

Residents' bid for all-way stop at Pine/Fulton denied

By Melanie Hennessey
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

Local residents' plea for an all-way stop at Pine and Fulton streets to slow down speeders went unanswered by a Town committee this week.

A small group of citizens turned out at Monday's community services committee meeting with a petition signed by about a dozen individuals that calls for the stop signs and other measures to address the traffic volumes and speeds on what the residents say is now nicknamed 'Pine Street Parkway.'

Pine Street resident Carolyn Cormier, who spearheaded the petition with her husband, told the committee that the street is commonly used by speeding motorists who are trying to bypass the downtown.

"The speeding, combined with the physical characteristics of our street is what has created a volatile combination that will result in a fatal situation for either a motorist or pedestrian," said Cormier.

"The only effective and cost-efficient solution to this traffic problem is to convert the intersection of Pine and Fulton into a four-way stop. This will force vehicles to slow down, as opposed to gain speed travelling up and down the steep hill on Pine Street."

Town Engineering Services Director Paul Cripps said staff has completed a number of speed studies on Pine Street between Fulton and Court streets and the results showed the 85th percentile speed (the speed that 85 per

cent of motorists are travelling at or below) is within 10 km of the posted 50 km/h limit.

He also said that traffic counts were conducted at the intersection of Pine and Fulton streets, but the warrants weren't met for an all-way stop.

There've been four reportable collisions at the intersection in the past three years, and another four accidents at the intersection of Pine and Commercial streets, which is already an all-way stop, Cripps told the committee.

Instead of creating an all-way stop, staff recommended that:

- Driver feedback signs, which display the speed a motorist is travelling at, be placed on Pine Street for one-week intervals throughout the year

- A request be made to Halton Regional Police to place its Speedi radar message board on Pine Street during the month of May

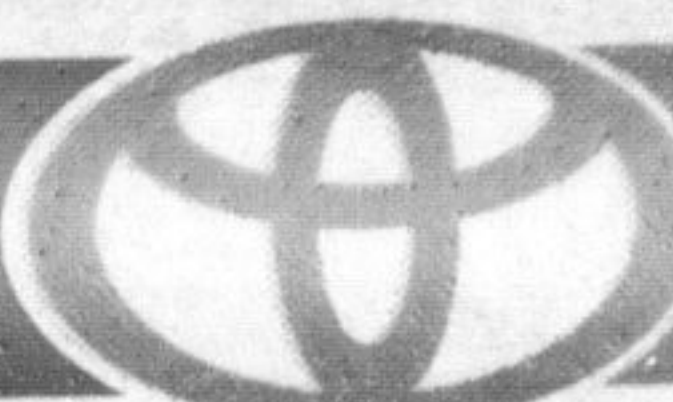
- A written request be sent to the police to enforce the speed limit on Pine Street as time and manpower permits.

While Ward 2 Councillor Greg Nelson said he was glad to see the measures suggested by staff, he also indicated that he stands behind the Pine Street residents and their request for an all-way stop.

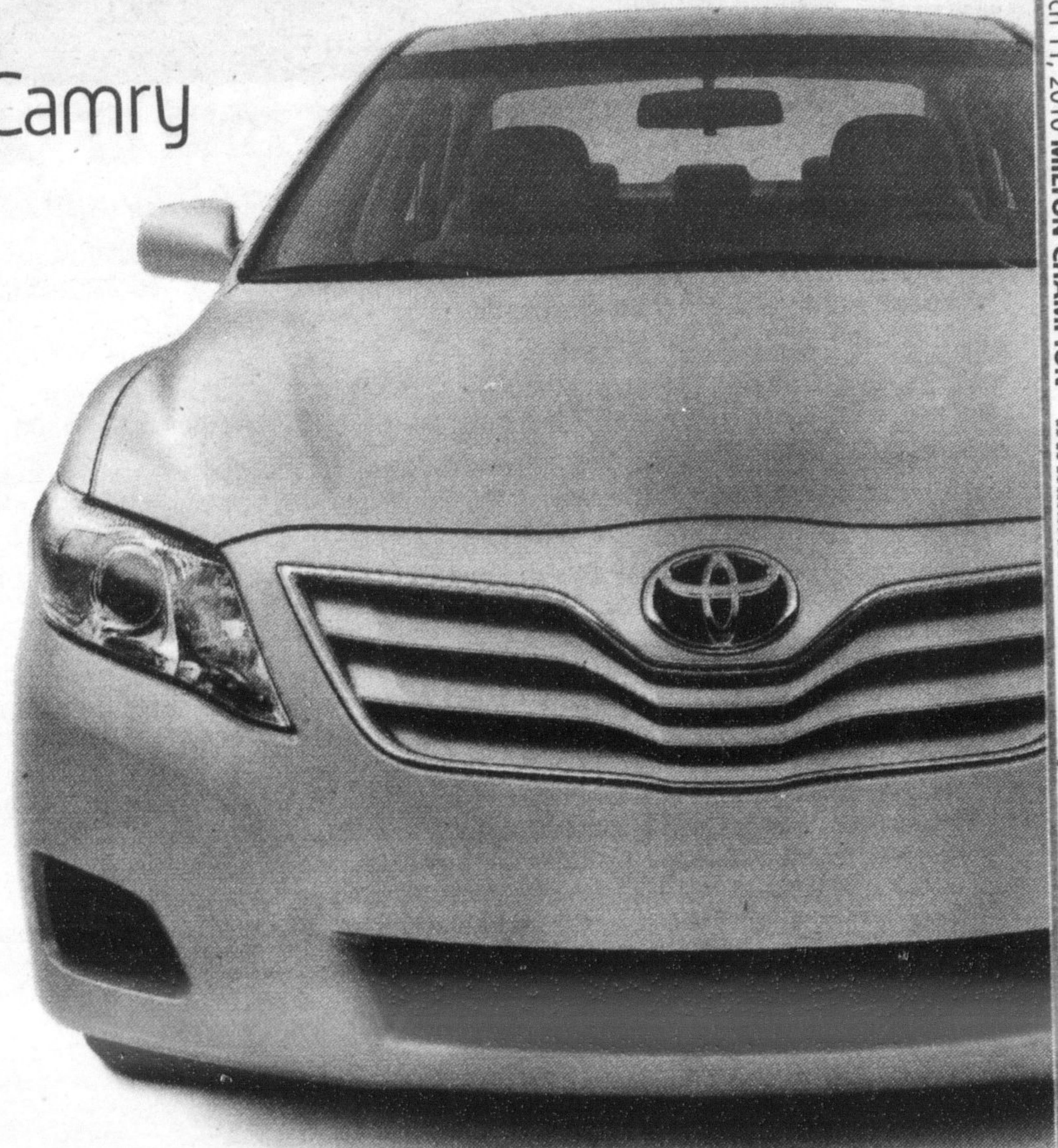
"I feel the right thing should be done, even if it's for a one-year period," he said.

Wards 2 and 4 Councillor Colin Best concurred with Nelson's suggestion.

• see DANGEROUS on page A13

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