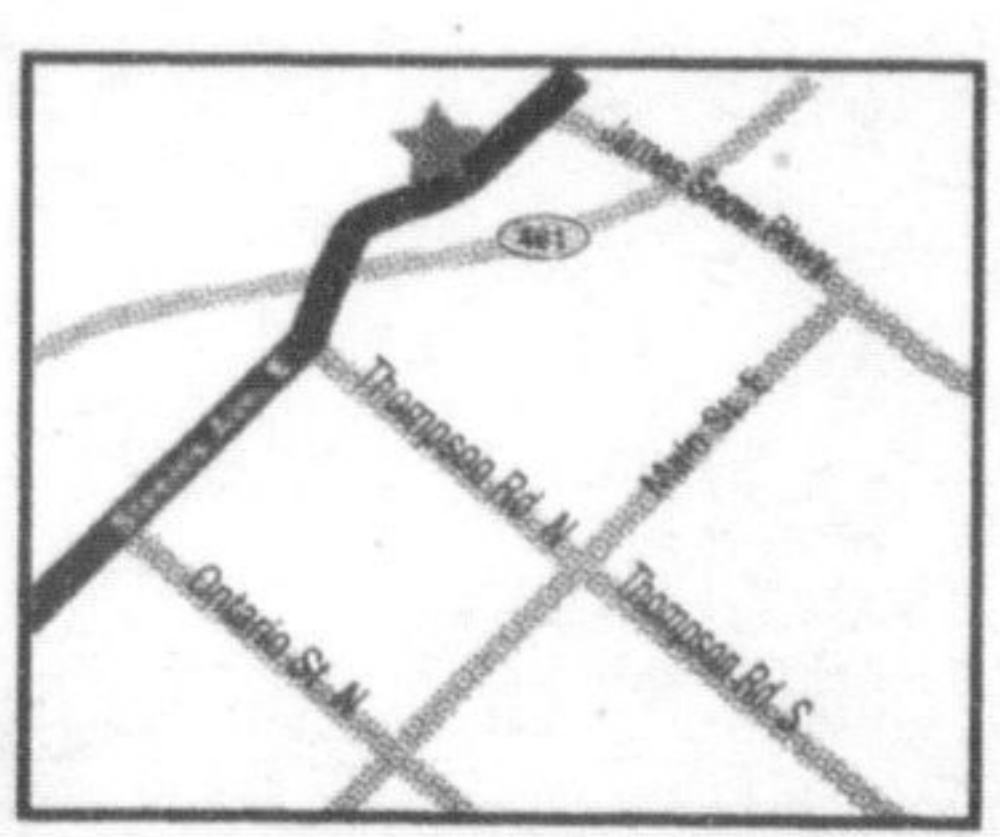
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