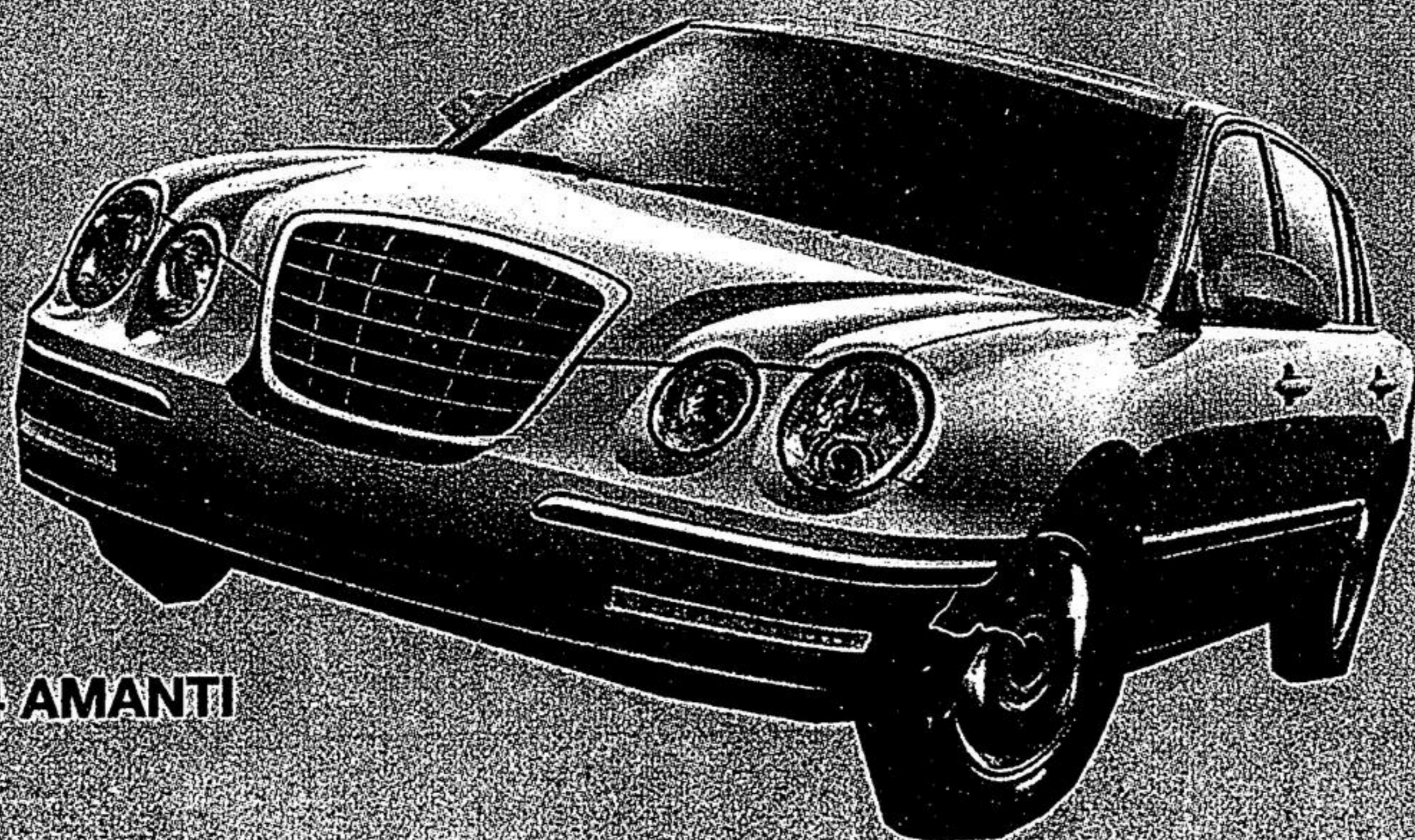


# MANUFACTURER'S CLEAROUT SALE

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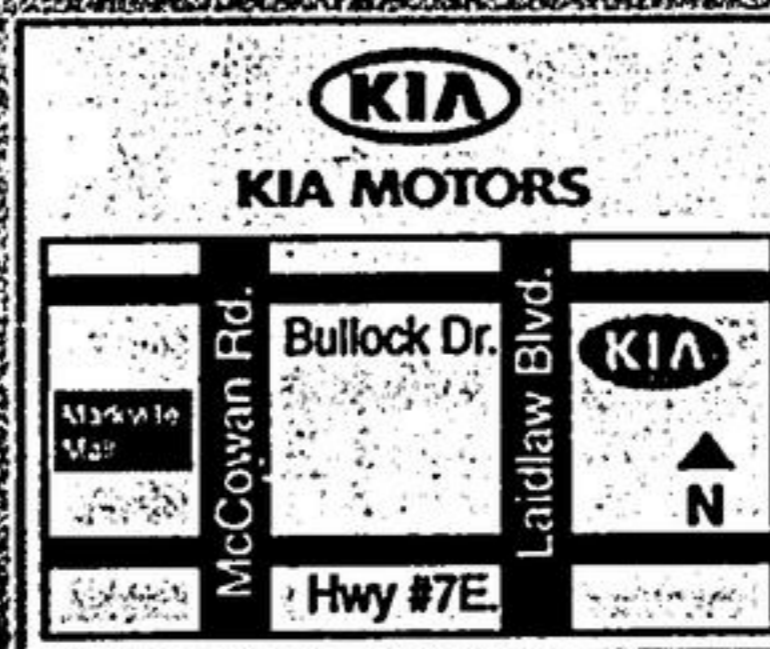
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## Pooling law bad, mayor says

Legislation forcing regions to send money to Toronto for its social assistance and housing programs should be overhauled, Mayor Sue Sherban says.

Although an additional 9 per cent was requested over last year's contribution, York Region capped that increase at 3 per cent.

Some municipalities, such as Richmond Hill and Georgina, have chosen to withhold funds, although they may face punitive measures from the province.

Whitchurch-Stouffville has already made the commitment to pay \$2.5 million, which represents 2.9 per cent of the total regional pool, Ms Sherban said.

Toronto was to receive almost \$87 million from the region.

The money, which comes from local taxpayers, should be used for York residents instead, the mayor believes.

A member of the region's social housing committee, the mayor noted funding for social assistance in York has not kept pace with demand.

The mayor wants Premier Dalton McGuinty and Finance Minister Greg Sorbara to meet with regional governments to discuss the legislation.

"(It) is no longer effective and is causing programs and services across York Region to be cut or delayed," she said.

"We are not going to be the bread and butter for other areas."

—Hannelore Volpe

## Council asks for whistle ban

Almost a dozen residents living near train tracks in Stouffville applauded as council decided last week to ask for a train whistle ban in town.

Trains begin sounding their whistles as early as 6 a.m. as they leave the lay-over yard at Bethesda Road.

The warning whistles at the Millard Street, Bethesda Road and Tenth Line crossings could stop in about a month, after a review by Transport Canada, public works director Paul Whitehouse said. The agency would then contact GO Transit to silence the whistles.

Mechanical barriers and flashing lights will continue to warn motorists of approaching trains.

There are now three morning and three evening trains. That will increase to five in November.

—Hannelore Volpe

## 'No quick fixes'

From page ??

problem, Mr. Meekin said there are no quick fixes.

He rejects suggestions from some regional councillors paramedics be assigned to each of the region's three hospitals.

"Putting a paramedic into the emergency department is only going to provide short-term return. It will plateau there, that paramedic becomes part of the hospital system and it loses its effectiveness. We don't see that as a long-term strategy.

"The best practice for a paramedic is to be out in the communities. We don't want to take on having to staff emergency departments."