

# Letters

## Markham setting fire to its official plan

Markham's Planning Staff said no; Markham's Chairman of Planning said no; among others, two of Markham's Regional Councillors said no; and Regional Planning is preparing to fight it at the OMB.

But Markham Council voted by a slim margin to approve extension of municipal water into the rural area north of 16th Avenue.

In so doing, Markham is virtually setting fire to its official plan.

It is establishing a precedent which can be expected to encourage others to write their own versions of a constantly changing plan.

Four years ago a team of consultants was assembled to hammer out a set of policies and plans which would map Markham's future for the balance of this century. An impressive list it was.

The best of engineering, sociology, conservation, finance, transportation — names now prominent in major work being carried on across this province.

And the real cost of this year long project exceeded \$300,000.

We were all very proud of the contribution made by each member of the consulting team and by each member of Council. We developed a very

special appreciation of the expertise demonstrated by our Planning and Engineering staff in bringing the whole plan together.

We display the results of our efforts at public hearings for all to see.

We made specific adjustments to the plan as a result of these hearings to make it as

perfect a plan as anyone could build. Among the many rules and policies which would guide and control development, the plan set out areas where urban services would be provided, where industry would develop, where people would live.

It set out areas where large rural estate lots

would be permitted with local wells and septic tanks.

And in one precedent setting move, our Council may have blown it all.

This is the first case I have seen where I honestly believe that the Region of York can come to our rescue.

I am hoping the Region can maintain a better

perspective of the implications of such an overtly destructive decision, and put the lid on it — rather than reacting to help one developer out of a jam.

Stan Daurio  
31 Silver Aspen Drive  
Thornhill

## Recycling Committee seek support

The Richmond Hill Committee for Recycling regrets any inconvenience anyone in the community may have incurred due to newspapers not being collected by the recycling truck during the week of July 23 to 27.

Fred Jamin was on vacation and unfortunately plans for an alternative pickup could regretfully not be fulfilled.

This is a special appeal to again ask the community at large to tie and bundle their newspapers and put them on the opposite side of the driveway from your garbage on your regular pickup day.

With many residents on vacation we would ask you to explain our program to your friends and neighbors, cousins and aunts.

We have the markets,

what we need is your cooperation.

This is a volunteer organization with financial commitments to employ three men; two of whom are handicapped residents of Daybreak and to whom this work is very important.

If you are not in the paper pickup area or have friends or family who will bring papers to you, they can be taken to the Recycling Depot at Elgin Mills Road and Leslie Street on Saturday, 10 a.m. to noon or left in the shed indicated in front of the recycling barn.

This part of the recycling program reduces garbage disposal costs, enables the newspapers to be made into an energy saving insulation and makes better use of our natural resources by using these precious trees again.

We welcome the

residents of Gormley and Victoria Square to share in our conservation program.

The Richmond Hill Committee for Recycling consists of approximately 40 volunteers and employees (3).

(Our population is 37,500.)

Please give us your support, NOW.

For information call Marlene at 884-6671.

Marlene R. Turner,  
Secretary,  
Richmond Hill  
Committee  
for Recycling

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**STEPHEN DOMAIN**

Stephen Domain is 12 years old and lives in Thornhill. He attends Royal Orchard Public School and has just completed grade seven. Stephen plays House League Soccer for Dales Pharmacy and also plays for the Selects as well as having played hockey for Shoppers Drug Mart. He enjoys playing the piano and has just started to learn horseback riding.

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