



The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, June 7, 2024

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

	Pages
1. Information Reports	
There are no Information Reports.	
2. Early Release Reports	
There are no Early Release Reports.	
3. Confidential Reports Authorized for Release	
There are no Confidential Reports.	
4. Staff Correspondence	
There is no Staff Correspondence.	
5. Durham Municipalities Correspondence	
5.1 City of Pickering	3
• Resolution passed at a Special Council meeting held on May 27, 2024, regarding Pickering's Official Plan Review	
5.2 City of Pickering	49
• Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 27, 2024, regarding Natural Gas for Rural and Expanding Communities	
6. Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions	
6.1 Township of Lanark Highlands	52

- Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 14, 2024, in support of the resolution by Hastings County regarding sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities

6.2 Township of Pelee 56

- Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 28, 2024, in support of the resolution by the Township of Georgian Bay regarding sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities

6.3 Township of Pelee 58

- Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 28, 2024, in support of the resolution by the County of Renfrew regarding rural and small urban Municipalities – Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems

6.4 Municipality of Callander 61

- Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on May 28, 2024, urging the Government to Promptly Resume Assessment Cycle

7. Miscellaneous Correspondence

There is no Miscellaneous Correspondence.

8. Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

8.1 Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) minutes 63


- May 14, 2024

8.2 Transit Advisory Committee (TAC) minutes 72

- May 21, 2024

8.3 Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee 77

- May 28, 2024

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time	June 04, 2024
Received:	11:57 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Sent by Email

June 3, 2024

Brian Bridgeman
 Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
 Region of Durham
 605 Rossland Road East
 Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
brian.bridgeman@durham.ca

Alexander Harras
 Director of Legislative Services and
 Regional Clerk
 Region of Durham
 605 Rossland Road East
 Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
clerks@durham.ca

Subject: Director, City Development & CBO, Report PLN 14-24
 Special Council Meeting for the Pickering's Official Plan Review

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Special Meeting held on May 27, 2024 and adopted the following resolution:

1. That Report PLN 14-24, including the Pickering Official Plan Review Background Paper provided as Attachment 1, and Workplan and Timeline provided as Attachment 2, be received for information;
2. That staff be authorized to continue with the Official Plan Review, in keeping with the Workplan and Timeline;
3. That any comments received at the Special Council Meeting be referred to staff for consideration as part of the review process;
4. That a copy of Report PLN 14-24, and Council's decision, be forwarded to the Region of Durham Planning and Economic Development Department; and,
5. That all interested parties and any delegations be advised of Council's decision.

A copy of Report PLN 14-24 is attached for your reference.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly,



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

Encl.

SC:am

Copy: Interested Parties
Director, City Development & CBO
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Kyle Bentley
Director, City Development & CBO

Subject: Special Council Meeting for the Pickering's Official Plan Review
- File: D-2000-018

Recommendation:

1. That Report PLN 14-24, including the Pickering Official Plan Review Background Paper provided as Attachment 1, and Workplan and Timeline provided as Attachment 2, be received for information;
 2. That staff be authorized to continue with the Official Plan Review, in keeping with the Workplan and Timeline;
 3. That any comments received at the Special Council Meeting be referred to staff for consideration as part of the review process;
 4. That a copy of Report PLN 14-24, and Council's decision, be forwarded to the Region of Durham Planning and Economic Development Department; and
 5. That all interested parties and any delegations be advised of Council's decision.
-

Executive Summary: The purpose of this report is threefold:

- to host a statutory public meeting, under Section 26 of the *Planning Act*, on Pickering's Official Plan Review;
- to present details about the Official Plan Review process, including a proposed workplan, timeline, and community engagement strategy; and
- to seek Council authorization to continue with the Official Plan Review, in keeping with the Workplan and Timeline outlined in this report.

On March 25, 2024, Council approved staff recommendations of Report PLN 05-24 to call a Special Meeting of Council to begin the review of the Pickering Official Plan. Report PLN 14-24 provides a timeline, workplan, and details regarding the community engagement strategy for the review.

A Background Paper (see Attachment 1) has been prepared to inform Council, the public, and other stakeholders of recent changes to: Provincial legislation, policy, and plans; the Official Plan for the Regional Municipality of Durham; and Pickering initiatives. The paper also provides information regarding Pickering's recent growth trends and introduces elements that will be considered and reviewed during the Pickering Forward process.

Subject to Council's authorization, City staff will prepare and release discussion papers, and start community engagement, including hosting public open houses, in the fall of 2024 and winter of 2025.

Relationship to the Pickering Strategic Plan: The recommendations in this report respond to the Pickering Strategic Plan Priorities of Advance Innovation & Responsible Planning to Support a Connected, Well-Serviced Community; Lead & Advocate for Environmental Stewardship, Innovation & Resiliency; and Foster an Engaged & Informed Community.

Financial Implications: The approved 2024 Current Budget for the City Development Department, Planning & Design section includes \$500,000.00 for consulting and professional assistance for the Pickering Official Plan Review process.

Discussion: The purpose of this report is threefold:

- to host a statutory public meeting for the City of Pickering Official Plan Review, under Section 26 of the *Planning Act*, (as resolved at Council's March 25, 2024 meeting, following consideration of Report PLN 05-24);
- present details about the Official Plan Review process, including a proposed workplan, timeline, and community engagement strategy; and
- to seek Council authorization to continue with the Official Plan Review.

1. What is the Pickering Official Plan?

An Official Plan is the Municipality's primary, long range, comprehensive planning document, that provides the framework for land use decision-making in the City. It represents Council's vision, guided by community involvement, for growth and change within the City.

The current Pickering Official Plan (the Plan) was approved in 1997 and was last reviewed in 2007. The Plan was originally approved with a planning horizon of twenty years (to 2016). The Plan replaced the previous official plan, known as the Pickering District Plan.

The review in 2007 resulted in amendments that contained detailed policies for specific growth areas in the City and extended the planning horizon to the year 2031 for the City Centre and the Seaton Community.

2. Why does the Official Plan need to be reviewed?

The *Planning Act*, Section 26(1), requires that an Official Plan be reviewed every five years (or ten years after the approval of a new Official Plan) to ensure that it:

- conforms to provincial plans
- has regard for matters of provincial interest
- is consistent with provincial policy statements

Additionally, there has been significant growth within Pickering since the Plan was approved. A comprehensive Official Plan Review will allow greater opportunity to engage the community and stakeholders on important topics, to ensure the vision and goals of the Plan are still relevant and meeting the needs of current and future residents.

3. How is the Public being notified?

Notice of the Special Council Meeting was advertised through the Toronto Star, on two separate occasions, April 15, 2024, and April 22, 2024, in accordance with the *Planning Act* requirements. The notice was also posted on the City’s website, and through the City’s social media. Additionally, the notice was sent to all prescribed agencies and interested parties on April 15, 2024.

The notice advised the public that this report was available on May 17, 2024, on the Official Plan Review project webpage, www.Pickering.ca/PickeringForward.

Staff did not receive any comments at the time of finalizing this report.

4. The City has created an Official Plan Review Tagline and Imagery

To create project recognition throughout the length of the project, staff has designed the following project tagline and imagery in connection with the Official Plan Review. This tagline and imagery will be used, in whole or in part, on all promotional and other materials in the project moving forward.



5. Official Plan Review Workplan and Timeline

An Official Plan Review is a large undertaking, consisting of a wide variety of components. Staff have prepared a timeline and workplan to guide the process. The anticipated timeline for the process is approximately two years, with a targeted completion date within the first quarter of 2026. However, this date may be subject to change, depending on input received through the engagement process, and further unforeseen Provincial changes to the planning process. Staff may be required to react to one or more of these unknowns throughout the review process.

The targeted two-year workplan has been divided into four phases, and are categorized as follows:

- **Phase 1: Background Research** – Includes identifying changes that have occurred at the Provincial, Regional, and local level that may impact the Pickering Official Plan; creating discussion papers and multiple opportunities to engage with the public and stakeholders on specific topics at this initial stage.
- **Phase 2: Policy Drafting** – Includes consideration of results of research conducted and comments received through community engagement with the public and stakeholders; creation of new policies that:
 - respond to stakeholder comments
 - are required to ensure conformity and consistency with Provincial and Regional policies
 - incorporate best practices

A first draft of the proposed changes to the Official Plan would be released for public review and comment.

- **Phase 3: Policy Recommendations** – Includes reviewing public comments received from the first draft of the proposed changes to the Official Plan and incorporating revisions where appropriate. A second draft of proposed changes will be released; and a statutory public meeting on the recommended changes will be held; and will then be considered by Committee and Council. Staff will subsequently prepare a final draft Official Plan and bring to Council for approval.
- **Phase 4: Final Approval and Implementation** – Includes Council adoption of the Official Plan, Regional approval (if required), and consideration of revisions to documents or processes that may be necessary to implement the Plan.

A visual representation of the proposed phases and an anticipated timeline for the Official Plan Review process can be found in Attachment 2.

One of the key elements of community engagement and education regarding the Official Plan Review will include the release of discussion papers throughout Phase 1. The discussion papers will create a springboard for staff to have focused interactions with the public and stakeholders on a variety of topics contained in the Official Plan, and are anticipated to include the following:

- Community Vision and Priorities
- Growth Management, Urban Structure, and Urban Design
- Natural Heritage, Hazards, and Sustainability
- Housing and Affordability
- Community Structure (includes Parks, Transportation, Cultural Heritage, etc.)
- Agriculture and Rural Areas

6. How will the Community be Involved?

Staff are developing a preliminary community engagement strategy, to be implemented throughout the Official Plan Review process. This strategy will be finalized with the assistance of a consultant, that will use their public engagement expertise to identify additional outreach opportunities, and provide other valuable insight, to ensure the strategy is as encompassing as possible, within the resources available.

The Engagement Strategy will be designed to:

- identify the purpose of the Official Plan Review
- identify how feedback received will be used to develop policies
- ensure the public and stakeholders are involved early and throughout the project
- utilize a variety of communication methods to ensure the widest audience possible
- inform all stakeholders with regular updates

There are several engagement methods that may be implemented to reach the widest number of residents and stakeholders, representing different demographics and interest groups. In support of this goal, staff will implement the following methods:

- project website (Pickering.ca/PickeringForward), that will include all related documents, key project dates, regular updates, and will be the main source used to provide feedback on engagement
- public information centres
- social media announcements
- online surveys

While the engagement strategy is intended to provide ample opportunities for stakeholders to participate, staff recognize the importance of being flexible to hold additional consultation activities with the community, as may be required.

7. Key Guiding Principles

To assist the Official Plan Review process, staff has identified three guiding principles that will help shape the discussion papers and community engagement, and inform the workplan and timeline, as follows:

- **Implement Provincial and Regional Policies:** Clearly identify Provincial and Regional policies that are required to be incorporated into the Official Plan. This includes Provincial documents (*Planning Act*, Provincial Policy/Planning Statement, Growth Plan, etc.) and the Durham Region Official Plan. This will give the public an awareness of what is compulsory, and shape opportunities to create Pickering specific solutions and policies when implementing the required changes.
- **Encourage Community Engagement at Multiple Stages throughout the process:** Identify multiple opportunities and methods for community engagement. The process will ensure meaningful two-way communication (receiving community input and reporting back on the feedback), and open dialog during the Official Plan Review process.

- **Making the Official Plan User Friendly:** Seek input from the public and stakeholders to understand how the Official Plan can be structured to be as user friendly as possible. The Official Plan document is intended to be developed to include the use of plain language, where possible, and to use visuals to improve the understanding of the policy concepts and intent in the Official Plan.

8. Official Plan Review Background Paper

Staff have prepared a Background Paper to provide additional information to Council, the public and stakeholders. The background paper identifies:

- the Planning Hierarchy in Ontario and recent changes to Provincial Plans and policies
- Pickering initiatives that have been completed in recent years, or are currently underway that are of particular relevance to land use planning
- Pickering's recent growth trends and the City's projected growth to 2051

The purpose of the Background Paper is to introduce the key topics, initiatives, and trends that are expected to inform the review and/or changes required through the Official Plan Review process.

9. Anticipated Scope of Review

Substantial changes have occurred to the Ontario *Planning Act*, the Provincial Policy Statement, and the Provincial Plans since the Pickering Official Plan was last reviewed and updated. The Region of Durham has also recently adopted a new Official Plan, "Envision Durham".

While no final determination has been made yet, based on staff's initial review of the changes to Provincial and Regional Planning documents, and a preliminary scan of new and emerging best practices, it is anticipated that the review process may result in the repeal of the existing Pickering Official Plan and replacement with a new Official Plan.

10. Consultants will assist the City with this review

The Official Plan Review will primarily be undertaken by existing City staff, using existing resources. External consulting assistance will be sought for specific aspects of the project that require specialized skills and experience, including a retail market study, growth management review, including the impact on employment lands, and public engagement (as noted earlier in the report).

The Retail Market Study is currently on-going and will inform the Official Plan on the location and type of retail uses that are required in specific areas, based on where current and future needs exist in Pickering. It is anticipated a related report will be coming to Council in fall 2024.

A report to award the Growth Management Review request for proposal is included on the regular May 27, 2024, Council Meeting agenda. A report to award the Community Engagement Facilitation request for proposal will follow on the June 10, 2024, Planning & Development Committee agenda.

11. Conclusion

This report and the Special Council Meeting fulfill the requirements of the *Planning Act* to initiate a statutory review of the Pickering Official Plan. The report also provides information of the Official Plan Review process, including the anticipated timeline, high level workplan, and details regarding the community engagement strategy.

The Background Paper outlines the recent changes to Provincial legislation, policy, and plans, the Region of Durham Official Plan, and Pickering initiatives, and recent growth, housing, and demographic trends.

To minimize delays in the review process, staff has advanced the background research work indicated in the workplan. Next steps include the creation of discussion papers and finalizing the community engagement strategy.

Staff recommend that Council authorize staff to continue with the Official Plan Review, in keeping with the attached Workplan and Timeline.

Attachments:

1. Pickering Official Plan Background Paper
 2. Official Plan Review Workplan and Timeline
-

Prepared By:

Approved/Endorsed By:

Original Signed By

Original Signed By

Brandon Weiler, MCIP, RPP
Principal Planner, Policy

Catherine Rose, MCIP, RPP
Chief Planner

Original Signed By

Original Signed By

Déan Jacobs, MCIP, RPP
Manager, Policy & Geomatics

Kyle Bentley, P. Eng.
Director, City Development & CBO

BW:ld

Recommended for the consideration
of Pickering City Council

Original Signed By

Marisa Carpino, M.A.
Chief Administrative Officer

Pickering Official Plan Background Paper

PICKERING FORWARD

Planning tomorrow, together.



Pickering Official Plan Review

Background Paper

May 2024

Table of Contents

Land Acknowledgement	4
Introduction	5
1.0 The City of Pickering	6
2.0 What is an Official Plan	7
2.1 The City of Pickering Official Plan	7
3.0 Why Are We Reviewing the Official Plan	8
3.1 The Province Requires Us To	8
3.2 We Want to Hear What Residents Need	8
4.0 Pickering is Growing	9
5.0 Land Use Planning in Ontario	10
5.1 <i>The Planning Act</i>	10
5.2 Provincial Policy Statement, 2020	11
5.3 A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe	12
5.4 Proposed Provincial Planning Statement	13
5.5 The Greenbelt Plan	14
5.6 Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan	15
5.7 <i>Ontario Heritage Act</i>	15
5.8 Federal Lands and Minister Zoning Order's 102/72 & 19/74	16
6.0 Region of Durham Official Plan	17
7.0 City of Pickering Initiatives	18

7.1	Corporate Strategic Plan, 2023	18
7.2	Pickering Housing & Action Plan, 2022	19
7.3	Integrated Transportation Master Plan, 2021	19
7.4	Integrated Sustainable Design Standards, 2022	20
7.5	Pickering Economic Development Strategy, 2022	20
7.6	Retail Market Study, Ongoing	21
7.7	Recreation and Parks Master Plan, Ongoing	21
7.8	Northeast Pickering Secondary Plan Process, Ongoing	22
8.0	Next Steps	23
9.0	Elements for a Successful Pickering	24
9.1	Where We Grow	24
9.2	What We Protect and Enhance	26
9.3	Sustainable Planning and Climate Change	26
9.4	Rural Areas	27
9.5	Economic Development	28
9.6	Parks	29
9.7	Transportation	30
9.8	Housing and Affordability	31
10.0	Community Engagement	32
11.0	We Want to Hear From You!	33



Land Acknowledgement

The City of Pickering resides on land within the Treaty and traditional territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and Williams Treaties signatories of the Mississauga and Chippewa Nations. Pickering is also home to many Indigenous persons and communities who represent other diverse, distinct, and autonomous Indigenous nations. This acknowledgement reminds us of our responsibilities to our relationships with the First Peoples of Canada, and to the ancestral lands on which we learn, share, work, and live.



City of Pickering Indigenous Day 2022

Introduction

PICKERING FORWARD

Planning tomorrow, together.



The City of Pickering is beginning a multi-year process of reviewing its Official Plan. This project, known as “Pickering Forward”, will help shape the growth of Pickering to 2051.

This Background Paper provides information to Council, residents, businesses, and landowners on the land use planning process in Ontario, including Provincial legislation, policy, and plans and the Region of Durham Official Plan. The paper also provides information on current and recently approved Pickering initiatives, including the Corporate Strategic Plan, Pickering Housing Strategy & Action Plan, Recreation and Parks Master Plan, etc. Finally, the paper provides a high-level introduction to key topics that will be further explored through the Official Plan Review process. This information will inform future discussion papers and community engagement throughout the Pickering Forward process.

It is essential to highlight that the planning landscape in Ontario has changed rapidly in the last couple of years, and there are more significant changes expected. These changes may result in information contained within this Background Paper or future discussion papers being outdated as the Official Plan Review process moves forward. Given the changing nature of the current planning landscape, the City will seek to ensure that any changes to legislation during the Pickering Forward process are communicated to residents.

The key topics and Provincial planning requirements (that are mandated) will be discussed in more detail throughout the Official Plan Review. The Special Council Meeting on May 27, 2024, represents the first of numerous opportunities for the public to engage and discuss what matters most to the community and how the future of Pickering should be shaped!

Contact us to share your ideas and learn more:

PickeringForward@Pickering.ca

Pickering.ca/PickeringForward



1.0 The City of Pickering

The City of Pickering is located in the Regional Municipality of Durham, east of the City of Toronto, along the northern shore of Lake Ontario. The City of Pickering is strategically located where Toronto, York and Durham Regions meet (Figure 1).

Pickering has an area of 231 square kilometres, with an urban area in the south and rural areas in the north. The urban area includes the South Pickering Urban Area and Seaton. The rural area includes 8 hamlets and the majority is within the Ontario Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine.

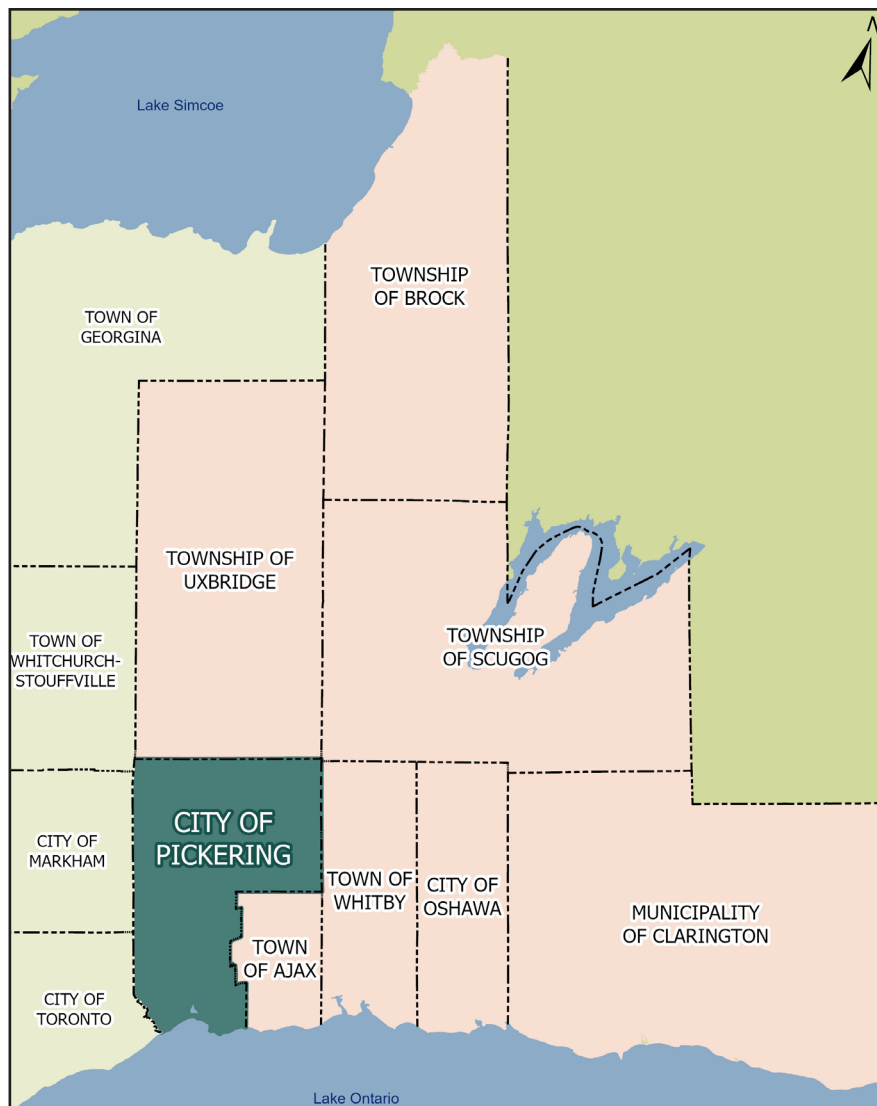


Figure 1: Map of the City of Pickering within the Region of Durham

Pickering had a population of 99,186 residents and 33,425 households in 2021 (Statistics Canada). Pickering also had 39,310 jobs reported in 2021 (Envision Durham). By the year 2051, Pickering's population, the number of households, and jobs are anticipated to more than double.

2.0 What is an Official Plan

An Official Plan is the City's long range, comprehensive planning document, that guides land use decision-making in the City. It represents Council's vision, guided by community involvement, for growth and change within the City. It sets a policy framework for the physical, social, environmental, and economic development of the City, while ensuring growth occurs responsibly, and resources are used efficiently and sustainably. An Official Plan deals with issues such as:

- Where new housing, industry, offices and shops will be located.
- What services will be needed, such as roads, watermains, sewers, parks and schools.
- Where open spaces will be located and how to protect the natural environment.
- When, and in what order, parts of the community will grow.
- Where, and how, the City will invest in community improvement initiatives.

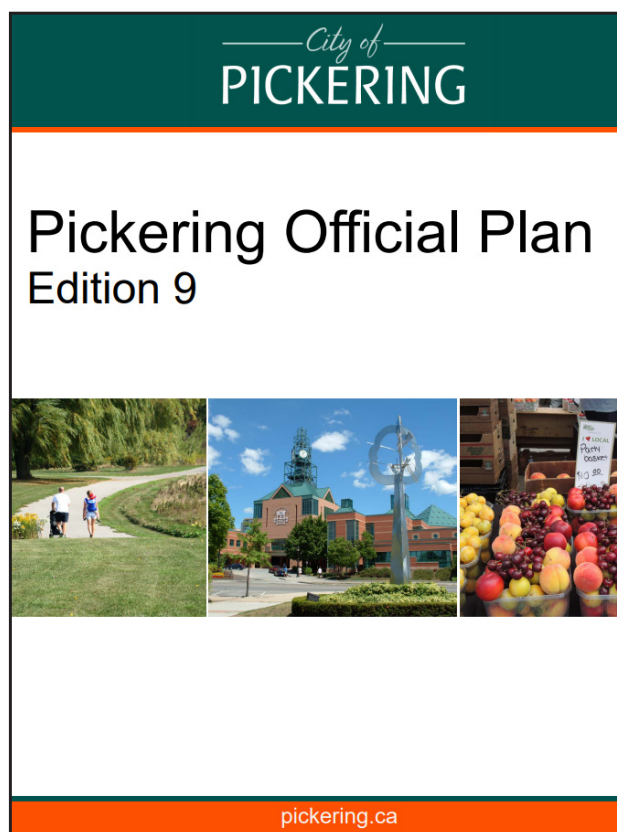
2.1 The City of Pickering Official Plan

The current Pickering Official Plan was approved in 1997, with a planning horizon of twenty years (to 2016). It replaced the previous official plan, known as the Pickering District Plan. The current plan was last comprehensively reviewed in 2007.

The review in 2007 resulted in amendments that contained detailed policies for specific strategic growth areas in the City, and extended the planning horizon to the year 2031 for the City Centre and the Seaton Community.

Additional amendments have been initiated on specific topics, such as the Integrated Sustainable Design Standards, to implement Council priorities. Amendments within specific areas of Pickering, such as the Kingston Road Corridor and Brock Mixed Node Intensification Area, have also been initiated, as required, to maintain conformity with Provincial legislation and plans.

Although amendments were approved to keep the Plan up to date, a comprehensive review of the Plan is required. A more detailed and holistic review will ensure the vision of the Plan meets the needs of current and future residents to a planning horizon of 2051.



City of Pickering Official Plan



3.0 Why Are We Reviewing the Official Plan

3.1 The Province Requires Us To

The *Planning Act*, Section 26(1), requires that an Official Plan be reviewed every five years (or ten years after the approval of a new Official Plan) to, among other things, ensure that it conforms to provincial plans, has regard for matters of provincial interest, and is consistent with provincial policy statements.

Section 26 of the *Planning Act* outlines the requirements for updating an Official Plan. To initiate an Official Plan review, the *Planning Act* requires that a special meeting of Council, open to the public, be held to discuss revisions that may be required as part of the Official Plan review.

A Special Council Meeting to initiate a review of the Official Plan is scheduled for: May 27, 2024, at 5:00PM.

3.2 We Want to Hear What Residents Need

The Official Plan currently includes the following vision for Pickering that was established when it was approved in 1997:

“To build Pickering in a manner that meets the evolving needs of its people, that sustains healthy urban and rural settings, and that creates a unique community interconnected with all other places and people.”

Numerous changes both within and around Pickering since 1997 make it appropriate for the City to revisit and reevaluate the vision for its future.

The Official Plan Review will allow staff to engage with the community to understand if the current vision is still relevant or what goals should be reflected in the vision.

This process will allow the community to have the ability to help refine or shape a new vision that moves Pickering Forward to 2051.



Pop-up Engagement at City of Pickering Artfest 2022

4.0 Pickering is Growing

The City of Pickering is anticipated to grow at a rate that will exceed any other period in its history! Historically, Pickering’s greatest period of growth was between 1960 and 2000, when many of the existing lower density neighbourhoods were developed. Of all the homes in Pickering, approximately 71% of dwellings were built between 1960 and 2000, while 22.5% of were built since 2001.

The number of new homes has increased in recent years with higher density development in the City Centre, moderate infill and replacement housing in established neighbourhoods, and new greenfield development areas, like the Duffin Heights Neighbourhood and the Seaton Community.

Since 1997, Pickering has seen low to moderate population growth, averaging 1.1% growth from 2006-2021. In 2021, the population of Pickering was 99,186. This placed Pickering as the fifth largest municipality in Durham Region, and the smallest of the five urban lakefront municipalities.

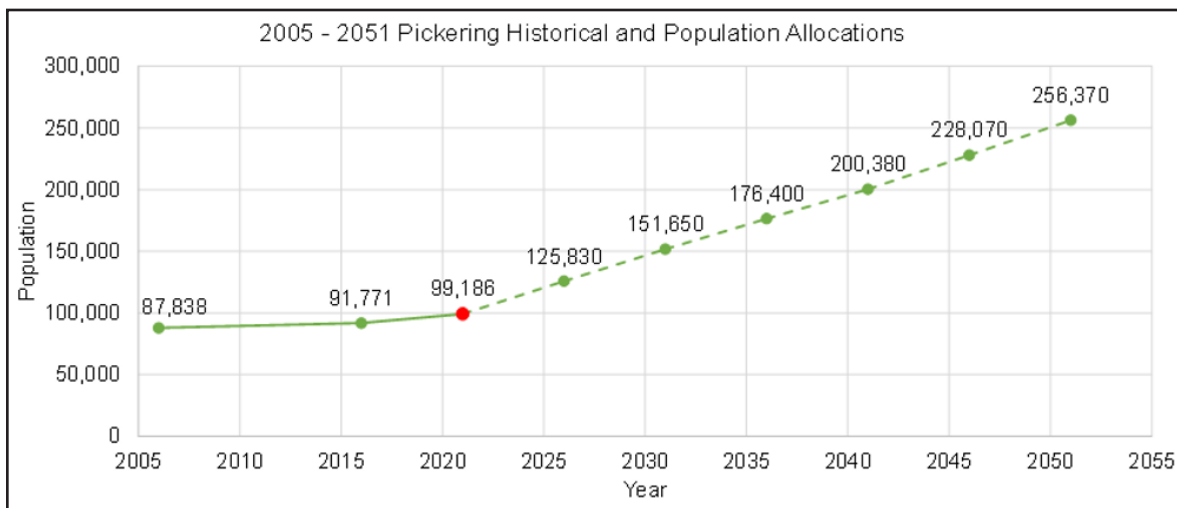


Figure 2: Pickering Population and Allocated Growth Population Trends.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2022. Census Profile 2021 Census of Population and Envision Durham, 2023. Durham Regional Official Plan.

Based on projected growth rates and the growth allocations provided by the Region of Durham, through Envision Durham (Figure 2), Pickering is anticipated to be the fastest growing municipality in the Region and have the second largest population in Durham Region by 2051, trailing only Oshawa. This anticipated growth would also result in Pickering experiencing an average growth rate of 3.3% a year.

It is not only Pickering’s population that is growing. Pickering is anticipated to significantly increase the number of jobs within the city. Pickering has a significant amount of employment lands available, specifically the innovation corridor in Seaton, that is expected to result in the number of jobs almost tripling by 2051.



5.0 Land Use Planning in Ontario

The responsibility for long-term planning in Ontario is shared between the Province and municipalities, which include upper-tiers, The Region of Durham, and lower-tiers, the City of Pickering.

Province-wide planning documents

The Province sets the ground rules and directions for land use planning through the Ontario *Planning Act* and the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). All municipal planning decisions within Ontario must conform to or be consistent with these planning documents.

Additional Provincial plans that impact Pickering

In addition, Provincial plans provide more detailed and geographically specific policies to meet certain objectives, such as managing growth, or protecting agricultural lands and the natural environment. The Greenbelt Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, and A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe are geographic specific plans that impact lands in the City of Pickering.

5.1 The Planning Act

The purpose of the *Planning Act* is to outline the planning process, integrate matters of provincial interest into municipal planning decisions and encourage coordination among various interests. The *Planning Act* includes legislative requirements for municipalities regarding how to develop official plans and use other implementation tools in the planning process.

Significant changes have been made to the *Planning Act*, specifically in the last two years, to address the current housing crisis in Ontario. The Ontario Government commissioned the Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force to provide recommendations on how to get more housing built faster in the province. As a result, the Province has passed new Bills over the last four years, including Bill 108, Bill 109 and Bill 23, which contained a number of amendments. Key amendments include:

- Changes to the development approval process, such as reduction in approval timelines, appeal rights, and the types of development subject to approvals, such as site plan control.
- Requiring municipalities to allow, as-of-right, a minimum of three dwelling units on a lot through Additional Dwelling Unit permissions.
- Reductions in the amount of parkland that is required to be conveyed for new developments, reducing requirements by half.
- Yet to be implemented changes to the definition of Employment Area (Industrial Area), excluding Office and Institutional uses from locating in these areas.

- Listing a number of upper-tier municipalities, including Durham Region, as “upper-tier municipalities without planning authority” (yet to come into force).

Bill 23 also included significant changes to the *Development Charges Act* that significantly reduced the amount of development fees that can be collected by municipalities on new development.

Specific amendments to the Pickering Official Plan, including Additional Dwelling Unit permissions, have already been approved by Council to reflect some of these changes.

Further changes to the *Planning Act* are still being considered as the Province has introduced Bill 185 in April 2024.

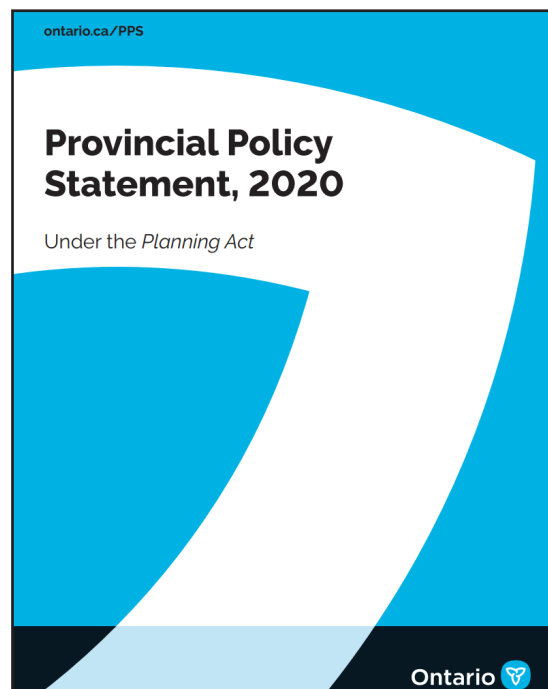
The Official Plan Review will allow staff to evaluate all previous and anticipated changes comprehensively, and ensure the required revisions are incorporated consistently throughout the Official Plan. This will result in new policies that provide clear guidance on the process and requirements for development applications.

5.2 Provincial Policy Statement, 2020

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) is issued under the *Planning Act* and is the primary provincial land use planning policy document, applying across Ontario. The PPS provides policy directions on matters of Provincial interest such as housing, infrastructure, and natural resources. The PPS also sets the policy foundation that all planning decisions shall be consistent with at the local level.

The PPS has been updated multiple times since the last Official Plan Review, including most recently in 2020. Key changes to the PPS include the following:

- Addressing inconsistencies between the PPS and other provincial plans.
- Softening of the language of key policies regarding settlement area expansions and the conversion of employment lands.
- Emphasizing planning for a changing climate and green infrastructure.
- Additional protection for employment lands.



Provincial Policy Statement, 2020



- Increasing minimum requirements to accommodate residential growth through designated/ available land supply from 10 to 15 years, with a minimum of three years of serviced land.
- Extending the planning horizon from up to 20 years, to up to 25 years and employment area planning beyond the 25-year horizon.

The Official Plan Review will examine all the items indicated above, as well as any other items that may be forthcoming from the proposed Provincial Planning Statement, see section 5.4 below for additional details. The proposed Provincial Planning Statement seeks to streamline and consolidate the PPS and the Growth Plan. Many of the proposed policies in the Provincial Planning Statement are different to the changes identified above or represent additional significant changes.

5.3 A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (Growth Plan) is a Provincial plan issued under the *Places to Grow Act, 2005*. It provides a detailed framework for where and how growth should be accommodated in the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH). It works together with the Greenbelt Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, and the Niagara Escarpment Plan, to address land use planning issues facing specific geographic areas in Ontario.

The Growth Plan contains population and employment targets for upper-tier municipalities (Region of Durham) in the GGH. The Region of Durham Official Plan allocates those population and employment targets to the lower-tier municipalities, including the City of Pickering.

The Growth Plan defines strategic growth areas, which include urban growth centres and corridors, and greenfield areas, and requires minimum densities for development in those areas. The Growth Plan also sets intensification targets that require municipalities to plan for a specific amount of growth within a defined area, known as the built-up area.

The Growth Plan was recently updated in 2020, changing the planning horizon from 2041 to 2051, and new growth forecasts were included for development to 2051.



A Place to Grow: Growth Plan

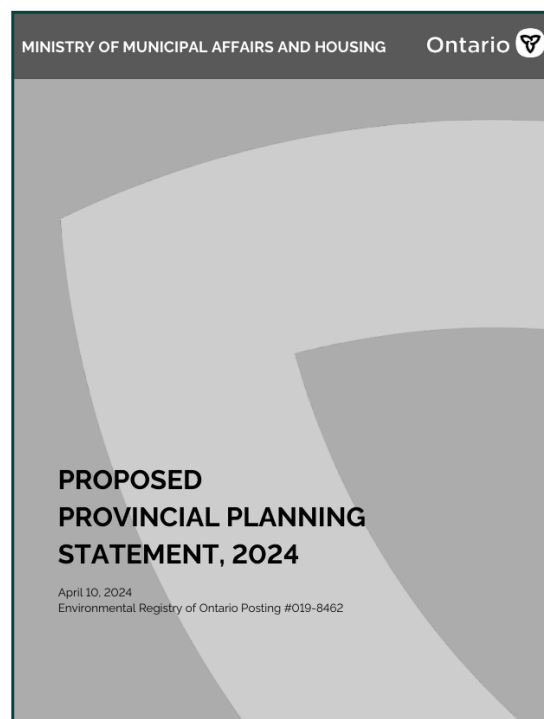
The Official Plan review will include the updated growth forecasts to 2051, which are included in the Region of Durham Official Plan, Envision Durham, and ensure the Pickering Official Plan is consistent with and conforms to the Growth Plan.

5.4 Proposed Provincial Planning Statement

On April 6, 2023, the Province of Ontario released the proposed Provincial Planning Statement (Planning Statement), which integrates the PPS and Growth Plan into a singular, province-wide policy document. The Province believes this will streamline land use planning rules, and speed up the construction of more homes, helping achieve the goals of the Province to build 1.5 million homes over ten years.

The proposed changes represent a major departure from the very structured, top-down approach to land use planning that has been in place for nearly 20 years. The changes include:

- Eliminating minimum required densities for Greenfield Areas or Strategic Growth Areas, with the exception of Major Transit Station Areas.
- Removal of Municipal Comprehensive Reviews to permit settlement area expansions and employment land conversions at any time.
- Removal of the existing Provincial Significant Employment Zones that appear in the Growth Plan, which includes the Brock Employment Lands in Pickering.
- Removal of institutional uses, and retail and office uses that are not associated with the a primary employment use from being permitted in employment areas.
- Changes to land use compatibility policies that would make it easier to establish sensitive land uses, (such as residences, daycare centres, and educational and health facilities), in the vicinity of existing or planned industrial, manufacturing or other major facilities.



Proposed Provincial Planning Statement

On April 10, 2024, the Province released a second draft of the proposed Planning Statement for comments. The City’s comments on the second draft, contained in report PLN 13-24, were endorsed by Council at a Special Meeting of Council on May 6, 2024.

The Official Plan Review will need to have regard for the Provincial Planning Statement, should the Province finalize and approve it.



5.5 The Greenbelt Plan

The Greenbelt Plan is a Provincial plan issued under the *Greenbelt Act, 2005*. The plan contains policies that provide direction to protect farmland, the countryside, and natural areas in the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The plan aims to provide long-term protection for important ecosystems, natural features, and farmland from incompatible development and urban sprawl.

In 2022, the Greenbelt Plan was amended to include additional urban river valleys as part of the Greenbelt, including parts of the West Duffin Creek in Pickering. The Official Plan Review will update the current mapping, shown in Figure 3, to ensure urban river valleys are mapped in accordance with the Greenbelt Plan.

In December 2022, the Province amended the Greenbelt Plan to remove lands within the Cherrywood area to facilitate the development of housing. In September 2023, the Province reversed that decision and reintroduced the lands to the Greenbelt Plan. Pickering did not initiate an amendment to the City's Official Plan to reflect the December 2022 change in the Greenbelt Plan. Consequently, when the Greenbelt Plan was further amended in September 2023, the City's Official Plan remained in compliance with the Greenbelt Plan in this regard.

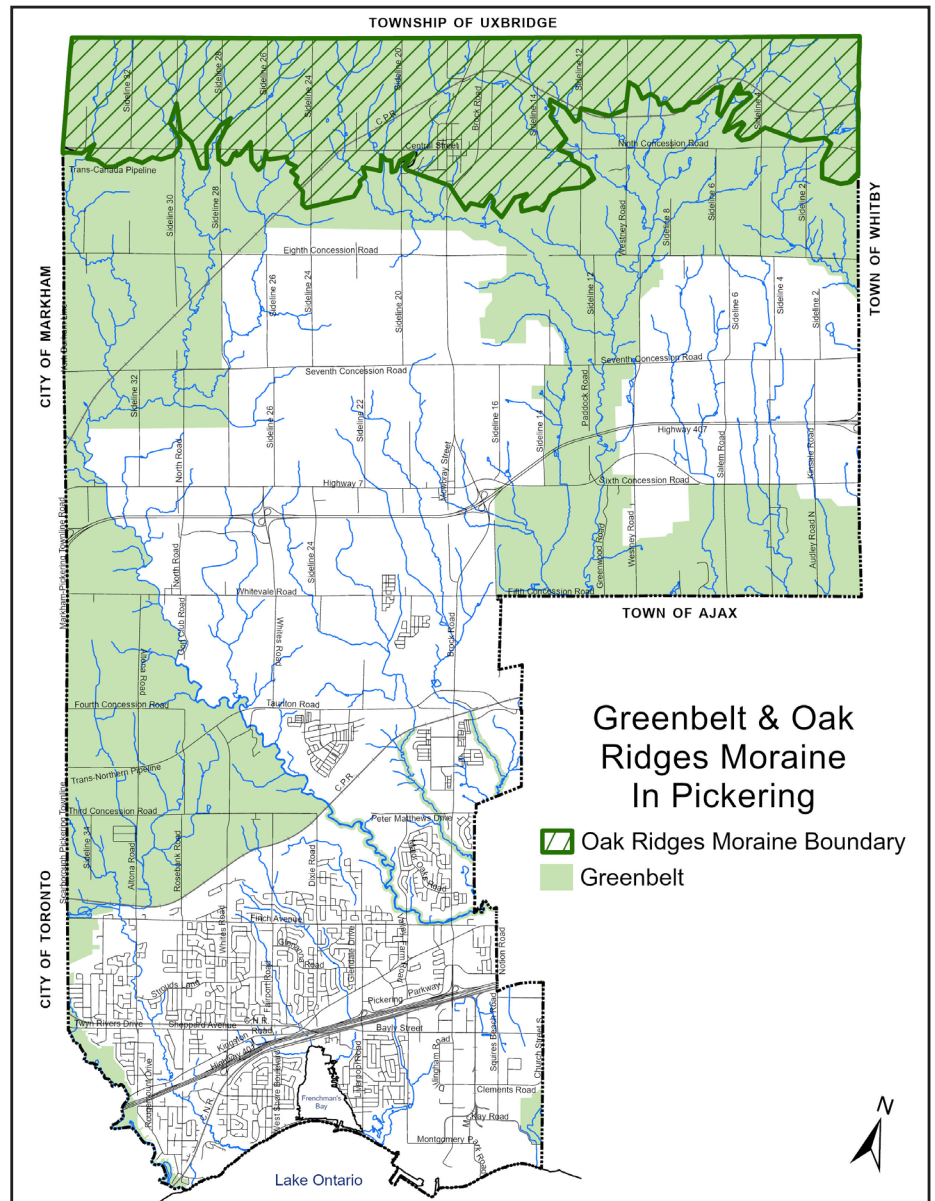


Figure 3: Lands impacted by the Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine plans

5.6 Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan

The Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan is issued under the *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act, 2001*. The purpose of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan is to provide land use and resource management planning direction to municipalities, landowners and other stakeholders on how to protect the Moraine's ecological and hydrological features and functions.

The Oak Ridges Moraine is one of Ontario's most significant landforms. The Moraine covers the northern part of rural Pickering, stretching from east to west primarily north of Ninth Concession Road. The Moraine and the Greenbelt Plan's Natural Heritage System together form the foundation of south-central Ontario's natural heritage and green space systems. The Moraine divides the watersheds draining south into Lake Ontario from those draining north into Georgian Bay, Lake Simcoe and the Trent River system. Its ecological functions are critical to the region's continued ecological health.

The Oak Ridges Moraine Plan was updated in 2017. The Official Plan review will ensure conformity with the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.

5.7 Ontario Heritage Act

The *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA) empowers municipalities and the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism to designate property of cultural heritage value or interest.

In Ontario, heritage designation is a municipal responsibility. The OHA requires that municipalities maintain a list, known as the municipal register, of all designated properties and districts. Recent changes to the OHA include:

- New process and timelines for adding properties of cultural heritage value and interest to the municipal register;
- New criteria for defining cultural heritage and value;
- New timelines and requirements for demolition permit requests;
- New mandatory content for designating bylaws, and
- New rights of appeal to the designation of properties.

The Pickering Official Plan sets out broad goals and objectives related to significant cultural heritage resources. The current objective of Council is to identify important heritage resources from all time periods, so they can be appropriately conserved and integrated into the community fabric.



The Official Plan Review will compare the current policies against recent changes to defining cultural heritage under the OHA to ensure the Official Plan provides correct and relevant policy direction. This will aim to ensure the long-term protection and enhancement of Pickering’s cultural heritage.

5.8 Federal Lands and Minister Zoning Order’s 102/72 & 19/74

In the early 1970s, the federal government expropriated approximately 7,500 hectares of land in Pickering, Markham and Uxbridge to build a new international airport for Toronto. In Pickering, these lands are located generally north of Highway 7, and west of Brock Road. In 1972 and 1974, the Province enacted Minister’s Zoning Orders within Pickering on lands to the west and south of the Federal lands. The Zoning Orders were passed to restrict land uses that may impede a future airport. The Orders restrict land uses to agricultural uses and buildings and structures accessory to that use, including single dwellings used in connection with the agricultural operation and home occupations.

In 2013, the Federal Government transferred 2,023 hectares of the Federal Airport Lands to the Rouge National Urban Park, and in 2015, committed to transferring an additional 2,104 hectares to the park. The Federal Government advised that the remainder of the lands will be protected for economic development, including an airport (Figure 4).

The Pickering Official Plan Review will need to have regard for the Federal Government’s policies and Provincial Zoning Order’s.

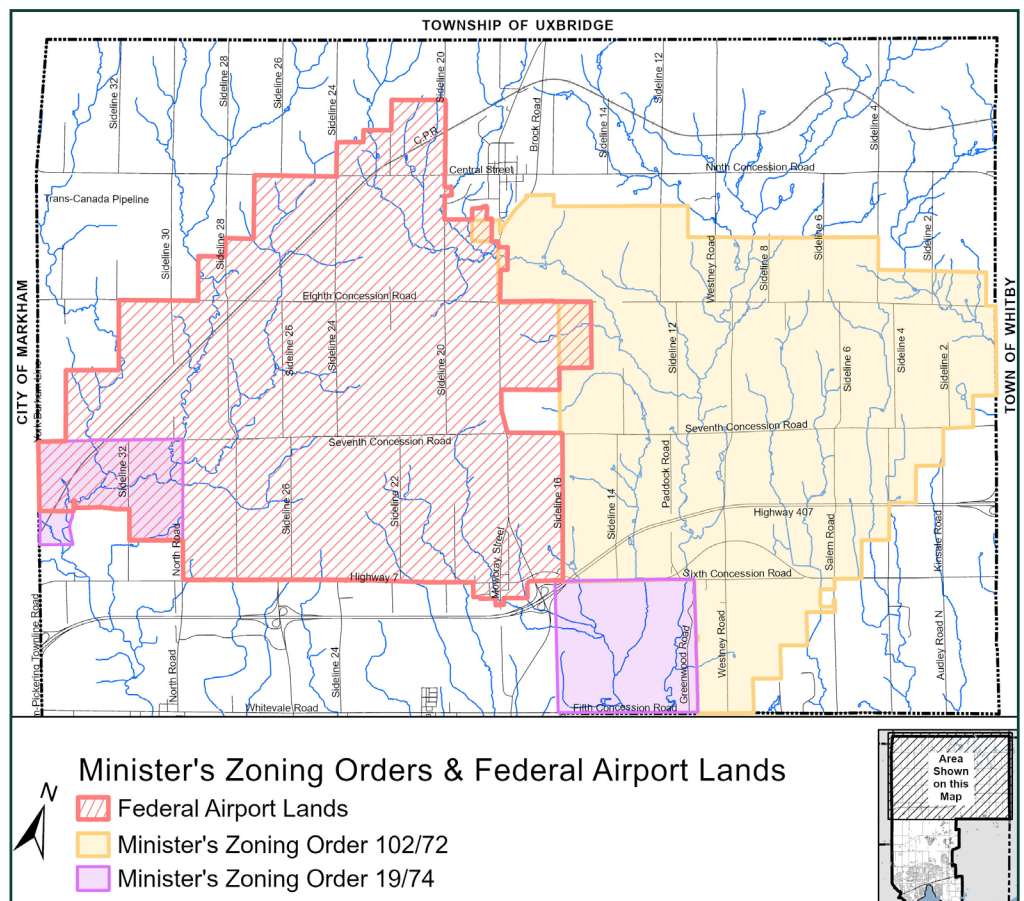


Figure 4: Federal Airport lands and lands impacted by Minister’s Zoning Order’s

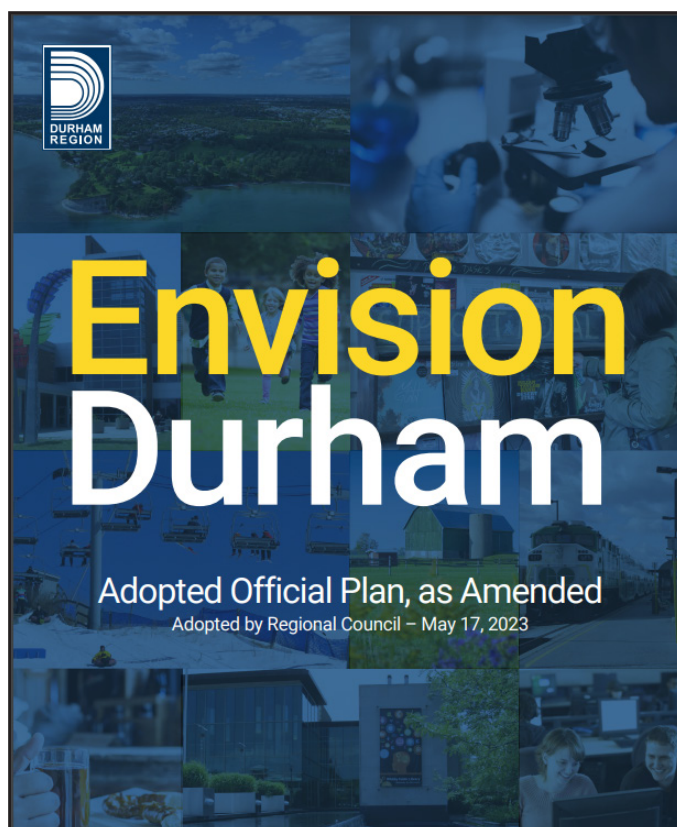
6.0 Region of Durham Official Plan

On May 17, 2023, the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham adopted a new Regional Official Plan “Envision Durham”. Envision Durham is awaiting final approval from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH). Since Pickering is a lower-tier municipality, the Pickering Official Plan is required to conform with the Regional Official Plan. Envision Durham included a number of changes that will impact Pickering’s growth, such as:

- Updated population, household and job allocations to 2051;
- Identification of the Pickering Protected Major Transit Station Area (a designated area around the Pickering GO station); and
- An expansion of the urban boundary in Northeast Pickering (lands generally bound by Lakeridge Road, Sixth Concession Road, Westney Road, and Eighth Concession Road), which includes a designated Regional Centre.

Through Bill 23, changes were introduced to the *Planning Act* to remove planning authority from a number of upper-tier municipalities, including Durham Region. While approved by legislation, these changes are not in force currently. As such, the Region of Durham remains the approval authority for the Pickering Official Plan. Should these changes come into

force prior to the completion of the Official Plan Review, the Minister of Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing would become the approval authority for the Pickering Official Plan. The impact this may have on the Pickering Official Plan will be evaluated during the Official Plan Review.



Envision Durham, Durham Region Official Plan

7.0 City of Pickering Initiatives

Pickering has undertaken a number of master plans and priority strategies in recent years. These initiatives individually included community engagement and resulted in Council setting various priorities for Pickering. They provide direction on specific elements or subject matters of what is important in Pickering.

7.1 Corporate Strategic Plan, 2023

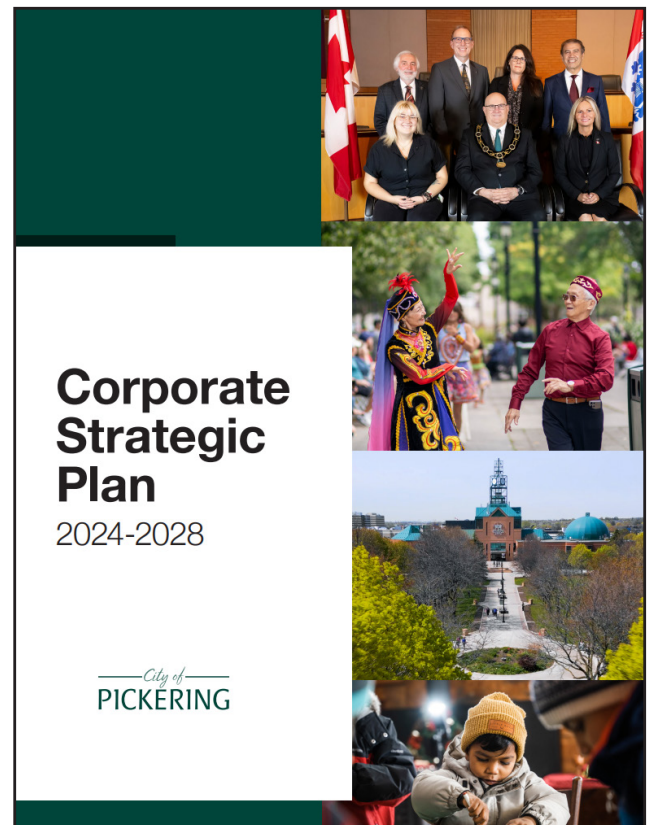
In 2023, Pickering developed the City's first strategic plan. A Strategic Plan is a tool used by municipalities to define common goals, a shared vision and a collective plan of action. It functions as a platform for the allocation of resources (fiscal and human), and acts as a performance measure, providing an opportunity for members of the public, City staff and Council to evaluate progress and ensure that there is alignment of actions taken.

The Plan provides a blueprint for Council and Staff, who will work together, to deliver on the strategic priorities identified in the Plan. The Vision, Values and Priorities identified in the Plan will guide the City's operations moving forward.

The Strategic Plan includes six priorities. The priorities are:

- Priority 1: Champion Economic Leadership and Innovation
- Priority 2: Advocate for an Inclusive, Welcoming, Safe & Healthy Community
- Priority 3: Advance Innovation & Responsible Planning to Support a Connected, Well-Serviced Community
- Priority 4: Lead & Advocate for Environmental Stewardship, Innovation & Resiliency
- Priority 5: Strengthen Existing & Build New Partnerships
- Priority 6: Foster an Engaged & Informed Community

The Official Plan Review will align the City's primary planning document with Council's Strategic Plan, where appropriate, to ensure the documents support each other and Council's vision and priorities.



City of Pickering Corporate Strategic Plan

7.2 Pickering Housing & Action Plan, 2022

The City of Pickering’s Housing Strategy & Action Plan provides a framework for the City to support a supply of suitable (as it relates to the size of the household), adequate (as it relates to physical condition), and affordable (as it relates to household income) housing for all ages and abilities.

The Pickering Housing Strategy & Action Plan was established to identify the City’s role and priorities in facilitating opportunities for developing a diverse range of housing, including affordable, age-friendly, and accessible housing in Pickering to 2031.

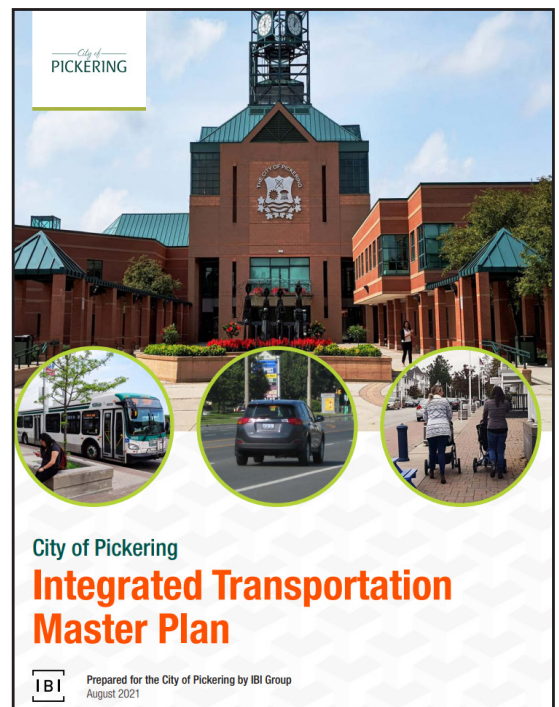
Since Council adopted the Pickering Housing Strategy & Action Plan in January 2022 there have been significant changes to Provincial Legislation, highlighted in section 5 of this Paper. These changes, and any further changes implemented by the Province, have a direct impact on a number of the actions contained within the Housing Strategy & Action Plan.

The Official Plan Review will include a review of the Action Items in the Housing Strategy. The review will provide an opportunity to revise or strengthen official plan policies to help address housing options and affordability within Pickering.

7.3 Integrated Transportation Master Plan, 2021

Pickering’s Integrated Transportation Master Plan (ITMP) is a long-range plan which provides a framework and direction for transportation infrastructure needs across the City. The ITMP is designed to help Pickering’s transportation system meet the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, transit riders, motorists, and goods movement traffic. The Master Plan also presents the long-term objectives that Pickering wishes to achieve in the coming decades, and the supporting policies on which infrastructure decisions are based.

The Official Plan Review will look to build upon the goals and vision of the ITMP, ensuring the long-term transportation needs of residents and businesses are reflected in policies and land use decisions. It will also provide a clear direction for how transportation infrastructure and needs should be implemented and integrated with the growth of Pickering to 2051.



City of Pickering ITMP



7.4 Integrated Sustainable Design Standards, 2022

The Integrated Sustainable Design Standards (ISDS) are a tool that has been created to advance “green building standards” in new development in Pickering. Replacing the City’s previous Sustainable Development Guidelines (2007), the ISDS are intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and encourage the construction of sustainable, and climate-resilient buildings and neighbourhoods.

The ISDS consists of two tiers of performance criteria. Tier 1 criteria are required for all new developments arising from Site Plans and Subdivision applications deemed complete on or after January 1, 2023. Tier 2 performance criteria are optional and propose more advanced sustainability criteria to be considered for new developments.

The Official Plan was recently amended to recognize the use of the new ISDS in the review of development applications. The Official Plan Review will continue to create a stronger planning policy basis for implementing new sustainability and climate change best practices.



City of Pickering ISDS

7.5 Pickering Economic Development Strategy, 2022

The Economic Development Strategy provides a framework for fostering and attracting economic growth within Pickering. This Strategy contains an analysis, insights, and resulting Action Plan that highlights Pickering’s strengths and provides advice on specific employment sectors.

The plan allows the City and its stakeholders to better guide investment and activities, to facilitate business attraction, retention and expansion, employment and mixed-use land development, and to target potential industry sectors.

The Economic Development Strategy will inform the Official Plan Review by the creation of strong employment policies. The Official Plan will ensure there is adequate land available to achieve the strategy, and that the new or revised policies encourage and attract the businesses to continue to drive industry in Pickering.

7.6 Retail Market Study, Ongoing

The Retail Market Study will determine the amount, type, role, and function of retail uses throughout Pickering. The study will recommend the amount and distribution of future retail space throughout the City, in response to expected population growth.

The Official Plan generally sets out where retail uses will be located in Pickering. In addition, the Official Plan also sets out the scale of retail uses within specific areas, i.e. The City Centre or predominately residential areas. The Retail Market Study will inform the Official Plan on the location and type of retail uses that are required, based on where current and future needs are identified.

7.7 Recreation and Parks Master Plan, Ongoing

The Recreation and Parks Master Plan will identify the parks and recreation needs for Pickering for the next ten years, to 2034. The plan will provide direction for managing parks and recreation programs (such as pools, ice pads, soccer fields, etc.), the efficient delivery of services, and the development of new or the renewal of existing infrastructure to support our growing community.

The Official Plan, and Recreation and Parks Master Plan, work together to plan for the parks and recreation needs for the community. The Official Plan identifies where growth will occur within Pickering, in turn informing where programming, and the level of programming, will be required within the City. Incorporating the outcomes of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan into the Official Plan Review will ensure the areas targeted for growth are being programmed to meet the needs of current and future residents.



West Shore Skate Park, Pickering

7.8 Northeast Pickering Secondary Plan Process, Ongoing

The City of Pickering is currently in the process of developing a Secondary Plan for the area known as Northeast Pickering (Figure 5). The process was initiated in 2022, and covers an area of approximately 1,600 hectares, located generally north of Sixth Concession Road, west of Lakeridge Road, south of Eighth Concession Road, and east of Westney Road.

With greater detail than the Official Plan, the Secondary Plan will set the vision and guiding principles for how this area should grow over the next 30 years, and establish the land use, transportation, built form, and sustainable design framework for the area.

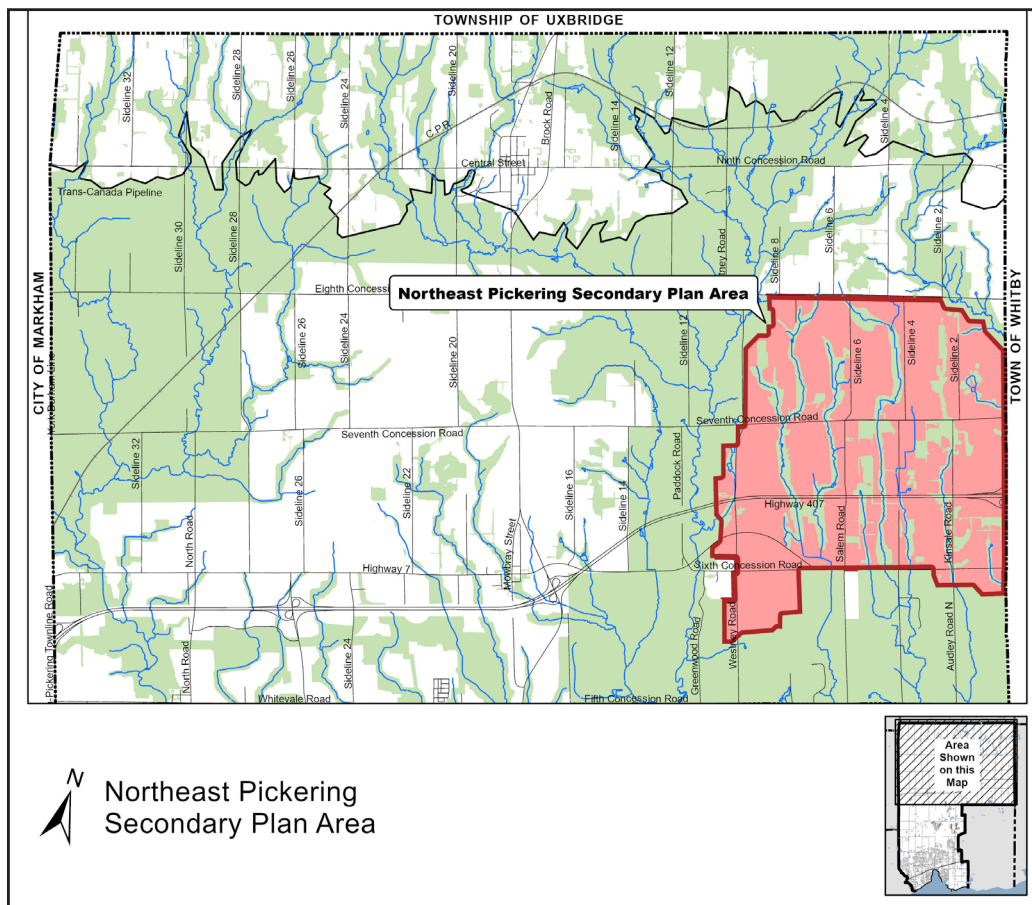


Figure 5: Northeast Pickering Secondary Plan Area.

Northeast Pickering is identified in Envision Durham as a future urban boundary expansion area within Pickering. The secondary plan process will continue as an independent process from the Official Plan Review. While the planning process for the secondary plan and the Official Plan will be undertaken as separate processes, the secondary plan, once approved, will be designed to be incorporated within the Official Plan.

8.0 Next Steps

There are many elements that will be considered and reviewed during the Pickering Forward process. To facilitate community engagement and education, the Official Plan Review will include the release of discussion papers to promote discussion on the following themes:

- Community Vision & Priorities.
- Growth Management, Urban Structure and Urban Design.
- Natural Heritage, Hazards and Sustainability.
- Housing and Affordability.
- Community Structure (includes Parks, Transportation, Cultural Heritage, etc.).
- Agriculture and Rural Areas.

The discussion papers will provide an opportunity for more detailed conversations on how the legislative changes and Pickering initiatives discussed in this Paper impact specific topics. To start the brainstorming activity among residents and stakeholders, section 9 of this Paper has been included to provide a high-level introduction of the elements which will be explored through the discussion papers and that would contribute to a successful Pickering. These elements are not meant to be a complete list of elements for a successful Pickering, which is why residents and stakeholders are encouraged to provide comments through Pickering Forward, to identify what is important to them.

These future conversations will inform changes to the Pickering Official Plan that are needed to meet the legislative requirements of the Province, and reflect the needs of the community to 2051.



City of Pickering Cultural Fusion 2023



9.0 Elements for a Successful Pickering

Pickering is growing! It is important that the community’s vision for the future of Pickering is reflected as the City continues to grow and change in the decades to come. The following subsections highlight the important themes that will be reviewed and discussed through the Official Plan Review process.

9.1 Where We Grow

Land within Pickering can generally be classified into two categories, urban or rural. Urban lands typically have access to municipal water and sewers. Rural lands are located outside of existing settlement areas and typically have private services, septic systems and wells.

The majority of the growth in Pickering, including housing and employment, is located in the urban areas, which includes the South Pickering Urban Area and the Seaton Urban Area (Figure 6). In addition to the two existing urban areas, Envision Durham, identifies an expansion to Pickering’s urban boundary by including Northeast Pickering as a future urban area.

The existing land use vision in the Official Plan encourages compact urban areas in South Pickering and in Seaton, and rural and open space areas in west-central and northern Pickering.

Within urban areas are Mixed-Use Areas, Urban Residential Areas, Employment Areas, and parts of the Open Space System, which includes natural areas, active recreation areas and marina areas.

Mixed Use Areas are where the highest concentration of activity and development in the City is anticipated. Mixed Use Areas also include the broadest diversity of community services and facilities. Mixed Use Areas include the City Centre, and Kingston Road Corridor which serves as Pickering’s “main street”.



Universal City, Pickering

The City Centre is one of two Urban Growth Centres in the Region of Durham and is also Pickering's Protected Major Transit Station Area. This area must be planned to meet a minimum density of 200 residents and jobs per hectare to meet the requirements of the Provincial Growth Plan.

Urban residential areas are to be used primarily for housing and related uses, including home occupations and group homes. To ensure that these areas provide an appropriate degree of neighbourhood and community services, other uses are also permissible, including, schools, parks, libraries, places of worship, limited office development, limited retailing of goods and services, limited employment uses, and limited special purpose commercial uses.

Recent changes included in the *Planning Act* require municipalities to allow up to three dwelling units on most residential properties. Pickering recently approved amendments to the Official Plan to implement those permissions.

The Official Plan review, which will include a growth management study, will examine the elements that make up Pickering's urban area, to identify where and how growth should be accommodated to 2051.

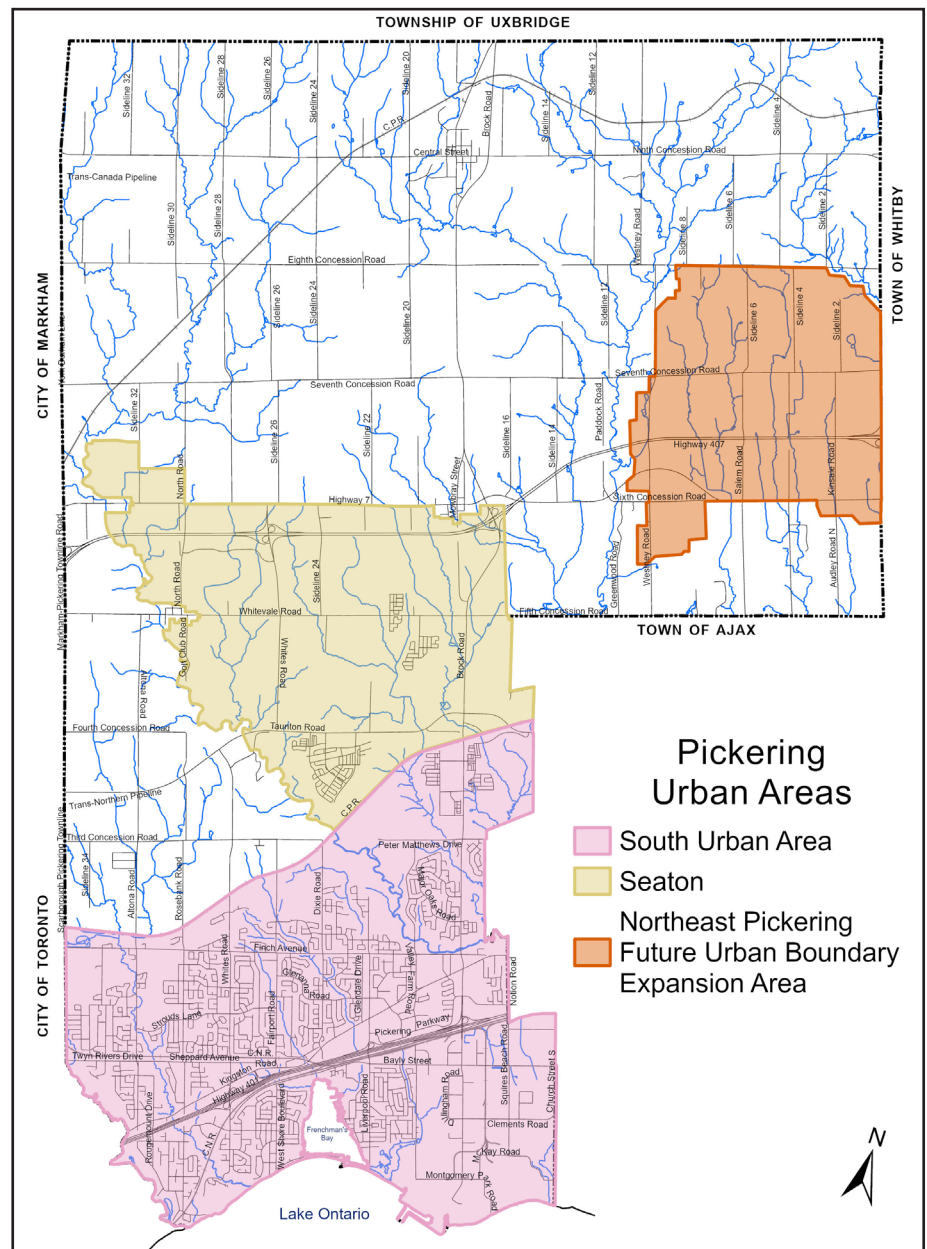


Figure 6: Map of Pickering Urban Areas

9.2 What We Protect and Enhance

The Open Space System is Pickering's "greenspace". It is important for its role in maintaining ecological health, including where possible, improving the ecological and hydrological integrity of the Natural Heritage System. The Open Space System is also critical in promoting the physical, spiritual, and mental health of Pickering's residents.

The Open Space System includes a variety of key natural heritage and key hydrologic features including the Rouge-Duffins Wildlife Corridor, the Lake Iroquois shoreline, the City's significant valleylands and stream corridors, Lake Ontario shoreline, areas of natural and scientific interest, wetlands, and significant woodlands.

The Open Space System also includes recreational and conservation areas, and other major blocks of land that make up the City's natural core areas, corridors and linkages. Lands designated as part of the Open Space System are intended to be used primarily for conservation, restoration, environmental education, recreation, and ancillary purposes.

Protecting and enhancing these areas as Pickering grows will be essential for the well-being of the natural heritage system and residents.



Harbour Entrance into Frenchman's Bay, Pickering

9.3 Sustainable Planning and Climate Change

Sustainability can be defined as the ability of current residents to meet current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Climate change can be defined as a long-term shift in global or regional climate patterns. The effects of climate change are being felt around the world, and the pace of change is accelerating.



Solar panel parking structure for EV charging station

Pickering has been a leader in promoting sustainability and has continued to promote climate change adaptation and mitigation through the building of resilient, healthy and sustainable communities. Pickering has been enhancing the natural environment, improving waste diversion, integrating sustainability into long-term planning by applying Integrated Sustainable Design Standards to new development projects, supporting urban agriculture, and is working to develop a community climate adaptation plan.

As Pickering grows it will be important to ensure that sustainability is a precursor to future development. The Official Plan Review will provide an opportunity to review the existing climate change and sustainability policies and strengthen and expand the policy framework where required.

9.4 Rural Areas

Like urban systems, rural systems involve people engaging in a variety of activities. However, interactions between people in the rural area usually require, stem from, or are grounded in “land” as a viable, productive and lasting resource.



Farm lands, Pickering



Farming, forestry, bird watching, aggregate extraction, hiking and many other rural activities all require or use large areas of land as a resource. To exist, they all directly depend upon land, or upon the natural systems that support and flow from the land.

Protecting land, as a finite resource, through strong Official Plan policies, is therefore of vital importance to ensuring a healthy rural system. Pickering's Rural System contains 'Rural Lands' (agricultural areas) and 'Rural Settlements'. Rural Lands are very diverse, supporting a variety of uses including farming, open space, and conservation areas.

9.5 Economic Development

Economic Development includes programs, policies and activities that seek to improve the economic well-being and quality of life for a community by creating and retaining jobs for current and future Pickering residents.

Pickering's Economic Strategy, discussed in Section 7.5 of this Paper, anticipates growth and helps bring assets together to support an economically, environmentally, and socially sustained future.

Employment opportunities exist within most land use designations in Pickering. Nevertheless, areas with significant concentrations of manufacturing, assembly and warehousing uses, and related employment opportunities, are identified as Employment Areas (also referred to as industrial lands).

Employment areas are classified according to their mix of uses, their operational characteristics, their design, and their performance requirements. Three employment subcategories are distinguished: general, prestige, and mixed employment.



Porsche Experience Construction Site, Pickering

The Official Plan will encourage the retention of existing businesses, while also creating a policy framework that stimulates economic opportunities for future business attraction and retention. This is essential for creating local employment opportunities.

Recent changes to the definition of “Employment Area” lands in the *Planning Act* would restrict Office and Institutional uses in Employment Areas. This will be reviewed during the Official Plan Review to ensure these uses are encouraged and supported in appropriate areas of Pickering while meeting provincial definitions.

9.6 Parks

Parks are important spaces in the lives of residents, providing recreational and social opportunities. Since the global pandemic, open spaces and parks have played an even larger role in meeting the physical and mental wellness needs of residents.

As outlined in section 5.1 of this report, Bill 23 has had a significant impact on the way in which the City can acquire parkland. Specifically, the Province has changed the maximum parkland dedication rate, which means that the City will be acquiring less parkland from applicants to serve new developments.

This creates a challenge throughout the City, but specifically in the City Centre, and Kingston Road Corridor. These strategic growth areas are anticipated to see significant increases in residential development at very high densities. As these areas currently have limited existing residential development, there is not much parkland, if any, to serve future residents. The new parkland rates that developments are required to provide to the City through the approvals process will result in significantly more people and less park space per resident than in established neighbourhoods.



Rick Johnson Memorial Park, Seaton

We need to ensure Pickering’s park system meets the physical and social needs of current and future residents. It will be important to understand how residents interact with and value the open space system and parks to ensure the Official Plan policies reflect the needs of residents.

As discussed in section 7.7 of the Paper, the City of Pickering is currently undertaking a review of its Recreation and Parks Master Plan. As part of the Official Plan Review parkland policies will be reviewed.

9.7 Transportation

As Pickering develops and intensifies, its transportation needs will change. A transportation system that is planned and designed to accommodate sustainable growth is instrumental to providing a high quality of life for residents. With more people living in Pickering, and more people working in Pickering, the number of trips to, from, and within the City will increase.

Pickering’s Integrated Transportation Master Plan, as discussed in Section 7.3 of this Paper, includes a strategy to ensure that the transportation system supports:

- Alternative modes of travel, including transit and active transportation;
- Safe transportation options;
- The creation of a complete and sustainable community; and
- Economic growth.

Pickering’s transportation system benefits from the following existing infrastructure:

- Access to two Provincial Series Highways (401 and 407);
- An extensive transit network (served by Durham Region Transit and GO Transit);
- An inter-regional commuter rail line served by GO Transit via the GO Train;
- An extensive network of trails suitable for both walking and cycling; and
- The Pickering Waterfront Trail provides east-west connections to Toronto and Ajax, and is a part of the larger Waterfront Trail, which stretches along the shore of Lake Ontario.

As Pickering grows, it is essential that we plan for a complete transportation network (all forms of transportation) that is well-connected and inclusive of all user’s needs.



Pickering GO Station, Pickering

9.8 Housing and Affordability

A housing crisis has been declared by both the Federal and Provincial governments. The cost of housing has been steadily increasing in recent years, placing pressure on families to find housing they can afford. As discussed in section 7.2 of this Paper, Pickering's Housing & Action Plan, 2022, provides information on the current housing profile, including housing options and affordability.

Pickering has historically been a lower density, single detached dwelling, community. Pickering had a total of 33,425 private dwellings in 2021 (Statistics Canada). Single detached homes accounted for 60% of those dwellings, followed by apartments accounting for 18%, and townhouses at 14%. It is anticipated that apartment buildings and townhouses may increase in unit share over the next few decades as the City Centre, and Kingston Road Corridor, see more intensification, and Seaton continues to develop.

In addition to housing types, the tenure of housing also plays an important role in affordability. Rental housing plays an important role in meeting the housing needs of residents. The rental market can offer benefits, such as flexibility in dwelling types, location, fewer maintenance costs, and relief from the large, up-front cost of a down payment required for home ownership.



Residential Pickering

The private rental market consists of the primary rental market, (often referred to as purpose-built rental buildings), and the secondary rental market. The secondary rental market represents self-contained units, which may not have been purposely built for the rental market, but are currently being rented out.

The primary rental market accounts for only 1% of the housing units in Pickering. There are no statistics on the total number of secondary rental market housing units in Pickering. There has been very little new primary rental housing constructed in the last decade, placing further demand on the existing units. This leads to very low vacancy rates and few options in the primary rental market for residents that are looking for this tenure of housing.

It is essential that the Official Plan Review encourage a full range of housing options and tenures, to provide options and affordability, for all residents.

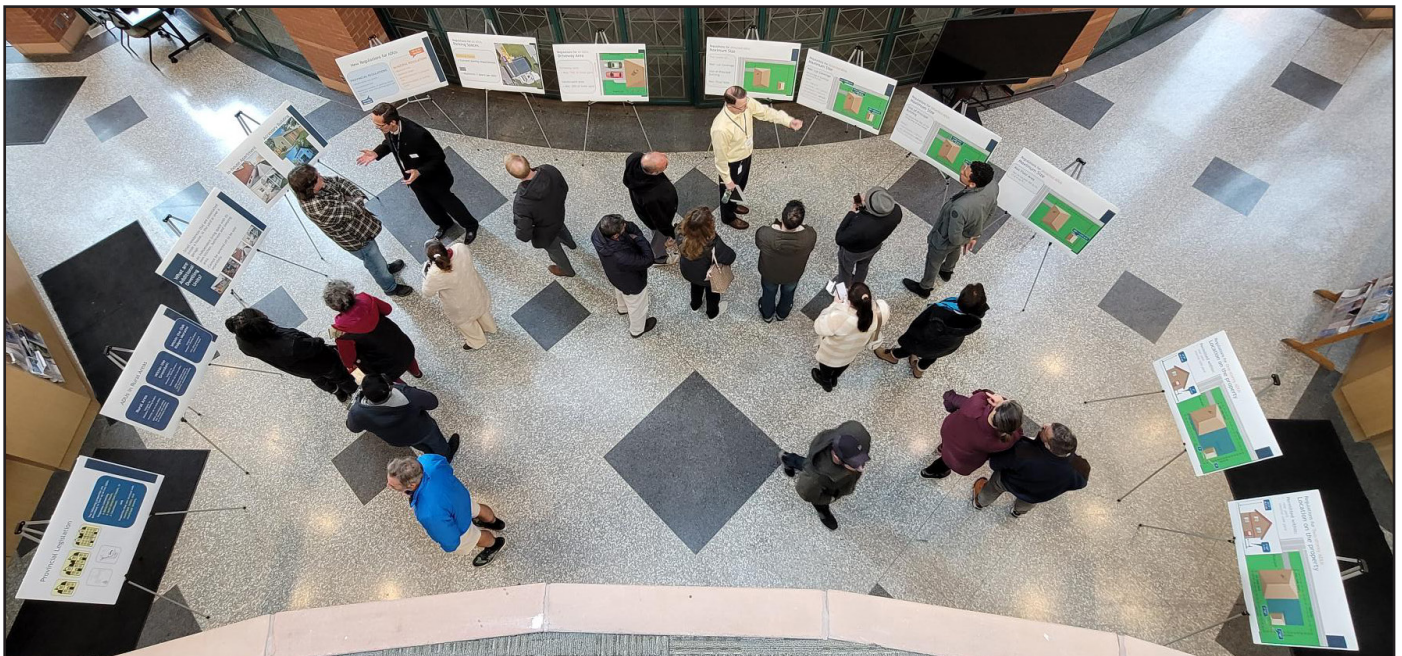


10.0 Community Engagement

An important part of the Official Plan Review process will be extensive community engagement with residents, stakeholders, the business community, and Indigenous communities to ensure the future Official Plan appropriately addresses local needs and emerging trends.

The Special Council Meeting on May 27, 2024, will provide the first opportunity for the community to formally engage in the Pickering Forward process. A community engagement strategy is being created for Pickering Forward. The strategy will:

- Encourage public and stakeholder engagement early, and throughout, the process;
- Utilize a variety of in-person, and online, engagement methods to allow for the entire community to have opportunity to learn, and provide comments; and
- Provide regular updates to the public, and other stakeholder's to ensure the staff correctly understood their feedback.



Additional Dwelling Units Open House, City of Pickering

11.0 We Want to Hear From You!

This Background Paper is a starting point for the Pickering Official Plan Review, Pickering Forward. It details the changes that impact Pickering at each level of government and the ground rules that Pickering must follow. The Paper also highlights recent initiatives the City of Pickering has undertaken and how those initiatives are shaping Pickering.

Discussion papers planned for the fall of 2024 and winter of 2025 will be key community engagement opportunities to identify the needs of residents. These discussions will be critical to creating a plan that serves residents and stakeholders in Pickering for the decades to come.

Interested community members and stakeholders are encouraged to add their names to the contact list for the Official Plan Review by connecting with staff through the Pickering Forward project page and e-mail listed below.

Connect with Us! We want to hear from you!

Pickering Forward Website: [Pickering.ca/PickeringForward](https://pickering.ca/PickeringForward)

Pickering Forward E-mail: PickeringForward@Pickering.ca



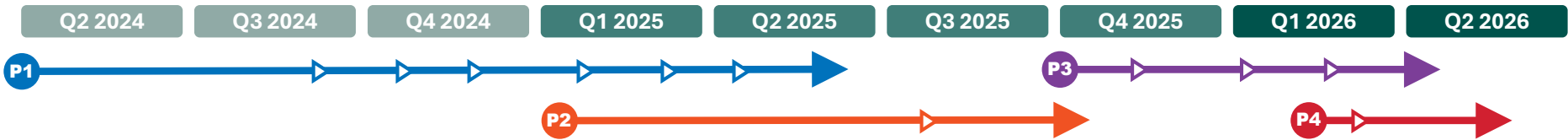
Official Plan Review Workplan and Timeline

PICKERING FORWARD

Planning tomorrow, together.



- P1 - Discussion Papers:**
 Community Priorities & Vision
 Growth Management & Urban Structure
 Natural Heritage & Sustainability
 Housing & Affordability
 Community Structure
 Agricultural, Rural Areas & Hamlets
- P2 - Release of Draft Changes to Official Plan**
- P3 - Release Final Recommended Official Plan**
 Statutory Public Meeting
 Recommendation Report to Council
- P4 - Council Adoption of the Official Plan**



Phase One

Background & Research

Phase Two

Policy Drafting

Phase Three

Policy Recommendations

Phase Four

Final Approval & Implementation

- Background Research
- Special Meeting of Council
- Policy Review & Analysis
- Release Background Paper
- Community Engagement Strategy
- Discussion Papers on Specific Topics:
 - ▶ Community Priorities & Vision
 - ▶ Growth Management & Urban Structure
 - ▶ Natural Heritage & Sustainability
 - ▶ Housing & Affordability
 - ▶ Community Structure
 - ▶ Agricultural, Rural Areas & Hamlets
- Community Engagement

- Draft Official Plan Preparation
- Review Policy Analysis and Community Engagement Comments
- Create New Policies and Amend Existing Policies
- ▶ Release of Draft Changes to Official Plan for Comment
- Community Engagement: Receive Feedback on Proposed Draft Pickering Official Plan

- Community Feedback: Draft Official Plan Revisions
- ▶ Release Final Recommended Pickering Official Plan for Comment
- ▶ Statutory Public Meeting and Presentation to Council
- ▶ Recommendation Report to Council
- Community Engagement: Plan Revisions Based on Statutory Meeting Comments and Council Direction

- ▶ Council Adoption of the Official Plan
- Submit Council Adopted Plan to Approval Authority
- Modifications from Approval Authority
- Notify Interested Parties of Final Approval




Sent by Email

June 3, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Subject: Natural Gas for Rural and Expanding Communities

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 04, 2024 11:52 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on May 27, 2024 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, reliable and affordable access to natural gas is essential for the economic viability and prosperity of residents and businesses in our community, offering a balance of affordability and energy reliability;

And Whereas, potential limitations on the expansion of natural gas infrastructure jeopardizes access to this critical energy source, which is fundamental to fostering economic growth, supporting our manufacturing sector, enhancing agricultural and farm productivity, ensuring the development of affordable housing, and maintaining energy reliability in Durham Region including the City of Pickering;

And Whereas, Ontario is growing and access to reliable and affordable energy sources such as natural gas is required to support this growth in both urban and rural communities, and is a measured approach to energy transition;

And Whereas, the absence of natural gas access would severely stifle the growth of the industrial sector, leading to escalated costs for agriculture and farm production, manufacturing, and consumer goods;

And Whereas, for our rural and farming communities, access to natural gas is vital, as a cost-effective energy source and a catalyst for sustainable agricultural practices and on-farm operations, including heating, grain drying, and storage, directly contributing to reduced operational expenses and enabling sustainable agricultural advancements;

And Whereas, achieving a net-zero emissions target in a cost-effective manner requires a collaborative approach between the electric and gas sectors, leveraging the strengths of

both to enhance the overall reliability, resilience, and consumer choice within Ontario's energy system;

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering:

1. Supports a balanced and measured approach to Ontario's energy transition, acknowledging the insufficiency of the current electricity supply to meet the growing demands from electrification and the critical role of natural gas in bridging this gap;
2. That natural gas must be recognized as a cornerstone in meeting Ontario's growing energy needs;
3. That Pickering Council supports the need for maintaining access to diverse and affordable energy sources, including natural gas, to bolster our agricultural sectors, enabling our rural communities to thrive and sustainably increase production capabilities within the City of Pickering and its surrounding areas; and,
4. That this resolution be circulated to Colin Best, President of AMO; Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Hon. Todd Smith, the Minister of Energy; Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Member of Provincial Parliament Pickering-Uxbridge; all Durham Region municipalities as significant actors to ensuring the need for natural gas in Ontario as part of a measured approach towards energy transition, and that it also be submitted to municipalaffairs@enbridge.com.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly,



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Copy: The Hon. Todd Smith, Minister of Energy
The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering - Uxbridge
Jaclyn Grossi, Director of Legislative & Information Services, Town of Ajax
June Gallagher, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington
Chris Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby
Fernando Lamanna, Clerk, Township of Brock
Debbie Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa

Ralph Walton, Interim City Clerk, Township of Scugog
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Director of Legislative Services, Region of Durham
Colin Best, President, AMO
Enbridge Gas

Chief Administrative Officer



 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 03, 2024 10:37 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

May 30th, 2024

Premier's Office
 Room 281
 Legislative Building, Queen's Park
 Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

ATTENTION: Hon. Doug Ford

Dear Premier Ford,

Resolution – RE: Hastings County Motion regarding sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held May 14th, 2024:

Moved by Councillor Kelso

Seconded by Councillor Summers

THAT, Council supports the resolution from Hastings County regarding Sustainable Infrastructure Funding for Small Rural Municipalities;

AND THAT, this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; Michel Tremblay Acting President and CEO, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure; The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman, Hastings-Lennox Addington; MPP Ric Bresee Hastings-Lennox Addington, AMO, ROMA, FCM, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and all Municipalities in Ontario.

Resolved

Sincerely,



Amanda Noël,
 Clerk/Acting CAO



Encls.

- c.c. The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada
- Michel Tremblay Acting President and CEO, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure
- The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman, Hastings-Lennox Addington
- MPP Ric Bresee Hastings-Lennox Addington
- AMO
- ROMA
- FCM
- Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus
- All Municipalities in Ontario



Office of the Warden, C.A.O. & Clerk
Hastings County

235 Pinnacle St. Postal Bag 4400,
Belleville ON K8N 3A9

Tel: (613) 966-1311

Fax: (613) 966-2574

www.hastingscounty.com

April 17, 2024

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Delivered via email

doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

premier@ontario.ca

RE: Hastings County Motion regarding sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities

Please be advised that Hastings County Council, at its meeting held on March 28, 2024, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads and bridges and water wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities and libraries;

WHEREAS in 2018, the Ontario government mandated all Ontario municipalities to develop capital asset management plans with the stipulation that they be considered in the development of the annual budget;

WHEREAS small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone;

WHEREAS the only application approved through the recently awarded Housing Accelerator Fund to a small rural municipality was to Marathon Ontario, who received an allocation of \$1.9 million dollars while over \$1.369 billion going to Ontario's large urban centres, resulting in a 0.2% investment in rural Ontario;

WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardner Expressway;

WHEREAS small rural Ontario cannot keep pace with the capital investments required over the next 20 years unless both the Provincial and Federal Governments come forward with new sustainable infrastructure funding;

WHEREAS it is apparent that both the Federal and Ontario Governments have neglected to recognize the needs of small rural Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Hastings County call on the Ontario and Federal Government to implement sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities;

AND THAT small rural municipalities are not overlooked and disregarded on future applications for funding;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments begin by acknowledging that there is an insurmountable debt facing small rural municipalities;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments immediately commission a Working Group that includes a member of the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, to develop a plan on how to deal with the impending debt dilemma;

AND FINALLY THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; Michel Tremblay Acting President and CEO, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure; The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman, Hastings-Lennox Addington; MPP Ric Bresee Hastings-Lennox Addington, AMO, ROMA, FCM, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and all Municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A grey rectangular box redacting the signature of Cathy Bradley.

Cathy Bradley
Director of Legislative Services



THE CORPORATION OF THE
Township Of Pelee

1045 West Shore Road Pelee Island, ON N0R 1M0 Website: www.pelee.org
Tel: 519-724-2931 Fax: 519-724-2470

May 29, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

		Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 03, 2024 10:44 am		
Original To:	CIP		
Copies To:			
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/>	File	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:			

**RE: Township of Pelee Support Township of Georgian Bay Resolution
Sustainable Infrastructure Funding for Small Rural Municipalities**

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

Please be advised that at the Township of Pelee’s Regular Meeting of Council held on May 28th, 2024, the following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2024 – 77

Moved By: Mayor Cathy Miller

Seconded By: Councillor Michelle Taylor

WHEREAS Ontario’s small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads and bridges and water wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities and libraries;

AND WHEREAS in 2018, the Ontario government mandated all Ontario municipalities to develop capital asset management plans with the stipulation that they be considered in the development of the annual budget;

AND WHEREAS small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone;

AND WHEREAS the only application approved through the recently awarded Housing Accelerator Fund to a small rural municipality was to Marathon Ontario, who received an allocation of \$1.9 million dollars while over \$1.369 billion going to Ontario’s large urban centres, resulting in a 0.2% investment in rural Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardner Expressway;

AND WHEREAS small rural Ontario cannot keep pace with the capital investments required over the next 20 years unless both the Provincial and Federal Governments come forward with new sustainable infrastructure funding;

AND WHEREAS it is apparent that both the Federal and Ontario Governments have neglected to recognize the needs of small rural Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Pelee hereby support Township of Georgian Bay's resolution calling on the Ontario and Federal Government to implement sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities;

AND THAT small rural municipalities are not overlooked and disregarded on future applications for funding;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments begin by acknowledging that there is an insurmountable debt facing small rural municipalities;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments immediately commission a Working Group to develop a plan on how to deal with the impending debt dilemma;

AND FINALLY THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada; The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; Michel Tremblay Acting President and CEO, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure; The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MP Dave Epp, Chatham-Kent-Leamington; MPP Trevor Jones, Chatham-Kent-Leamington; AMO, ROMA, FCM, and all Municipalities in Ontario.



May 29, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 03, 2024 10:51 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

**RE: Township of Pelee Support County of Renfrew Resolution
Rural and Small Urban Municipalities – Affordability of Water and Wastewater Systems**

Please be advised that at the Township of Pelee’s Regular Meeting of Council held on May 28th, 2024, the following resolution was passed:

Resolution 2024 – 78

Moved By: Councillor Dave DeLellis

Seconded By: Councillor Michelle Taylor

WHEREAS the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) (Section 1.6.6.2) states that municipal sewage services and municipal water services are the preferred form of servicing for settlement areas to support protection of the environment and minimize potential risks to human health and safety and that intensification and redevelopment within these settlement areas should be promoted; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Section 2.2.1 (f)) states that planning authorities shall protect, improve, or restore the quality and quantity of water by implementing the necessary restrictions on development and site alternation to protect all drinking supplies and designated vulnerable areas, and protect, improve, or restore vulnerable surface and ground water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive groundwater features, and their hydrologic functions; and

WHEREAS the PPS (Sections 2.2.1(h) and (i)) states that there is consideration of environmental lake capacity as well as stormwater management practices; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Environment, Protection and Conservation (MECP) Procedural Guideline B-1-5 Policy 2 provision states that water quality which presently does not meet the Provincial Water Quality Objectives shall not be further degraded and all practical measures shall be undertaken to upgrade the water quality to the Objectives;



and

WHEREAS in 2014 the Township of Whitewater Region authorized Jp2gConsultants Inc. to undertake a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for the purpose of evaluating viable options to upgrade the 1979 Cobden Wastewater Treatment Plant. This plant did not meet guidelines for effluent flow into Muskrat Lake and Cobden Wetland being highly sensitive, at-capacity, inland lake, and Provincial Significant Wetland (PSW) and acknowledged as one of the most eutrophic in the province. The plant had ongoing seasonal overflow events, and was operating at maximum capacity; and

WHEREAS in 2018 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region approved the construction of a new parallel mechanical system that would meet all provincial environmental and regulatory requirements including accommodating future growth. Federal and provincial contributions only covered 50% of the final construction costs, as there was no ability to renegotiate with federal and provincial partners once real costs were known. As a result, the balance of costs (\$6M) was debentured over 30 years at interest rates that are slightly punitive to rural and small urban municipalities; and

WHEREAS in 2019 the Council of the Township of Whitewater Region conducted a Water and Wastewater Rate Study that demonstrated the need for rate increases of over 100% to fund the new wastewater treatment plant construction debenture and the significantly increased operating costs for a parallel mechanical system. Rural and small urban municipalities experience very limited growth as federal and provincial policies heavily support growth in urban centers. As there are no other sources of available operational funding, rural and small urban municipalities are expected to fund the construction and operation of these state-of-the-art systems from existing property owners and nominal forecasted growth; and

WHEREAS in 2023 the Township of Whitewater Region combined water and wastewater rates have risen to almost \$3,000/year for its five hundred and eleven (511) users and are among the highest in the County of Renfrew and across the Province of Ontario. There are similarly high user rates in the Township of Madawaska Valley as a result of Provincial regulations and a small number of users. Other examples of rapidly increasing rates include the Towns of Deep River, Renfrew, Arnprior, Laurentian Hills, and Petawawa, and the Townships of Bonnechere Valley, Laurentian Valley and Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, where significant upgrades in short periods of time are making rates unaffordable even with an increased number of users.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Pelee support the County of Renfrew's resolution to:

Advocate to the provincial and federal levels of government to make them aware that rural and small urban water and wastewater systems are financially unsustainable; and Advocate to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally.

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure (Ontario); the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities (Canada); the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (Ontario), Dave Epp, MP, Chatham-Kent-Leamington; Trevor Jones, MPP, Chatham-Kent-Leamington; AMO; ROMA; FCM; and all Municipalities in Ontario.



 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	June 03, 2024 10:47 am
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

31 May 2024

Premier Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca

RE: Urging the Government to Promptly Resume Assessment Cycle

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Callander passed the following resolution at its Regular Meeting of Council held Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

Resolution No. 2024/05/184:

7.4(c) WHEREAS the assessment cycle is an essential process for maintaining the fairness and predictability of property taxes in our province;

AND WHEREAS the pause in the reassessment cycle has created uncertainty and instability in property taxation, impacting both residential and commercial property owners;

AND WHEREAS the government has delayed an assessment update again in 2024, resulting in Ontario's municipalities continuing to calculate property taxes using 2016 property values;

AND WHEREAS both current and outdated assessments are inaccurate, increase volatility, and are not transparent;

AND WHEREAS frequent and accurate reassessments are necessary to stabilize property taxes and provide predictability for property owners, residents, and businesses alike;

AND WHEREAS the staff at the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation would benefit from further skills enhancement and training in assessments, recognizing the importance of ensuring accurate evaluations for 100% of our municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Government has announced a review of the property assessment and taxation system with a focus on fairness, equity, and economic competitiveness, and therefore further deferring new property assessment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Callander hereby calls upon the Premier to promptly resume the assessment cycle to ensure the stability and predictability of property taxes while the Government conducts its review of the property assessment and taxation system, or respond with an alternative method for every municipality in Ontario to achieve fair taxation;

AND THAT all Municipalities in Ontario and their constituents are encouraged to apply pressure to the Premier, daily, weekly, and monthly, to resolve the situation before it causes undo stress to everyone in the Municipality;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the relevant provincial authorities, the Association of Municipality in Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, and all municipalities in Ontario for their consideration, to make proper changes as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Thank you,



Cindy Pigeau
Municipal Clerk

Copy to: Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipalities Association
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
Municipal Property Assessment Corporation
All Ontario Municipalities

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 14, 2024

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:30 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: T. Barrie, Clarington
Z. Cohoon, Member at Large, Chair
R. Death*, Whitby, attended the meeting at 7:33 PM
N. Guthrie, Ajax
B. Hulshof, Uxbridge
J. McKay*, Durham Farm Fresh
G. O'Connor, Member at Large
D. Risebrough, Member at Large, Vice-Chair
H. Schillings, Member at Large
M. Shiers, Durham Region Federation of Agriculture
B. Smith, Uxbridge, Vice-Chair
D. Stevenson, Oshawa
G. Taylor, Pickering
T. Watpool, Brock

*** denotes members of the Committee participating electronically**

Absent: M. Somerville, Member at Large
N. Swain, Scugog
W. Wotten, Regional Councillor

Staff

Present: A. De Vos, Program Specialist, Department of Planning and Economic Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
M. Scott, Project Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
L. Talling, Acting Manager, Agricultural & Rural Economic Development, Department of Planning and Economic Development

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by B. Smith, Seconded by T. Barrie,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting
held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. **Presentations**

A) Mark Tranter, Director, and Chris Finlay, CFO, CANUX, re: Independent Private Schools and the Township of Uxbridge

Mark Tranter, Director, and Chris Finlay, CFO, CANUX, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Independent Private Schools and the Township of Uxbridge.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- CANUX – Community Partnership Project
- Interactive Map
- Value Proposition
 - Community & Tourism: School of our future
 - Financial: New and expanded business
 - Environment: Climate Action – Green Technology
 - Agriculture: Agri-food
 - Education & Future
- The Uxbridge Partnership
 - Shared-use Sports Facility
 - Independent Private School
 - Agriculture Learning Centre
- Support: What we Need
- Next Steps: Moving Forward

M. Tranter advised that they are looking to Committee members for support with the proposal from farmers in Durham Region and to provide scholarship opportunities for athletes.

M. Tranter responded to questions with regards to the proportions of the greenhouse facilities in comparison to the athletic facilities on the proposal; where the proposed facility will be located; whether the presentation has been provided to the Townships of Uxbridge, Scugog and Brock; the size of the land required for the proposal; and whether the proposed facility will take away from municipal facilities offering the same programs.

G.L. O'Connor suggested that the presenters reach out to the President of Durham College regarding this proposal.

B) Mary Anne Martin, Durham Food Policy Council, re: Durham Food System Report Card

Mary Anne Martin and Mary Drummond, Durham Food Policy Council, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Durham Food System Report Card.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Durham Food Policy Council (DFPC) Mission
- DFPC Food System Work
- Food System Planning and Food Sovereignty
- Food System Report Cards
- Methodology
- Data Inclusion Criteria
- Structure of Findings
- What we Found
- Where do we go from here?

M.A. Martin advised that the Durham Food Policy Council is requesting feedback from Committee members to provide data and actions that need to be taken to provide a stronger and healthier food system for Durham Region.

M.A. Martin responded to questions with regards to Durham Food Policy Council's vision in terms of the strategy; and whether food bank usage is being monitored.

Discussion ensued with regards to ensuring livestock is included in the agricultural system for Durham Region; opportunity for more local markets and local food processing; the importance of food literacy for residents; the types of farms that are dwindling in Durham Region; the difficulty of sustaining a farm in Durham Region; and housing issues for offshore workers.

C) Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Region of Durham, re: Agriculture and Sustainability

Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Region of Durham, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Agriculture and Sustainability.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Durham's Commitment to Climate and Sustainability
- Climate Events:
 - Canadian Context
 - Durham Region Impacts

- Climate in Durham Region: Trends and Projections
- Risks/Impacts to Food and Agriculture
- Food and Agriculture Risk Levels
- Apples and Climate Risk
- Responses to the Climate Crisis
- Durham Region Emissions – 2022 Data
- Durham Greener Homes
- Adaptation Initiatives – Natural Environment
- What are the key barriers to implement of on-farm Environmental Best Management Practices?
- Some Examples from Nearby Jurisdictions

I. McVey asked Committee members for feedback on whether the ALUS (Alternative Land Use Services) Program is something Durham Region should consider looking into.

I. McVey responded to questions with regards to the validity of the future climate projection data presented and where it was obtained; what percentage of forest there is in Ontario compared to Canada; and the percentage of carbon gas emissions from certain emitters.

Comments were raised with regards to average temperature data, and that the temperature data from Pearson airport has not changed in decades; the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere; the average yield of crops in Durham Region over the last decade; the need for unbiased research on climate emergency data; trees being planted on Class 1 and 2 farm land; tile drainage issues that farmers must deal with; educating the public on how to be sustainable; the opportunities or farmers to use topsoil removed from construction sites as clean fill as a sustainability measure; and soil regulations across the lower tier municipalities in Durham Region.

Comments were also raised regarding whether a Climate Emergency was occurring in Durham; climate change science and information being a biased view; climate change is a long-term change and not occurring in the short term; climate change is a strategy to transfer wealth within a community; and that the Sustainability Office should be recognizing both sides of the climate change debate.

In response to a concern raised that the Sustainability Office is directly responsible to the ratepayers of Durham, I. McVey advised that their job is to implement the direction of Regional Council. He suggested providing further information regarding agriculture rebate and incentive programs at a future meeting.

5. Discussion Items

A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update

L. Talling provided the following update:

- The North Durham Agriculture-Related and On-Farm Diversified Uses (OFDU) project agreement with the consultant has been finalized and is in the technical review phase. There is a meeting with the working group on Thursday, May 16, 2024 that will include discussion of Agriculture-Related and OFDU issues identified by Regional and Township staff.
- There will be a presentation at the June 11, 2024 DAAC Meeting on the project for consultation and an opportunity to voice concerns.

A. De Vos provided the following update:

- The Precision Ag Field Day is on May 28, 2024.
- The Agri-Food Gateway Program has launched with eight companies participating in the program. One of the goals of the program is to have one company commercialize an agri-tech solution within a year of completing the program.
- Looking for input from Committee Members to attract an abattoir to Durham Region and finding a suitable site location.

A. De Vos responded to questions with regards to finding a site that can be properly zoned for an abattoir, and the requirements needed for the land to be suitable.

Discussion ensued with regards to using a site with a previously run abattoir in order to avoid having to re-zone the land; the possibility of contacting an operating business in southwest Ontario to see if they are interested in expanding their business; and, employment lands available in the northern municipalities.

B) Agricultural Advisory Committee Clarington Update

T. Barrie stated that at the May 9, 2024 meeting of the Clarington Agriculture Advisory Committee there was a presentation from Martin Straathof from Ontario Farmland Trust regarding the number of protected properties in Ontario. He also advised that the Celebrate Agriculture Gala is being held on October 25, 2024 at the Royal Ashburn Golf Club.

C) Durham Farm Fresh Update

J. McKay advised that Rob Alexander, Chair of Durham Farm Fresh is stepping down from the role and a new Chair will be appointed in the coming months; at the Provincial level, Bill 40: Moving Ontarians Safely Act, is currently in the second reading; asparagus is ready to harvest; strawberry patches will have fruit within 10 days; and farmer's markets have started to open.

D) Greater Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance Update

M. Scott advised that at the last meeting of the Greater Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance there was discussion around stormwater management fees and how the different municipalities are handling it.

E) Durham Region Federation of Agriculture Update

M. Shiers advised that at the last meeting of the Durham Region Federation of Agriculture there was also discussion on stormwater management fees.

F) Provincial Planning & Regional Official Plan Update

M. Scott advised that Durham Region received draft comments back from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on the Regional Official Plan. He stated that there were minimal changes to the agriculture policies.

M. Scott responded to questions with regards to whether the urban boundary expansion have been approved.

In terms of other provincial planning changes, M. Scott further advised that a new Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) will replace the current growth plan and Provincial Policy Statement. The new PPS will implement a new policy to permit two additional residential units on a farm, however they cannot be severed off; the addition of a definition for urban agriculture and agricultural impact assessments; in terms of farmland preservation, the policies around urban boundary expansion have been changed to allow for individual municipalities to handle their own urban boundary expansions;

Discussion ensued with regards to building multiple houses on a farm; and providing servicing in urban boundary expansions.

M. Scott advised that once comments have been completed and provided the MMAH, he will circulate it to Committee members.

G) ROPA 2024-001 – Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Lafarge Canada Inc. to permit the expansion of Aggregate Resource Extraction Area #30 in the Township of Uxbridge

M. Scott advised that an application to amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Lafarge Canada Inc. to permit an expansion to Aggregate Resource

Extraction Area #30 in the Township of Uxbridge, File: OPA 2024-001, was received.

M. Scott provided a brief overview of the application and discussion ensued regarding the subject site.

Moved by H. Schillings, Seconded by B. Smith,
That the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee is in support of the application to amend the Durham Regional Official Plan to permit the expansion of aggregate resource extraction area #30 in the Township of Uxbridge.

CARRIED

H) 2024 Farm Tour

D. Risebrough advised that there was a subcommittee meeting held on May 2, 2024 to review the invitation list and the next step is to provide the “save the date” to additional people added to the list. Pictures for the invitations need to be done within the next 10 days to capture the apple blossoms. There will be another subcommittee meeting prior to the next DAAC meeting to discuss the format and schedule of the day and make the final decision on a keynote speaker.

Discussion ensued with regards to whether people movers were required for the farm tour and potentially renting the old trolley streetcar for that purpose.

6. Information Items

A) OMAFRA Consultation: Rural Economic Development Strategy

M. Scott advised that OMAFRA is seeking input from people across Ontario to inform the creation of a rural economic development strategy to help improve economic opportunities, create jobs and support economic growth. The Consultation: Rural Economic Development Strategy was provided as a link to the agenda and received.

B) Durham Food Policy Council – The Durham Food System Report Card 2024

The Durham Food System Report Card 2024 by Durham Food Policy Council was provided as a link to the agenda and received.

C) Correspondence – Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Resolution re: Stormwater Management Fees

Correspondence from the Regional Municipality of Durham with regards to Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Resolution re: Stormwater Management Fees was provided as Attachment #5 to the agenda and received.

D) OFA Memo – Stormwater Management Fees

Memorandum from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) with regards to Stormwater Management Fees was provided as Attachment #6 to the agenda and received.

E) Regional Official Plan Amendment #197 – Notice That Decision of Regional Council is Final

Notice That Decision of Regional Council is Final with respect to Amendment #197 to the Durham Regional Official Plan, File: OPA 2023-001, was provided as Attachment #7 to the agenda and received.

F) Notice of Adoption of Regional Official Plan Amendment #198

Notice of Adoption with respect to Amendment #198 to the Durham Regional Official Plan, File: OPA 2023-002, was provided as Attachment #8 to the agenda and received.

G) Review of Proposed Policies Adapted from A Place to Grow and Provincial Policy Statement to Form a New Provincial Planning Policy Instrument

Review of proposed policies adapted from A Place to Grow and Provincial Policy Statement to form a new provincial planning policy instrument was provided as a link to the agenda and received.

H) Review of Proposed Policies for a New Provincial Planning Policy Instrument

Review of proposed policies for a new provincial planning policy instrument was provided as a link to the agenda and received.

I) Proposed Provincial Planning Statement

The Proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2024, Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting #019-8462 from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing was provided as a link to the agenda and received.

J) Bill 195, the Proposed Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024 – Housing Initiatives

Bill 195, the Proposed Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024 – Housing Initiatives was provided as a link to the agenda and received.

K) Correspondence – Township of Brock – DAAC Resolution – Backyard Chickens within Urban and Rural Settlement Areas

Correspondence from the Town of Brock with regards to DAAC Resolution – Backyard Chickens within Urban and Rural Settlement Areas was provided as Attachment #13 to the agenda and received.

7. Other Business

There was no other business to be considered.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 starting at 7:30 PM.

9. Adjournment

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by M. Shiers,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Z. Cohoon, Chair

K. Smith, Committee Clerk

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 21, 2024

A meeting of the Transit Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:02 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Crawford, Chair
A. Andrus*, Community Group, Participation House
M. Bonk, Brock
R. Claxton-Oldfield, Member at Large
P. Gunti*, Clarington, Vice-Chair
W. Henshall*, AAC
J. McEwen, AAC
A. Mujeeb*, Pickering attended the meeting at 7:12 PM
T. Ralph, Whitby
T. Smale, Member at Large attended the meeting at 7:09 PM
J. Westerman, Oshawa
R. Smith, Community Group, Durham Association for Family Resources
*** denotes members of the Committee participating electronically**

Absent: A. Ali, Ajax
I. Giffin, Uxbridge

Staff

Present: F. Amin, Administrative Assistant, Durham Region Transit
M. Fitzgibbon*, Policy Advisor, Innovation
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
J. Kilgour, Deputy General Manager, Maintenance, Durham Region Transit
J. Lopez-Wilson*, Policy Advisor, Innovation
N. Lysaght*, Manager, Policy and Planning, Durham Region Transit
Z. Osime-Fakolade*, Program Manager, Engagement and Change Management, Durham Region Transit, attended the meeting at 7:30 PM
A. Pezzetti*, Deputy General Manager, Operations, Durham Region Transit
S. Dessureault, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
*** denotes staff participating electronically**

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

A) Durham Region Transit Advisory Committee meeting – February 20, 2024

R. Smith request an update on when to anticipate a response regarding the feasibility of allowing On Demand vehicles to use transit lanes due to the Region of Durham’s Traffic and Parking By-law.

F. Admin advised that a response would be provided at a later date.

Moved by J. McEwen, Seconded by R. Claxton-Oldfield,
That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Transit Advisory
Committee meeting held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, be adopted.
CARRIED

B) Special Durham Region Transit Advisory Committee meeting – May 1, 2024

Moved by M. Bonk, Seconded by T. Ralph,
That the minutes of the special Durham Region Transit Advisory
Committee meeting held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Zefe Osime-Fakolade, Program Manager, Community Engagement and Change Management, Durham Region Transit, re: Sunflower Program

F. Admin, Administrative Assistant, Durham Region Transit provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the Sunflower Program in the absence of Z. Osime-Fakolade, Program Manager, Community Engagement and Change Management, Durham Region Transit.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- What is the Sunflower Program?
- What does this mean for Durham Region Transit (DRT)?

F. Admin responded to questions from the Committee regarding when the Sunflower program will be implemented; and whether the training videos for staff will be provided to the Committee to ensure they are inclusive to all.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations.

6. Correspondence Items

There were no communication items to be considered.

7. Information Items

There were no information items to be considered.

8. Discussion Items

A) AODA Standards

W. Henshall advised of an accessibility and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) concern with respect to the Region of Durham's expanding Rapid Transit Systems, related to the placement of shelters.

Discussion ensued regarding enhancing the placement of shelters to facilitate easier access for DRT riders; and the possibility of having the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) team provide an update to the Committee.

Chair Crawford requested scheduling a Rapid Transit Update presentation for a meeting in the fall.

B) Review of Identified Priority Focus Areas

J. Lopez-Wilson, Policy Advisor, Innovation, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to a review of the identified priority focus areas - Design Dash Follow-Up Session.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Design Dash Recap
- Innovation: An Iterative Process
- Practical Vision
- Strengths
- Challenges
- Priority Focus Areas
- Next Steps

J. Lopez-Wilson responded to questions from the Committee regarding the survey tool utilized for the survey.

Discussion ensued regarding the utilization of broad terminology in relation to the priority focus areas and the individual interpretation of those terms.

Staffed advised that Committee members are welcome to suggest any changes through the survey they will be completing.

Discussion ensured regarding the survey deadline and it was requested that the Committee be given an additional week to complete it.

Staff advised that the survey deadline would be extended to June 10, 2024.

C) Motion re: Construction of Stations for the Lakeshore East Go Train Extension to Bowmanville

J. McEwen advised the Committee that Metrolinx will only be funding and constructing train platforms at new station stops and requires the private sector to fund and construct station buildings and associated infrastructure at all new stops along the Bowmanville Go train extension. J. McEwen also advised that the lack of infrastructure proposed could negatively affect Region of Durham residents who use public transit, especially those with accessibility issues, and that the Region of Durham could assist with the project delivery by taking financial responsibility.

Discussion ensued regarding the safety elements of this construction for all residents of the Region of Durham; similar issues occurring at other Go stations in the Region of Durham; the impact of funding shortages on DRT; and whether the Region of Durham should be responsible for constructing Go station buildings and associated infrastructure.

Moved by J. McEwen, Seconded by W. Henshall,

That we recommend to the Transit Executive Committee for approval:

Whereas the Transit Advisory Committee takes the position that Metrolinx must construct station buildings and associated infrastructure at all stops for the Lakeshore East Go train extension to Bowmanville before the extension opens for the following reasons:

- i) To protect Durham Region's ridership from nature's harsh elements;
- ii) To house properly designed accessible washrooms; and
- iii) To ensure the safety of individuals utilizing transit connections;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Transit Advisory Committee supports Durham Region's potential decisions to financially assist with project delivery for the Bowmanville GO train extension and with the objective of collecting charges as new development proceeds around the new station sites;

And further that if Durham Region Council concludes that the Metrolinx Market Driven Strategy is not a viable funding option in Durham Region, that the Ontario government be requested to fully fund the Bowmanville GO train extension, including all station developments.

CARRIED AS AMENDED
(See Following Motion)

Moved by J. McEwen, Seconded by W. Henshall,
That the main motion of J. McEwen and W. Henshall be amended by
deleting the third paragraph in its entirety and replacing it with the
following:

Now therefore be it resolved that the Transit Executive Committee coordinate
with the Region to request Metrolinx to fully fund the Bowmanville GO train
extension, including all associated infrastructure and stations;

CARRIED

The main motion of J. McEwen and W. Henshall was then put to a vote and
CARRIED AS AMENDED

9. Other Business

A) Clean Buses in Canada Conference

Chair Crawford announced having been a keynote speaker at the Clean Buses in
Canada Conference on May 16, 2024 and that the Region of Durham will have six
electric buses by the fall of this year.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM

11. Adjournment

Moved by T. Smale, Seconded by J. Westerman,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

M. Crawford, Chair, Transit Advisory Committee

Sarah Dessureault, Committee Clerk

The Regional Municipality of Durham

Minutes

Energy From Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

A meeting of the Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Gordon, Whitby, Chair
G. Baswick, Clarington
G. Best, Whitby
R. Fleming, Pickering
P. Haylock, Clarington, Vice-Chair
T. Shomar, Clarington
J. Vinson, Clarington

***all members of the Committee participated electronically**

Absent: M. Cannon, Oshawa
K. Palinka, Oshawa

Non-Voting Members

Present: Councillor Elhajjeh, Local Councillor, Municipality of Clarington
S. Kaur, Environmental Specialist, Covanta
B. Parayankuzhiyil, Facility Manager, Covanta
N. Ratnasingam, Climate Action Response Coordinator

***all non-voting members of the Committee participated electronically**

Staff

Present: J. Ahmadian-Yazdi, Medical Resident Placement
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
A. Di Pietro, Director, Health Protection
K. Dykman, Supervisor, Waste Services
A. Evans, Director, Waste Management Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist – Information Technology
L. Saha, Manager, Waste Services
D. San Juan, Environmental Health Specialist, Health Department, Durham Region
N. Williams, Project Manager, Waste Services

***all staff members participated electronically**

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by T. Shomar, Seconded by P. Haylock,
That the minutes of the EFW-WMAC meeting held on Tuesday,
February 27, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

There were no presentations heard.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations heard.

6. Correspondence

- A) Email correspondence and five references from Linda Gasser and on Behalf of Wendy Bracken, dated May 27, 2024, re: Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding the Durham York Energy Centre [Item 8. E]

Moved by T. Shomar, Seconded by G. Best,
That we recommend to the Works Committee:

That the Works Committee request that Region of Durham staff produce the promised Council Information Report prior to proceeding with the Environmental Compliance Application (ECA).

CARRIED

7. Administrative Matters

- A) EFW-WMAC Work Plan (2023-2024) – Working Group Appointments

A. Evans reminded the committee members of the three areas of the workplan that could be further investigated:

1. Plan and Program Implementation (as it relates to the Long-Term Waste Management Plan, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), and changes and enhancements to the Region's Organics Program);
2. Diversion Program Assessment (review and assess opportunities for the Region to optimize and increase diversion opportunities within Durham Region); and

3. Technology and Facility Review (reviewing key technologies which are or may be utilized by the Region in delivery of waste management services).

Discussion ensued regarding the formation of working groups associated with the three areas of the workplan identified previously.

Moved by P. Haylock, Seconded by G. Gordon,
That T. Shomar, R. Fleming, and G. Best be appointed to the Plan
and Program Implementation Working Group.

CARRIED

8. Other Business

- A) Update by Lipika Saha, Manager, Waste Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding 2024 Community and Outreach Activities

L. Saha highlighted community and outreach activities across the Region.

R. Fleming shared with the Committee that she attended the Compost Giveaway event that was held in the City of Pickering and had a great time. She advised that many broken blue boxes were exchanged and that many residents also purchased extra blue boxes.

- B) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Extended Producer Responsibility

A. Evans advised that there has been a lot of interest in extended producer responsibility (EPR) and reminded the Committee that it will take effect July 1, 2024, resulting in the private sector taking over the recycling program within Ontario. He advised that all 8 municipalities are at the mid point of the transition, and that Durham staff are working to wrap up current contracts as required and ensure that the right messaging is being provided to the residents with respect to the transition to EPR.

- C) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Expanded Green Bin Program

A. Evans advised that the expanded Green Bin Program will also begin July 1, 2024, which means that additional materials will be allowed to go into the green bin because of enhancements made at the collection facilities.

A. Evans responded to questions from the Committee regarding hand-out materials that could be provided to residents at Local Environment Day on June 13, 2024; and whether there will be green bins located in local parks.

- D) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Automated Cart-Based Garbage Collection Pilot Project

A. Evans advised that staff are looking at an automated cart-based system similar to what the City of Toronto uses, for the Region. He advised that staff have sought permission to complete a pilot program for the cart-based system in the Town of Ajax and the Township of Scugog.

A. Evans responded to questions from the Committee regarding how big the carts would be and roughly how many garbage bags would fit in them.

E) Update by Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding Durham York Energy Centre

A. Evans advised that the annual operations report for the Durham York Energy Centre (DYEC) facility, as well as the DYEC audit and annual ground monitoring reports have been submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP).

A. Evans advised that Dr. Adams presented at the May 8, 2024, Works Committee meeting on Report #2024-WR-5: Durham York Energy Centre - Analysis of Ambient Air and Emissions Monitoring to Identify Local Airshed Impacts which is available on the May 8, 2024, Works Committee agenda. He also advised that the Region received correspondence from the MECP indicating that the elevation requests were denied for the screening report, and that the Region can move forward to the next stage which would be to complete the Environmental Compliance Assessment (ECA).

9. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EFW-WMAC will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, in Council Chambers, at 7:00 PM, Regional Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

10. Adjournment

Moved by G. Best, Seconded by R. Fleming,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

G. Gordon, Chair, Energy from Waste – Waste
Management Advisory Committee

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk