

Thornhill townhouse development given conditional go-ahead

Markham council has given the go-ahead to the 548-unit townhouse development in Thornhill provided the province will guarantee water and funds to build a school by September.

Mayor Tony Roman said Monday council successfully negotiated improvements to W.B.

Sullivan's road design and visitor parking spots.

This was accomplished without eliminating units. However, on 30 percent of the units, there will be a minor variance of six or eight inches in the size of front yard permitted under the town's bylaws.

Councillors wanted roads to be widened to 22 feet to

accommodate large garbage and moving trucks. They also had the road pattern redesigned to eliminate dead-end streets. They were worried it would be dangerous for children if trucks were forced to back out of these streets.

The project is part of the Ontario Housing Action Program. The developer

has agreed to provide a percentage of the units at a price middle income families can afford.

Therefore the number of units finally agreed upon was important to the developer.

Markham council has yet to meet with the minister of housing to discuss the level of subsidy for each unit. The

province has guaranteed there will be no increase in taxes as a result of providing services to this development.

The developer will also negotiate with the province to change the parks dedication or allow an increase in the cost of homes to cover the required cash payment to the town.



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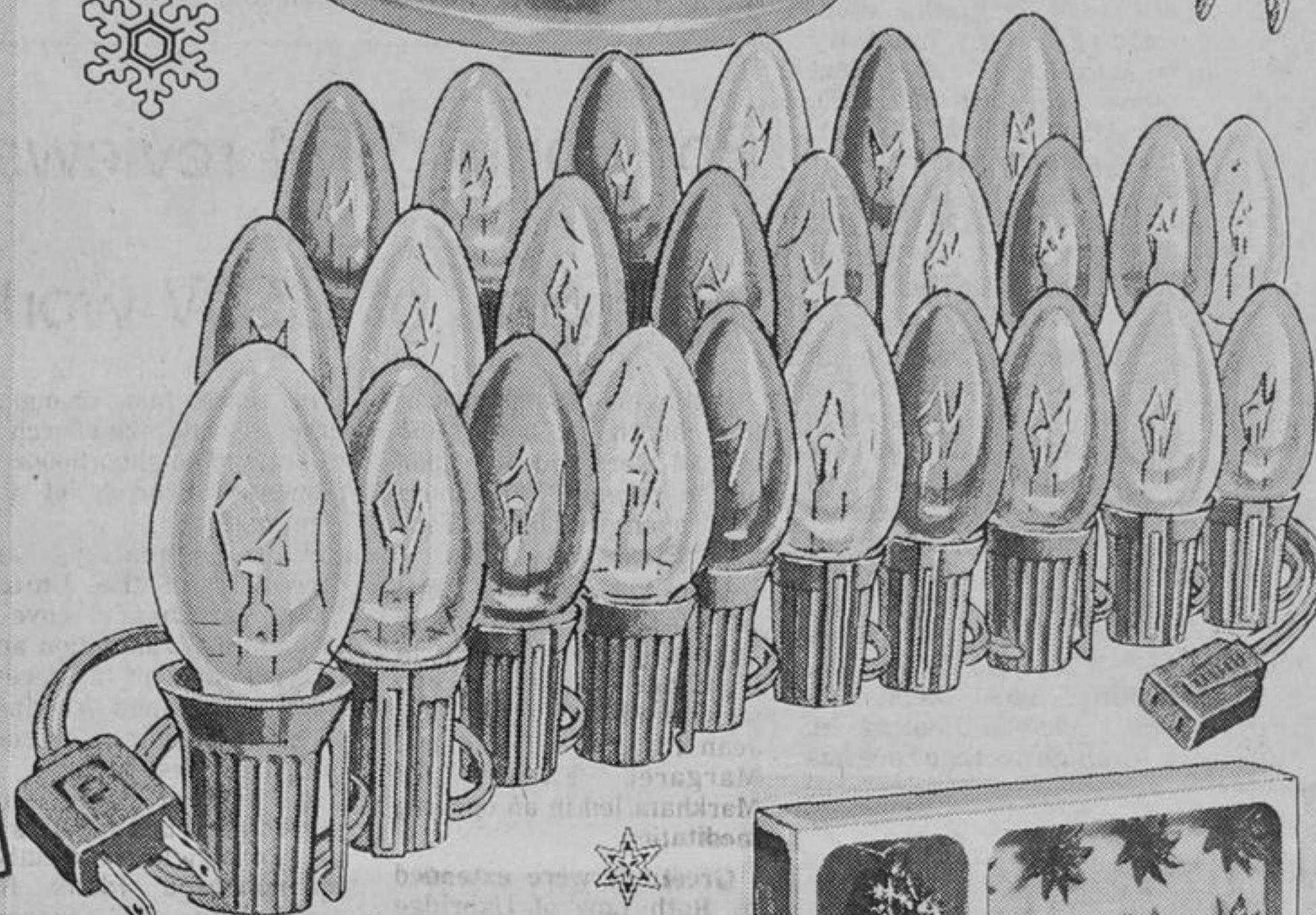
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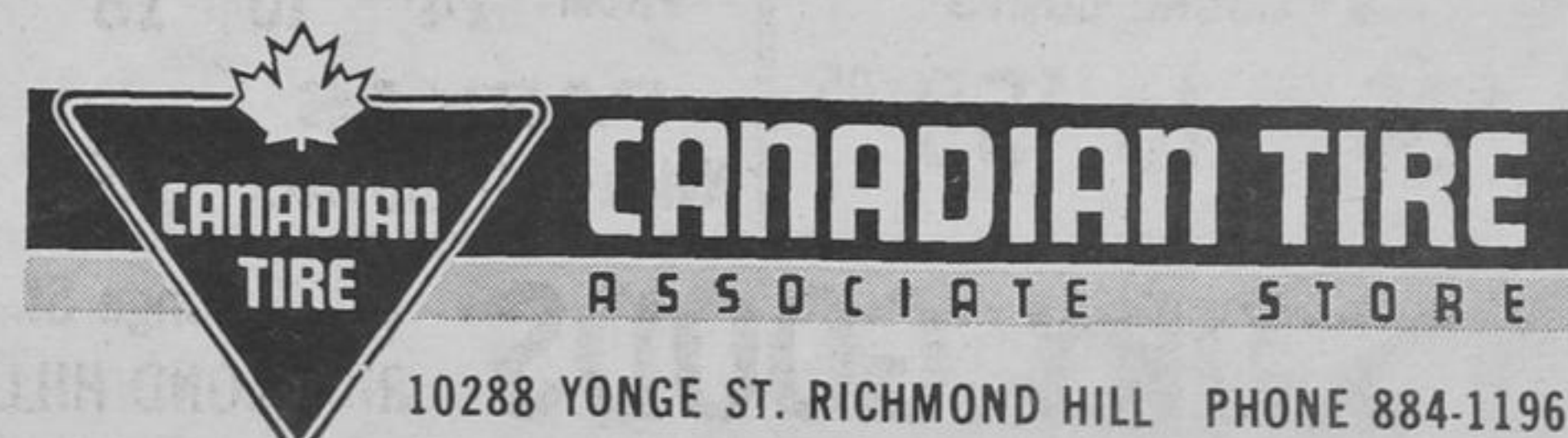
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