



## The Regional Municipality of Durham COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, June 27, 2025

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- June 12, 2025

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- June 17, 2025

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- June 19, 2025

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at [clerks@durham.ca](mailto:clerks@durham.ca), if you wish to pull an item from this CIP and include on the next regular agenda of the appropriate Standing Committee. Items will be added to the agenda if the Regional Clerk is advised not later than noon the day prior to the meeting, otherwise the item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the applicable Committee.

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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner of Works  
Report: #2025-INFO-55  
Date: June 27, 2025

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**Subject:**

Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a. Provide an overview of the Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines project and progress to date;
- b. Outline the process and timing for implementation of the Policy and Guidelines; and,
- c. Provide background information and explain the relationship to the Regional Municipality of Durham's (Region) Strategic Plan and other key policies.

**2. Background**

2.1 One of the most significant influences that the Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) has on its communities and residents is through the delivery of capital infrastructure projects. The Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines are

meant to translate the Region's sustainability commitments into clear guidance for the design and construction of new capital projects and major renovations.

- 2.2 The Region has been proactive in aligning its capital infrastructure projects with sustainable practices and regulatory practices. The Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Guideline is building upon this by providing a Durham-specific tool for Transportation, Water and Wastewater, and Waste Management projects and facilities to support operationalization of the Region's Strategic Plan and sustainability values and goals at the project level. The policy and guideline will only apply to new regional capital projects and significant retrofits, and is meant to define processes, procedures and performance outcomes. It is not meant to replace existing engineering practices or regulatory requirements.
- 2.3 The Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines were developed to align where possible with industry best practices in sustainable design. The reference point selected was the Envision® framework. Envision was developed through collaboration between the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI) and Harvard's Zofnass Program. ISI, founded by major engineering and public works organizations, sought a standardized framework for sustainable infrastructure, involving federal agencies, universities, consultants, and municipalities. The framework aims to improve infrastructure performance and resiliency across all sustainability dimensions.
- 2.4 The Envision framework provides for sustainability metrics across 64 criteria grouped into five categories:
- Quality of Life – Impact on communities and social well-being.
  - Leadership – Commitment from owners, leaders, and builders.
  - Resource Allocation – Management of renewable/non-renewable resources.
  - Natural World – Ecosystem preservation and positive interactions.
  - Climate and Risk – Reducing emissions and enhancing resilience.
- 2.5 The Envision framework provides project teams with guidance to promote lifecycle integration, stakeholder collaboration, and overall sustainable design. The ISI also offers credential training (Envision Sustainability Professional credential) and projects that meet the intent and requirements of the Envision

framework can obtain third-party certification in recognition of excellence in sustainable design.

### **3. Process and Timing**

#### **Policy Launch Date**

- 3.1 The launch date for this policy is anticipated to be Q3 2025 in draft for the pilot application for Capital Project Delivery projects and the final formal launch will be in 2026 for all Works Department divisions.

#### **Implementation Timeline**

- 3.2 Phase 1 (Policy Development) and Phase 2 (Transportation Guidelines) of this project are complete. Draft documents were reviewed by senior staff covering a range of sustainability and strategic planning topics.
- 3.3 Phases 3 and 4 will be for water and wastewater as well as waste and other regional infrastructure not covered elsewhere, respectively. These guidelines are proposed to be complete by 2026. The Region received funding approval on May 6, 2025 from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grant application process to provide funding support for this scope of work in the amount of \$197,080.

#### **Annual Review and Update**

- 3.4 An annual review will be conducted by Works Department project managers and senior leadership team to ensure alignment with best practices and strategic goals.

#### **Policy Development Process**

- 3.5 The process for the policy development involves several departments and multiple steps. The steps include:
- a. Initial Policy and Guideline development for the Capital Project Delivery and Transportation and Field Services Divisions of the Works Department developed from Q2-Q4 2024.
  - b. Engagement of senior leadership and non-Works Department Advisors in objective setting in Q3-Q4 2024.

- c. Local Area Municipality and Conservation Authority feedback to be undertaken in Q3 2025.
- d. Pilot application on Capital Projects Delivery projects to begin in Q4 2025.
- e. Updated Policy and Guidelines encompassing all Works Department divisions to be developed by the end of 2026.
- f. Final Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines for all Works divisions to be presented to Council following collection of data from pilot projects.

### **Sustainable Infrastructure Policy Objectives**

- 3.6 The Policy establishes that Applicable Capital Projects will advance the sustainability and resilience of regional infrastructure assets, by addressing the following objectives in a fiscally responsible manner:

#### **Environmental**

- a. Limit net harm to the environment, with an emphasis on avoidance and restoration.
- b. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including embodied carbon.
- c. Build infrastructure resilient to future climate conditions.

#### **Economical**

- d. Proactively plan for long-term asset management & operations and minimize long-term operating costs.
- e. Consider cost and benefits over the asset life cycle.
- f. Support a circular economy, with an emphasis on waste avoidance.

#### **Social**

- g. Ensure consultation with equity-deserving groups as part of broader public consultation.
- h. Seek equitable benefits and long-term value for residents.
- i. Build respectful relationships with Indigenous communities.

**Governance**

- a. Procure services and materials with sustainability in mind.
- b. Establish inclusive, collaborative and transparent processes.
- c. Record, monitor and revisit sustainability processes for continuous improvement.

**3.7 The Policy further establishes that:**

- a. The Region will maintain membership with the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure and designate an ISI Administrator.
- b. The Region will implement and maintain sustainability and resilience training for staff engaged in capital project delivery.
- c. A small subset of Capital Projects may seek, where financially feasible, a minimum Silver Verification from the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure.
- d. Capital project budgeting at each stage of the planning and delivery process will allow for costs associated with facilitation of integrated design processes, conducting technical studies, innovation, and compiling of verification documentation (as required).

**4. Administration of the Policy and Guidelines**

- 4.1 The development of the Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines is a significant and progressive undertaking. Engagement conducted with peer municipalities that have implemented similar policies and guidelines to date indicated that successful implementation is dependent on continued endorsement from senior leaders and organizational support.

**Roles and Responsibilities**

- a. Works Department Commissioner: Accountable for implementation and reporting and approval of future amendments to the Policy and Guidelines.
- b. Works Department Directors: Oversee effective implementation and engage collaborators.

- c. Non-Works Department Advisors: Support implementation, reporting, and monitoring.
- d. Sustainable Infrastructure Team (SIT): Manages compliance, training, and documentation.
- e. Project Managers: Oversee project compliance and documentation.
- f. Project Teams: Implement the Policy and Guidelines.

### **Operational Procedures and Reporting**

- g. Sustainable Infrastructure Policy: An approved Policy that establishes the overall objectives, thresholds for applicable projects, requirements for simplified and comprehensive guidelines, and other administrative considerations.
- h. Sustainable infrastructure Checklist: Each project will be required to use a standardized checklist to track compliance with the guidelines at each capital project development stage. This will be developed as part of the project and include reporting on the implementation status for each guideline.
- i. Sustainable Infrastructure Document Repository: A centralized repository will be used to store all compliance documentation, including checklists, assessments, and plans, ensuring transparency and accountability.
- j. Monitoring and Reporting Process: Ensures adherence to procedures and quality of project delivery. Includes Performance Indicators such as:
  - Embodied Carbon Totals: Measure the total embodied carbon emissions for projects and track reductions over time. A tool will be developed as part of this project for use by staff and consultants.
  - Potable Water Consumption Reduction: Monitor the reduction in potable water consumption achieved through sustainable practices.
  - Waste Diversion Totals: Track the amount of waste diverted from landfills.
  - Restored Natural Heritage Areas: Measure the total net area of restored or created natural heritage and habitat areas.

- Sustainable Procurement Achievements: Track the percentage of the total project budget spent on sustainable procurement.
- k. Allow for feedback mechanisms including:
- Staff and Consultant Feedback: Solicit feedback from staff and consultants during the pilot phase and ongoing implementation to identify areas for improvement.
  - Training and Orientation: Regular training sessions and peer-to-peer learning opportunities will help ensure staff are well-equipped to implement the guidelines effectively.
  - Annual Review: Conduct annual reviews of the policy and guidelines to ensure they remain aligned with best practices and strategic goals, seeking input from Non-Works Advisors.
- l. Complete Third-Party Verification on select projects:
- Certification: A small subset of projects will pursue third-party verification, providing an independent assessment of sustainability performance.
- m. Conduct Ongoing Reporting and Monitoring:
- Regular Reporting: Region Project Managers will report on compliance and performance indicators at each project stage including Master Planning, Project Definition, Design and Construction. This data will be compiled and integrated into existing compliance reporting processes.
  - Impact Performance Indicators: Reporting will focus on a few key indicators (e.g. carbon reduction, water savings) to demonstrate the tangible benefits of the policy and guidelines.

## **5. Training Considerations**

- 5.1 The Region will implement a structured training program for its employees, ensuring consultant support for pilot implementation of the Guidelines. These training sessions will be scheduled as needed, allowing for a systematic and sequential approach in educating different groups of employees over time.

Additionally, a standardized orientation training session will be developed and recorded, enabling staff to access the material on demand, facilitating a more flexible learning experience. To foster ongoing knowledge exchange, continuous peer-to-peer learning opportunities will be encouraged, such as presentations where teams can share insights and lessons learned from completed projects.

- 5.2 To ensure that sustainability objectives are effectively integrated into capital projects, the Region will engage external consultants and contractors who possess the necessary qualifications and expertise in this field. These professionals will play a critical role in assisting the Region with project execution while adhering to sustainability standards.
- 5.3 A Sustainable Infrastructure Team (SIT) will be established to manage training needs. This team will oversee various aspects of training, ensuring that employees receive the necessary guidance to apply sustainability principles effectively in their roles. Additionally, SIT will be responsible for identifying relevant credentialing opportunities for staff, such as Envision Sustainability Professional (ENV SP) training, and coordinating the necessary steps to facilitate participation in these programs.

## **6. Benefits**

### **Organizational Benefits**

- a. Improved Project Management: Clear guidelines and procedures will enhance project planning, design, and construction processes.
- b. Clearer, Centralized Record Keeping for Projects: Ensures efficient and organized documentation.
- c. Capacity Building: Training and development programs will build staff capacity and expertise in sustainable infrastructure practices.
- d. Enhanced Reputation: Enhancing the Region's reputation as a forward-thinking and responsible community.

### **Environmental Benefits**

- e. Reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions: By prioritizing low-carbon materials and construction practices, the Region can significantly reduce its corporate carbon footprint. This includes performing a quantitative GHG



assessment as part of the Transportation Master Plan and assessing the relative GHG impacts from modal shift potential and journey time improvements and weighing alternatives against other evaluation criteria.

- f. Enhanced Climate Resilience: Infrastructure designed to withstand future climate conditions will be more resilient to extreme weather events and climate change impacts.
- g. Improved Air and Water Quality: Through sustainable practices such as green infrastructure and low-impact development.
- h. Biodiversity and Habitat Preservation: Projects will aim to avoid and restore natural habitats, supporting local biodiversity.
- i. Embodied Carbon Assessment: Completing an embodied carbon assessment for all capital projects and identifying potential material selection or design strategies to achieve lower embodied carbon emissions.

### **Economic Benefits**

- j. Cost Savings Over Lifecycle: Considering costs over the asset life cycle can lead to long-term savings through reduced maintenance and operational costs. This includes supporting cost-effective infrastructure development through lifecycle cost analysis and sustainable procurement practices.

### **Social Benefits**

- k. Enhanced Public Health and Safety: Infrastructure that promotes active transportation and reduces environmental hazards will contribute to healthier, safer communities.
- l. Equitable Benefits for Residents: Projects will seek to provide long-term value and equitable benefits for all residents, including marginalized communities.
- m. Community Engagement: Inclusive and transparent processes will foster stronger relationships with the community and stakeholders.

## Strategic Alignment

- n. Support for Regional Strategic Goals: The Policy aligns with the Region's strategic plan, including goals for environmental sustainability, connected communities, and resilient economies.
- o. Demonstrating Compliance with or Exceeding Regulatory Requirements: Ensures that infrastructure projects meet or exceed regulatory requirements, reducing the risk of non-compliance.

## 7. Costs

7.1 The costs of mainstreaming the Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines into Regional capital projects is anticipated to be nominal, accounting for:

- Capital Costs – additional capital elements aimed at addressing risks or promoting sustainable performance. A pilot application of the Policy and Guidelines will better inform these impacts.
- Certification Costs – fixed costs charged by ISI.
- Resources – training and administration for tracking and reporting.

## 8. Relationship to Strategic Plan

8.1 This report integrates the relevant pathways under each of the five strategic priorities outlined in the Durham Region Strategic Plan. By doing so, we ensure a holistic approach to our sustainable infrastructure policy and guidelines.

- a. Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action: Aligns with goals to reduce GHG emissions, improve air quality, promote energy conservation, and enhance climate resilience.
- b. Connected and Vibrant Communities: Supports infrastructure that fosters community connectivity and vibrancy.
- c. Healthy People, Caring Communities: Promotes infrastructure that contributes to public health and well-being.
- d. Resilient Local Economies: Encourages sustainable economic growth through resilient infrastructure.

- e. Strong Relationships: Builds partnerships with Indigenous Rights holders and other key collaborators.

## 9. Conclusion

- 9.1 The proposed Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Guidelines provide a comprehensive framework for enhancing the sustainability of Regional infrastructure. They will enable us to trial and collect data on our approach to projects, allowing us to track sustainability outcomes in capital projects. They will also enhance the Region's competitiveness for funding from senior levels of government (e.g. Federation of Canadian Municipalities).
- 9.2 For inquiries, please contact:
  - a. Kelly Murphy, Project Engineer, Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Planning, Works – kelly.murphy@durham.ca
  - b. Ian McVey, Manager, Sustainability, Strategic Initiatives Division, Office of the CAO – ian.mcvey@durham.ca

Respectfully submitted,

### Original signed by:

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Ramesh Jagannathan, MBA, M.Eng., P.Eng., PTOE  
Commissioner of Works

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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner of Works  
Report: #2025-INFO-56  
Date: June 27, 2025

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## **Subject:**

Proposed Amendments to the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act and Blue Box Regulations and Impacts to Service in Designated Business Areas

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## **Recommendation:**

Receive for information

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## **Report:**

### **1. Purpose**

- i) The purpose of this report is to provide an update on recently proposed amendments to the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016* (RRCEA) and the Blue Box Regulation 391/21 (Regulation); and
- ii) To provide an update on potential impacts of these proposals to Blue Box collection services to small businesses still serviced by the Region particularly in Designated Business Areas (DBA).

### **2. Background**

- 2.1 In June 2021, the Province of Ontario released Regulation 391/21 Blue Box under the Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016, which shifts the financial and operational responsibility of blue box recycling from municipalities to the Producers of packaging, paper and packaging-like products. The Regulation takes full effect province-wide on January 1, 2026.

- 2.2 The Regulation defines eligible sources as residences and facilities only. Facilities are defined in the regulation as residential-type buildings such as long-term care and not-for-profit retirement homes, multi-residential buildings and schools. The regulation does not include commercial or industrial establishments, including small businesses located in a DBA.
- 2.3 The new Blue Box program is managed by producers under a Common Collection System that is operated by Circular Materials (CM). CM is only obligated to collect Blue Box material generated by eligible sources as defined in the Regulation. Small businesses are not eligible sources. Ontario is currently in the three-year transition period to full implementation of the Regulation on January 1, 2026.

### **3. Previous Reports and Decisions**

- 3.1 Report [#2024-WR-2](#) titled “Update on Small Business Recycling Post Blue Box Transition” resulted in Council direction to cease Blue Box collection and processing services to small businesses in Designated Business Areas on December 31, 2025. The decision was based on the increased costs for this service due to the loss in economies of scale since the material can no longer be co-collected with residential material after December 31, 2025.

### **4. Proposed Amendments to the RRCEA and Regulation**

- 4.1 On June 4, 2025 the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) posted proposed amendments to the RRCEA and Blue Box Regulation to the Environmental Bill of Rights website. The proposals were posted with comment periods of 47 days and 30 days respectively.

#### **Key Changes Proposed for the RRCEA ([025-0536](#))**

- 4.2 The MECP has proposed two significant changes to the RRCEA:
- a. Allow the Minister to direct the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RRPA) to collect information on the design, operation and cost of Blue Box collection to evaluate the effectiveness of the Regulation.
  - b. Require producers to negotiate with municipalities to continue servicing small businesses located on residential routes at municipal cost to maintain economies of scale for supporting these businesses.

**Key Changes Proposed for the Regulation ([025-0009](#))**

- 4.3 The MECP has also proposed changes to the Blue Box Regulation. Notable proposals are outlined below:
- a. Delay the expansion of blue box collection to additional residential sources not currently serviced. This change would prevent existing multi-residential buildings not currently serviced from signing up for blue box collection starting in 2026. Existing, un-serviced multi-residential buildings and new multi-residential buildings are both impacted by this proposal. Not-for-profit long-term care homes and schools will also no longer be permitted to request producer-funded blue box collection in 2026.
  - b. Delay the phase-in of higher recovery targets for recyclable materials by five years which will freeze targets at the current levels until 2031.
  - c. Remove the requirement to collect recycling in public spaces such as parks and arenas. This change would not impact Regional operations since local area municipalities are responsible for garbage and recycling in these areas.
  - d. Allow energy recovery to count as diversion for up to 15 per cent of collected non-recyclable material. Note: this is not anticipated to impact the DYEC as the facility only accepts materials from Regional collection programs.
  - e. Allow flexibility on the promotion and education requirements for printed materials and French language materials.
- 4.4 Staff is working with municipal associations to submit comments to both proposals by the July comment deadlines. Of note, initial discussions by staff as well as other municipalities indicate that several of the proposed changes will weaken the overall recycling system and reduce improvements to outcomes.

**5. Impacts to Designated Business Areas**

- 5.1 The Region transitioned its curbside Blue Box collection to producers on July 1, 2024. During the transition period, CM agreed to allow its contractors to continue to collect small business Blue Box recycling at the Region's cost until December 31, 2025. The Region provides Blue Box recycling to approximately 2,800 small businesses, including those in DBAs, located in the City of Pickering, the Town of

- Ajax, the Town of Whitby, City of Oshawa, the Municipality of Clarington and the Townships of Brock, Uxbridge and Scugog.
- 5.2 The Regulation does not impact the Region's collection of non-hazardous garbage, Green Bin organics or leaf and yard waste from small businesses in the City of Pickering, Town of Ajax, Municipality of Clarington and the Townships of Brock, Uxbridge and Scugog. The Town of Whitby and City of Oshawa provide these services in DBAs in their respective municipalities.
- 5.3 The proposed RRCEA change to require producers to negotiate with municipalities to continue collection from small businesses could allow the current cost-effective collection of Blue Box recyclables from DBAs to continue.
- 5.4 For services to continue an agreement with the PRO's and their service providers including cost considerations would be required. This would include the need to address previous direction stemming from [Report #2024-WR-2](#).
- 5.5 Comments on the proposed changes to the RRCEA close on July 21, 2025. Municipalities have been advocating for this option and are preparing comments in support of the change to legislation to continue providing cost-effective blue box collection services to small businesses.
- 5.6 While legislation would not pass until the Provincial legislature resumes sitting in the fall, municipalities have been advised by the MECP that the Minister has made the request to PRO's that they begin to plan immediately for implementation. The intent of this has been presented as ensuring uninterrupted servicing of these areas.
- 5.7 Staff communicated the upcoming loss of service to DBAs in 2024 and planned additional communication this summer and fall. Based on the legislative proposal, staff will defer additional communication to impacted businesses until fall in anticipation there is clarity on the final legislative requirements by then.
- 5.8 Staff will report to Council in the fall with updated recommendations if required based on the outcome of the proposed changes to the RRCEA as they relate to providing blue box recycling collection to small businesses in DBAs and any discussions with the PRO's or service providers which have occurred.

## **6. Relationship to Strategic Plan**

6.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following Strategic Direction(s) and Pathway(s) in Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan:

a. Connected and Vibrant Communities

- C1. Align Regional infrastructure and asset management with projected growth, climate impacts, and community needs.
- C6. Continue to revitalize and transform downtowns into hubs of economic, social, and cultural connection.

b. Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action

- E1. Reduce corporate greenhouse gas emissions to meet established targets.
- E4. Lead the transition to sustainable living through waste management, diversion, and the circular economy.

c. Strong Relationships

- S3. Collaborate across local area municipalities, with agencies, non-profits, and community partners to deliver co-ordinated and efficient services.
- S4. Advocate to the federal and provincial government and agencies to advance regional priorities.
- S5. Ensure accountable and transparent decision-making to serve community needs, while responsibly managing available resources.

6.2 This report aligns with/addresses the following Foundation(s) in Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan:

- a. People: Making the Region of Durham a great place to work, attracting, and retaining talent.
- b. Processes: Continuously improving processes to ensure we are responsive to community needs.



**7. Conclusion**

- 7.1 Blue Box collection from small businesses in Designated Business Areas and a few grandfathered locations is currently scheduled to end on December 31, 2025.
- 7.2 Recent legislative proposals, if approved, may allow the Regional Municipality of Durham to continue the contract with producers to provide Blue Box collection in Designated Business Areas at Regional cost to continue to recycle the material.
- 7.3 Additional communications about the cancellation of blue box recycling collection to DBAs planned for this summer will be deferred until there is clarity on the proposed legislative changes.
- 7.4 For additional information, contact: Andrew Evans, Director Waste Management Services, at 905-668-4113 extension 4102 or Peter Veiga, Manager, Waste Management Operations, at extension 3720.

Respectfully submitted,

**Original signed by:**

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Ramesh Jagannathan, MBA, M.Eng., P.Eng., PTOE  
Commissioner of Works



# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development  
Report: #2025-INFO-57  
Date: June 27, 2025

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**Subject:**

2024 Annual Building Activity Review, File: D03-02

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information.

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This report summarizes the key findings of the 2024 Annual Building Activity Review (Attachment 1). This annual report includes building permit and construction activity for Durham Region and the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) for 2024, with comparisons to 2023.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Community Growth and Economic Development Department conducts ongoing monitoring activities to assess the effectiveness of Regional policies in supporting development and growth across Durham. These monitoring activities assist in identifying emerging issues and trends.
- 2.2 Building activity is monitored as an indicator of Regional housing and employment activity, the level of local investment and economic performance. It is also an indicator of the local market for various new building types. This report provides a comprehensive analysis of construction activity from the start of the process (i.e. issuance of building permits), to the construction and occupancy of new residential

units into the market. The report concludes with a comparison of Durham's building activity with the other GTHA municipalities.

- 2.3 The 2024 Annual Building Activity Review report presents key findings in both the residential and non-residential sectors along with trends, forecasts and housing market information. Attachment 2 to this report provides the background data tables and analysis used to produce the annual report.

### **3. Previous Reports and Decisions**

- 3.1 The 2023 Annual Building Activity Review and historical reports can be found on the [Planning for Growth](#) page on the Region's website.

### **4. Key Highlights**

The following summarizes key highlights from the 2024 Annual Building Activity Review:

#### **Residential building activity in Durham**

- The total value of all building permits issued in Durham decreased by 12.6%, from \$2.87 billion in 2023 to \$2.51 billion in 2024.
- Residential building permit value decreased by 18.2%, from \$1.65 billion in 2023 to \$1.35 billion in 2024.
- The total number of permits issued for new residential units in Durham decreased significantly by 38.5%, from 5,869 units in 2023 to 3,609 units in 2024.
- Nearly 27.7% of new units (999 units) in 2024 were secondary units or additional dwelling units to an existing home. Overall, there was only a slight decrease in secondary units compared to 2023 (-0.9%).
- A total of 78.8% of new residential units in Durham were in multi-residential forms, such as row houses and apartments.
- There was a 3% increase in the number of housing starts, from 3,864 in 2023 to 3,980 in 2024. At the same time, completions increased by 1.7% from 4,904 to 5,014.

- The average cost of a new single-detached dwelling in Durham increased 8.5%, from \$1,211,552 in 2023 to \$1,314,384 in 2024. It should be noted that the average cost of a new single-detached dwelling in Durham in 2024 was 14.7% below the GTHA average, compared with 11.7% lower in 2023<sup>1</sup>.
- The average price of a resale home (all dwelling types) in Durham decreased by 1.5%, from \$936,023 in 2023 to \$922,161 in 2024. The average price of a resale single-detached dwelling also decreased slightly by 0.9% from \$1,036,698 to \$1,027,096.
- Mortgage rates remained elevated, but the Bank of Canada did lower interest rates last year. The average bank rate decreased by 6.8% from 5.02% in 2023 to 4.68% in 2024.

### **Non-residential building activity in Durham**

- The value of non-residential building permits decreased by 5.2%, from \$1.23 billion in 2023 to \$1.17 billion in 2024. Only institutional and governmental sectors experienced increased building permit values in 2024 (wherein commercial, industrial, and agricultural sectors all experienced declines during this period).
- Major non-residential construction projects initiated in 2024 included:
  - a. A new long-term care facility in Pickering (\$152.5 million);
  - b. A major renovation and alteration of OPG offices in Oshawa (\$90 million);
  - c. A new industrial building in Whitby (\$70 million);
  - d. A new long-term care facility in Clarington (\$68 million);
  - e. A new industrial building in Oshawa (\$64.5 million);
  - f. Site servicing and foundation for a new school in Oshawa (\$60 million);
  - g. A new industrial warehouse in Whitby (\$47.2 million);
  - h. A new elementary school with childcare in Clarington. (\$35.4 million);
  - i. A new elementary school with childcare in Pickering (\$26 million);
  - j. Foundation system for an elementary school in Ajax (24.5 million);
  - k. Construction of a new community centre in Pickering (\$24 million); and
  - l. A new industrial warehouse in Whitby (\$22.5 million).

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<sup>1</sup> In 2024, the average cost of a new single-detached dwelling was \$1.31 million in Durham and \$1.54 million for the GTHA. This compares with \$1.21 million and \$1.36 million in 2023.

## Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area

- Across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, the total value of building permits issued (both residential and non-residential) increased by 5.0% from \$31.2 billion in 2023 to \$32.7 billion in 2024.
- In 2024, there were 56,507 building permits issued for new residential units in the GTHA, compared to 62,632 units in 2023 (-9.8%). Only Halton and Toronto experienced an increase in the number of permits issued for new residential units, while Peel, York, Hamilton, and Durham experienced decreases.
- The total value of residential building permits in the GTHA increased by 5.4%, from \$18.8 billion in 2023 to \$19.8 billion in 2024.
- The value of non-residential building permits issued in the GTHA increased by 4.5%, from \$12.4 billion in 2023 to \$12.9 billion in 2024.

## 5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

5.1 This report aligns with the following Strategic Directions and Pathways in Durham Region's 2025-2035 Strategic Plan:

### a. Connected and Vibrant Communities

- C1. Align Regional infrastructure and asset management with projected growth, climate impacts, and community needs.
- C2. Enable a full range of housing options, including housing that is affordable and close to transit.
- C5. Improve digital connectivity and multi-channel access to information, resources, and service navigation.

### b. Resilient Local Economies

- R1. Attract and retain quality employers that strengthen key economic sectors, including energy and technology.
- R2. Support the growth of new business startups and small to medium local businesses.

c. Strong Relationships

- S3. Collaborate across local area municipalities, with agencies, non-profits, and community partners to deliver co-ordinated and efficient services.

## 6. Conclusion

- 6.1 In 2024, Durham's residential sector experienced a decrease in the overall value of building permits<sup>2</sup> (-18.2%) and in the number of permits for new units (-38.5%). Most housing types experienced a significant decline last year, with the exception of secondary units. The resilience of secondary units corresponds with ongoing challenges in housing affordability, and this trend is expected to continue. Overall, historically high house prices combined with high mortgage rates impact demand for new housing in Durham.
- 6.2 Non-residential building permit value also decreased (-5.2%) compared to 2024. Commercial (-31.7%), industrial (-44.3%), and agricultural (-13.2%) sectors all experienced declines, while there was an increase for both institutional (+32.6%) and governmental sectors (+577%).
- 6.3 The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), in their Housing Market Outlook for Canada and Metropolitan Areas noted that Canada's economic future faces significant uncertainty due to potential changes in U.S. trade policies and lower immigration levels.
- 6.4 According to CMHC, Ontario's housing sales are expected to remain below the 10-year average through to the end of 2027, due to ongoing affordability challenges and the more notable impact of new immigration targets. Home price increases are expected to be modest over the forecast period<sup>3</sup>, with gradual improvements provided that mortgage rates continue to decline and there is more economic certainty later this year.
- 6.5 Regional staff continue to monitor the impact of the current economic context, monetary policy, and inflationary pressures on building activity over the course of 2025.

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<sup>2</sup> The value of residential building permits includes new units, additions, renovations, and miscellaneous alterations.

<sup>3</sup> The forecast period for the CMHC Housing Market Outlook is up until the end of 2027.

6.6 A copy of this report will be forwarded to Durham Region's area municipalities for information.

## **7. Attachments**

Attachment #1: 2024 Annual Building Activity Review

Attachment #2: Background Data Tables – by Municipality

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair  
Chief Administrative Officer



Community Growth &  
Economic Development  
Department

Attachment 1

June 2025

The background of the cover features a photograph of a construction site. A large blue tower crane stands prominently against a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a modern multi-story building with a glass and steel facade is visible. The image is overlaid with a large, semi-transparent blue and green geometric shape that frames the title text.

# 2024 Annual Building Activity Review



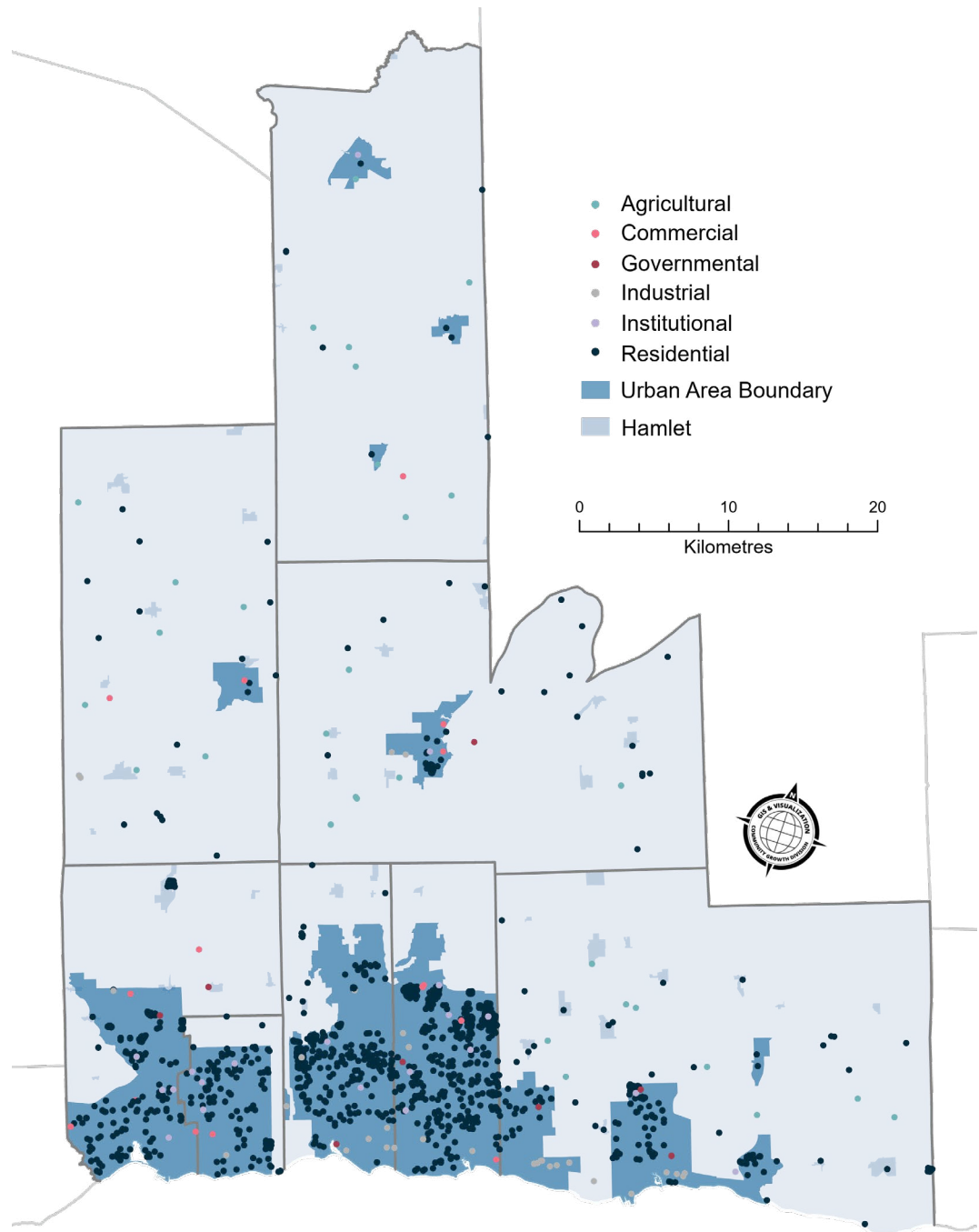
In 2024, Durham's residential sector experienced a decrease both in the number of permits for new residential units (-38.5%) and the value (-18.2%) of permits overall, compared to 2023.

The value of non-residential building permits decreased in Durham (-5.2%) compared to 2023.

Regional staff continue to monitor the impact of the current economic context, monetary policy, and inflationary pressures on building activity over the course of 2025.

The Community Growth and Economic Development Department conducts ongoing monitoring activities to assess the effectiveness of the Regional policies in supporting development and growth across Durham.

Building activity is also an indicator of regional housing and employment activity, the level of local investment, and economic performance.

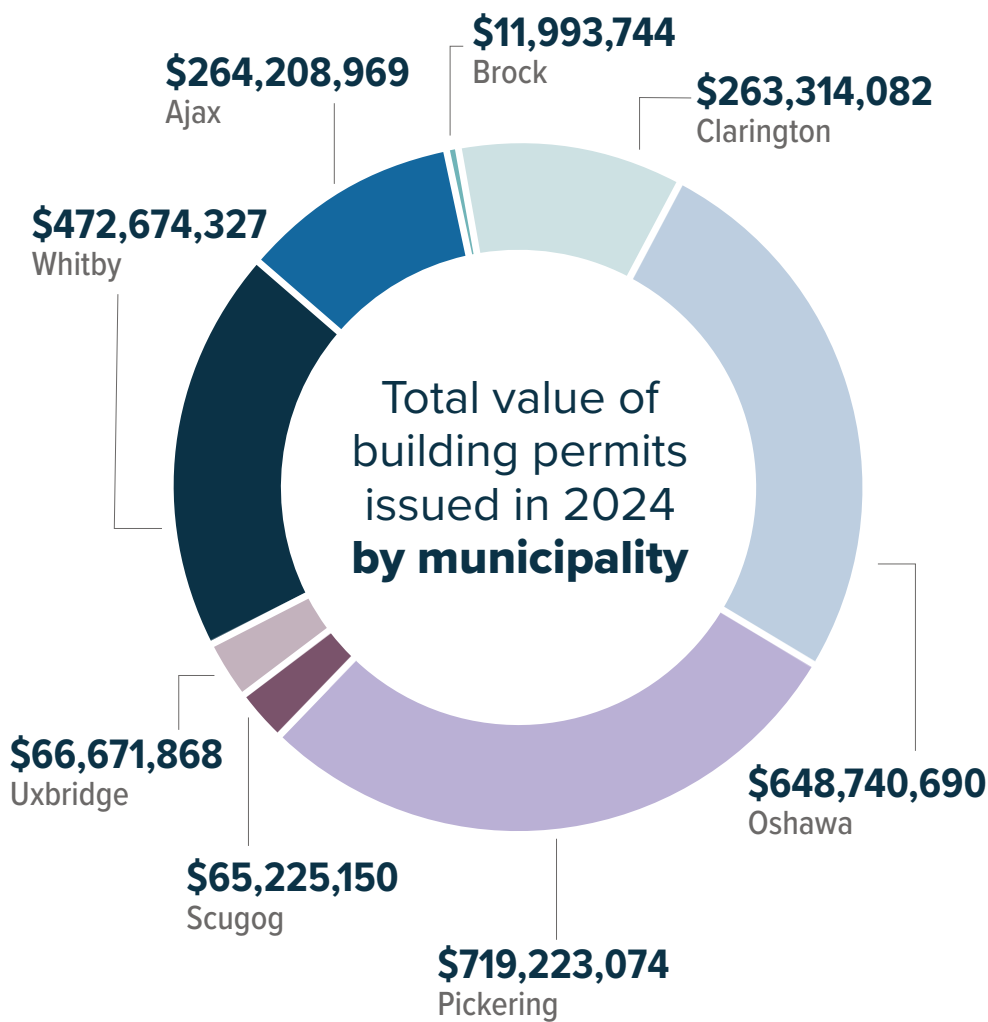


# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



## \$2,512,051,904

Total value of building permits issued



## \$1,166,553,248

Total value of non-residential permits



## \$1,345,498,656

Total value of residential permits issued



## 3,609

Permits issued for new residential units

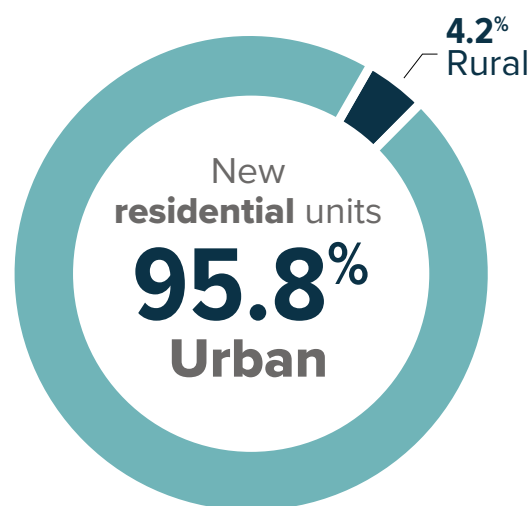
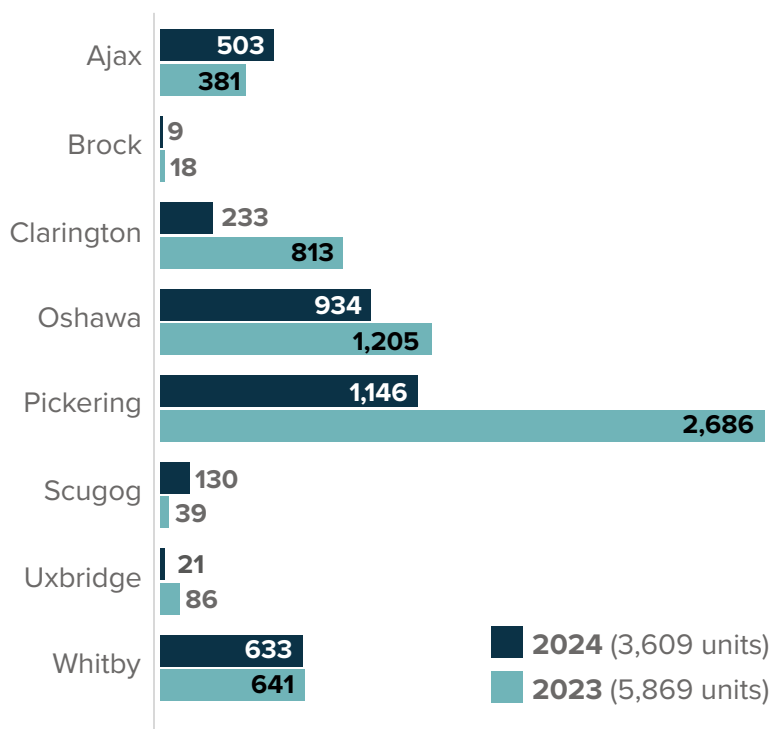


# RESIDENTIAL

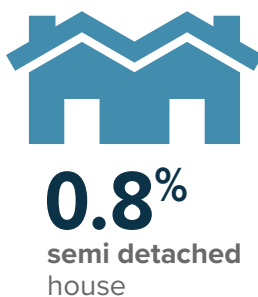


**\$1.35 billion**  
of **residential investment**  
in Durham last year

## New residential units by municipality



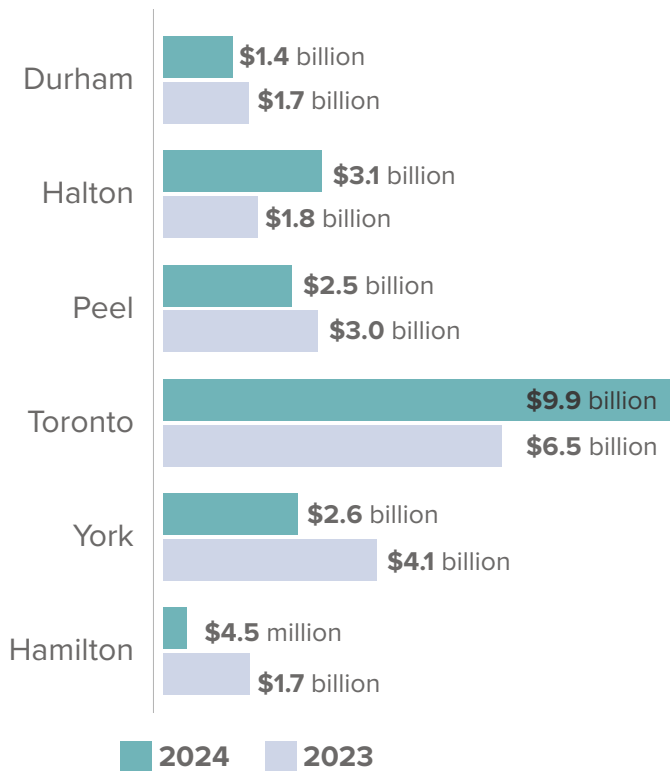
## New residential units **by type**



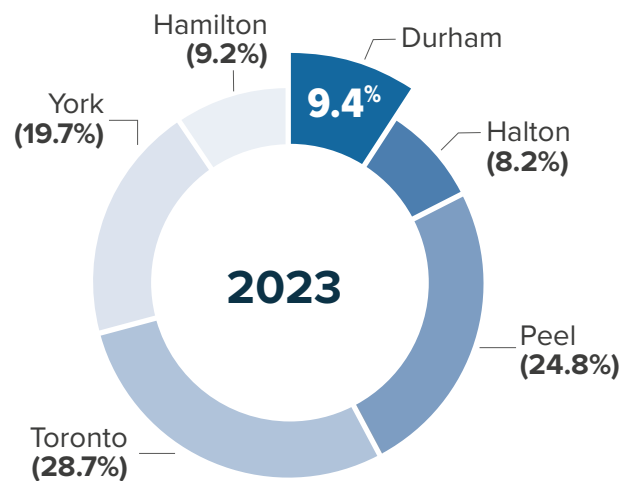
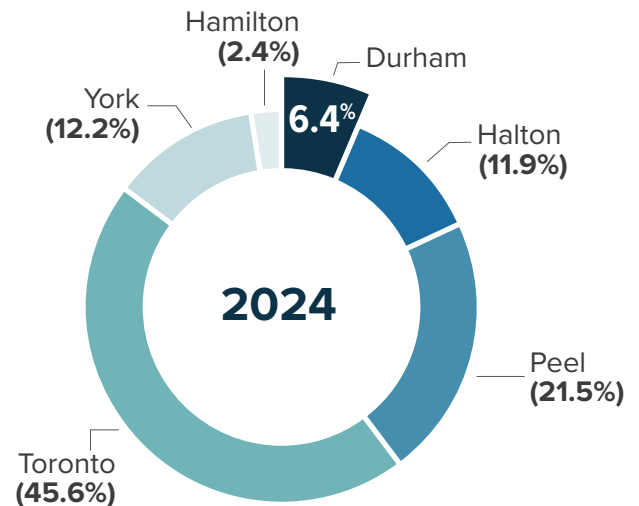
<sup>1</sup>Includes all forms of town houses, including stacked townhomes and row housing.

<sup>2</sup>Includes apartments, condominiums, and accessory apartments/dwelling units.

## Residential permit value by municipality



## New residential units by municipality



**\$19.8 billion**  
of residential investment  
in the GTHA last year



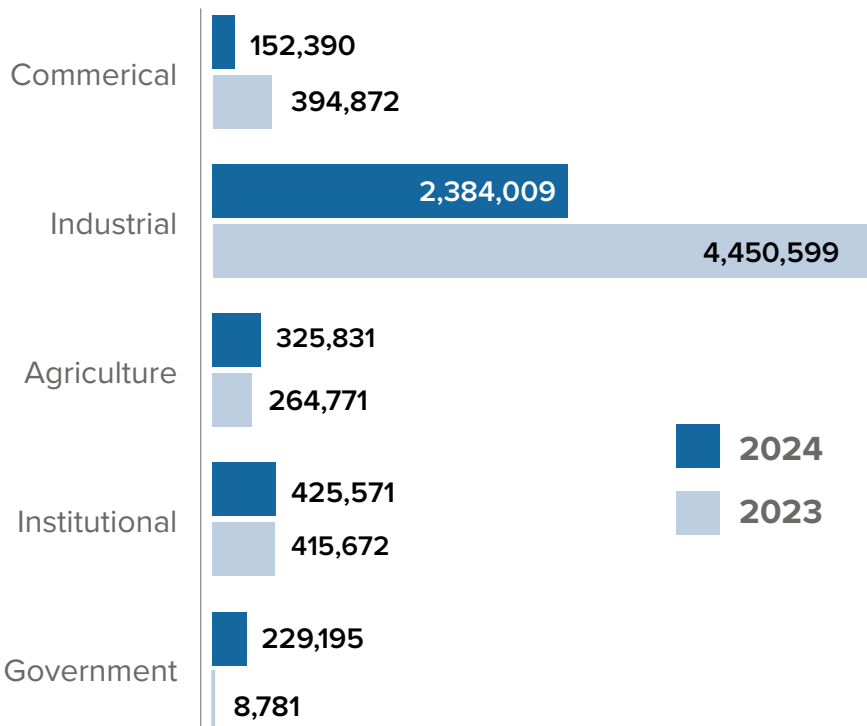
# NON-RESIDENTIAL



**\$1.17 billion**

of **non-residential investment** in  
Durham last year

## Non-residential **floorspace** (square feet)



Share of non-residential  
floorspace **by sector**



**4.3%**  
commercial



**67.8%**  
industrial



**9.3%**  
agricultural



**12.1%**  
institutional



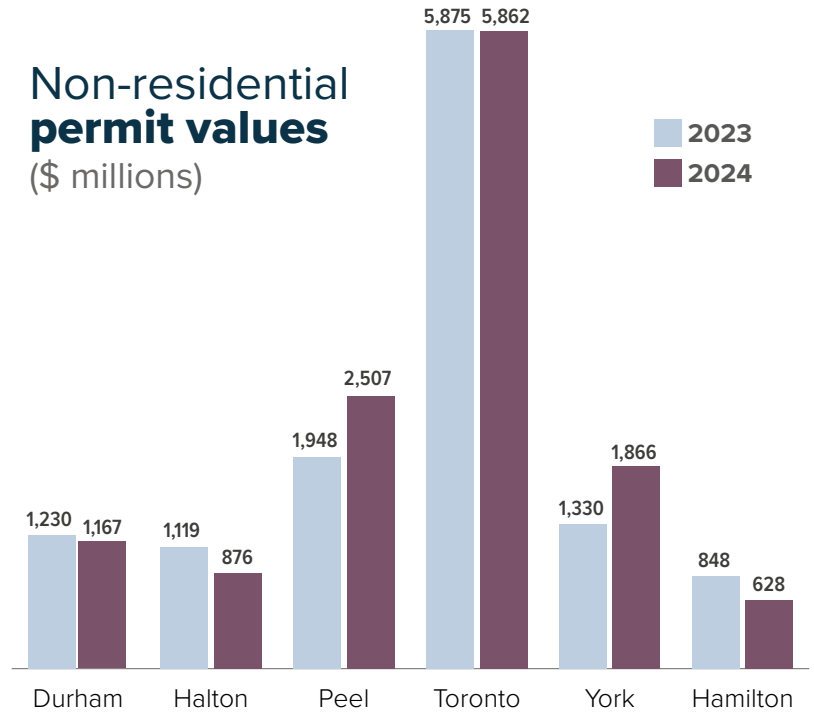
**6.5%**  
governmental



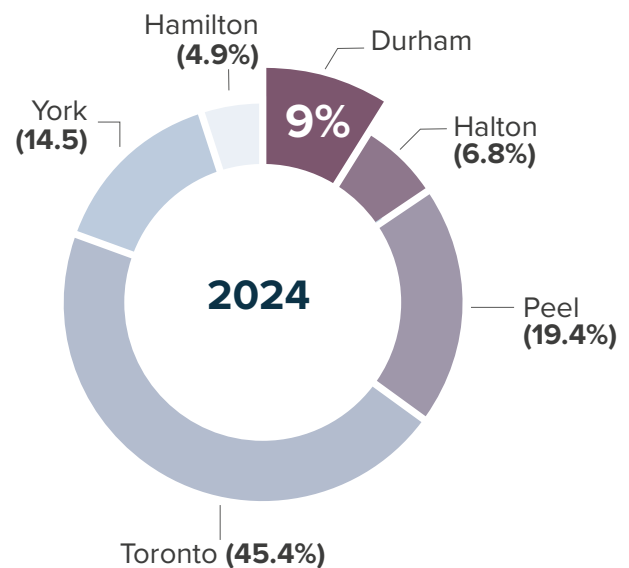
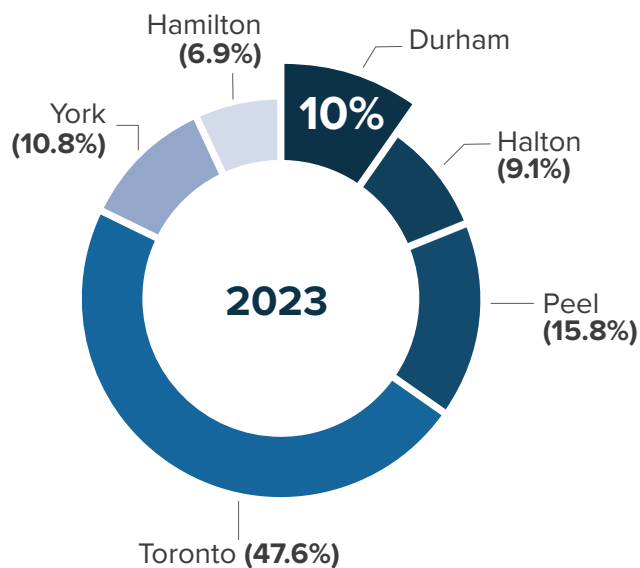
## \$12.9 billion

of **non-residential investment** in the GTHA last year

### Non-residential permit values (\$ millions)



### Non-residential investment **by municipality**

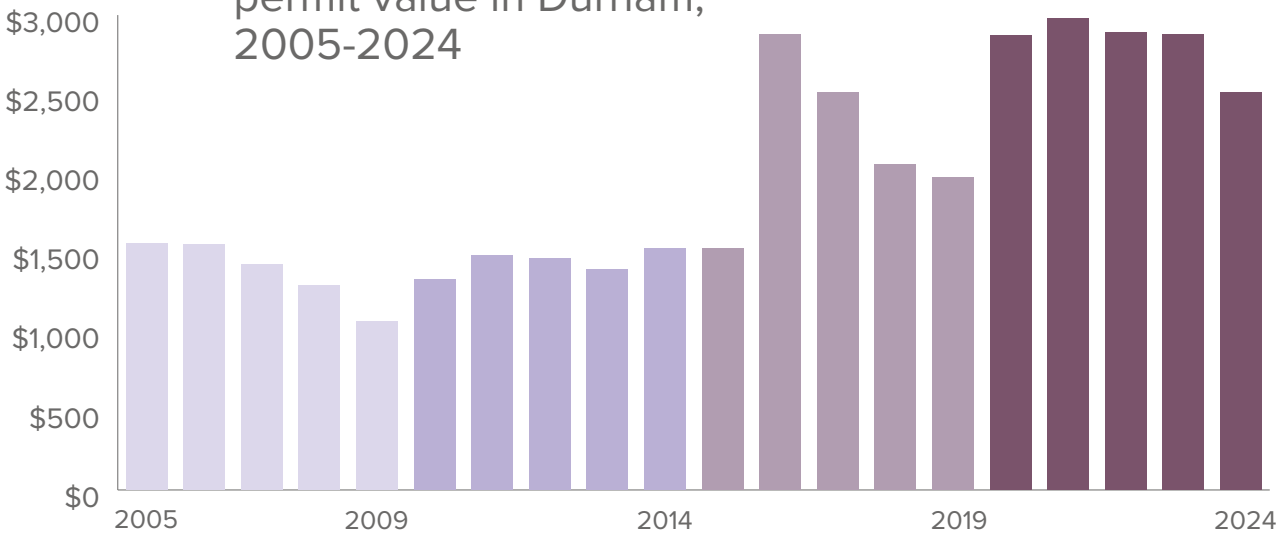


# TRENDS



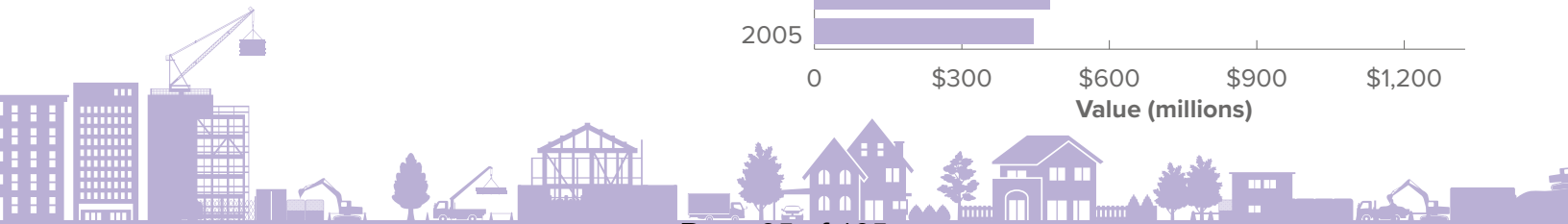
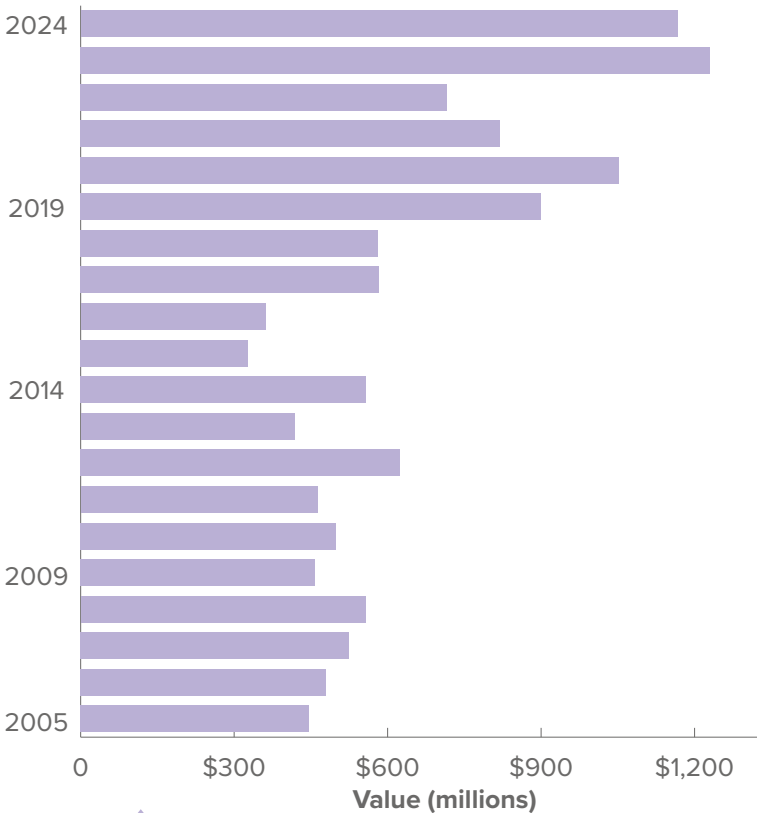
**\$1.9 billion**

average **total** annual building permit value in Durham, 2005-2024



**\$575.9 million**

average **non-residential** investment in Durham 2005-2024

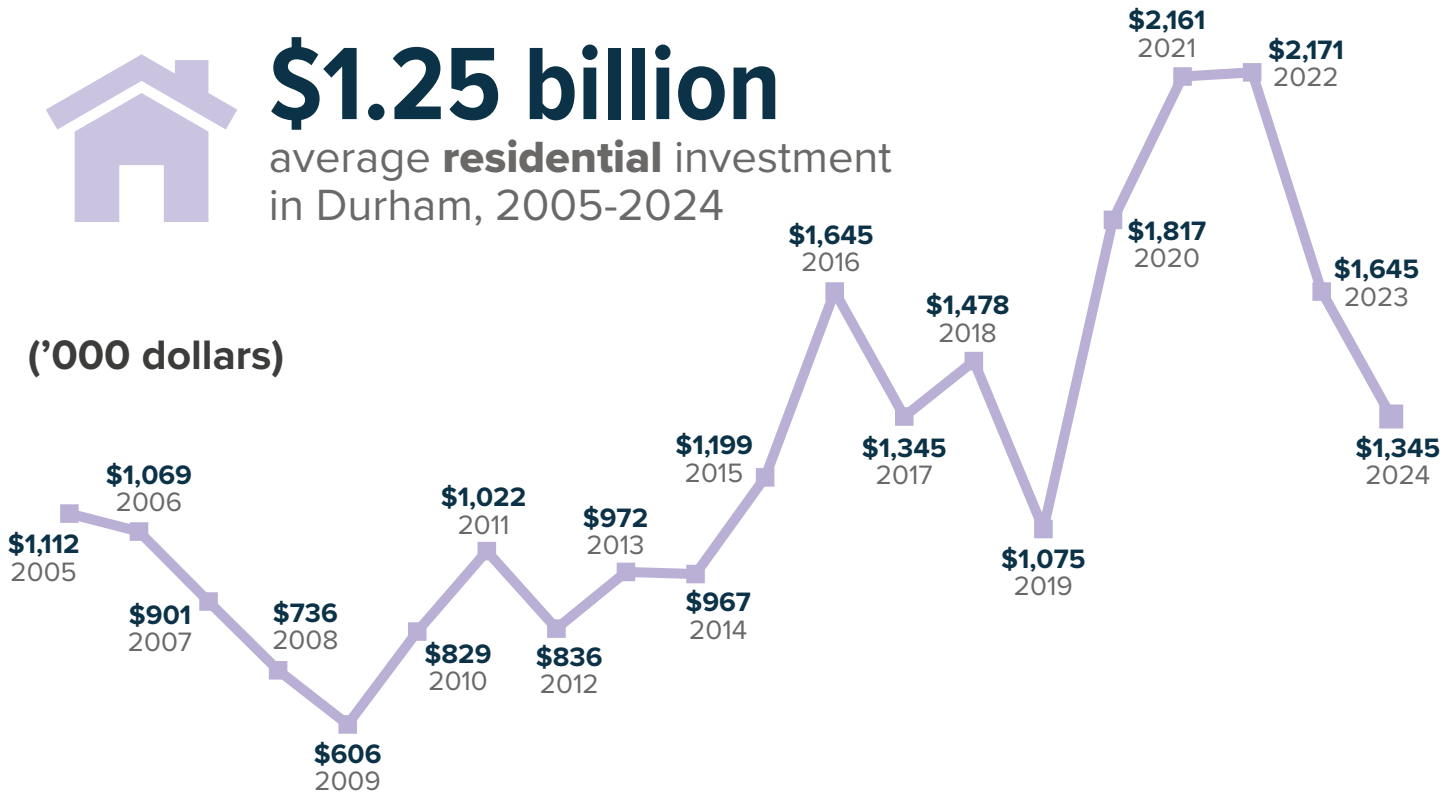




## \$1.25 billion

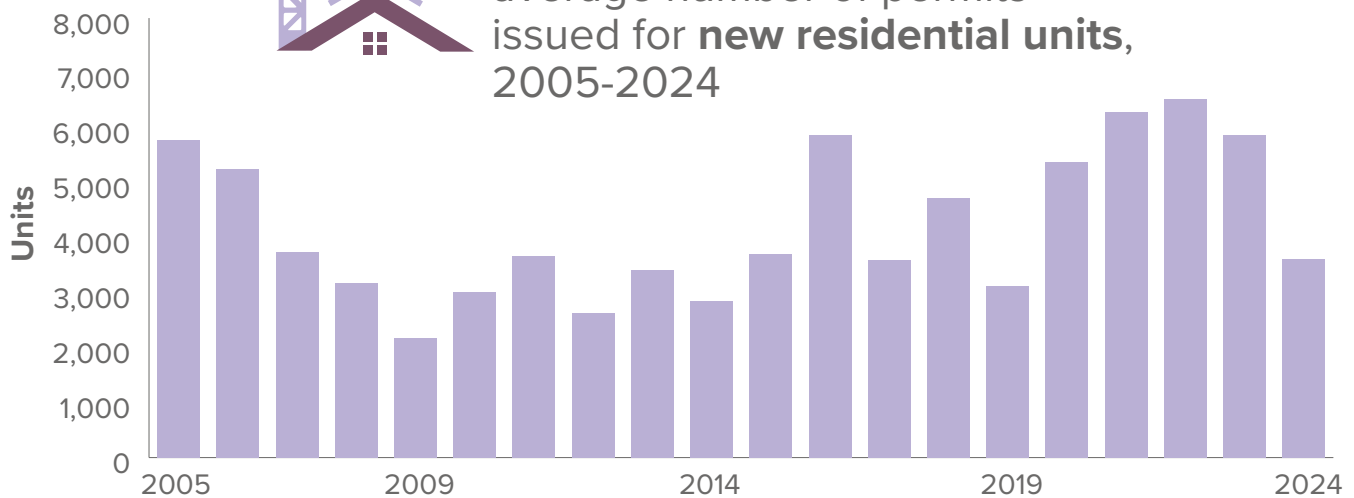
average **residential** investment  
in Durham, 2005-2024

('000 dollars)



## 4,219

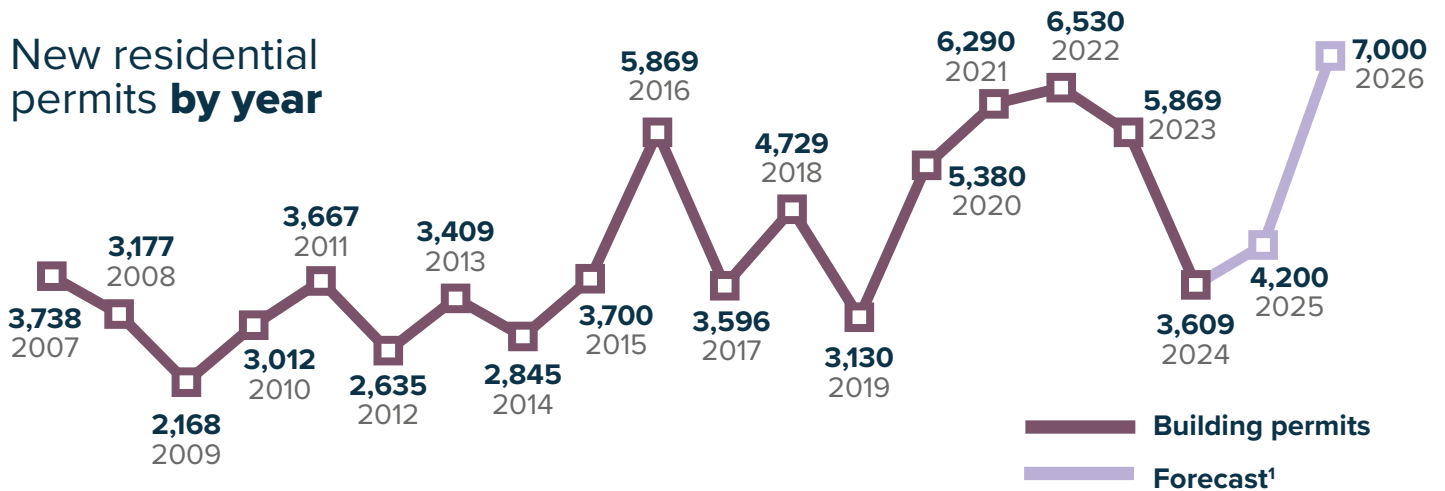
average number of permits  
issued for **new residential units**,  
2005-2024





# FORECAST

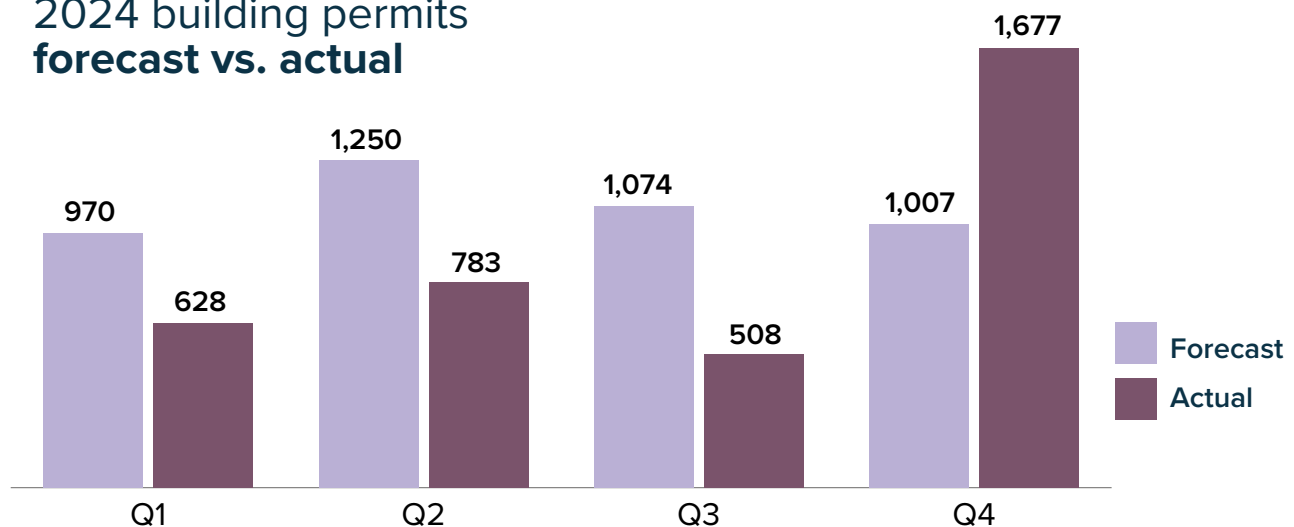
## New residential permits by year



# 4,200

Permits for new residential units expected in 2025

## 2024 building permits forecast vs. actual



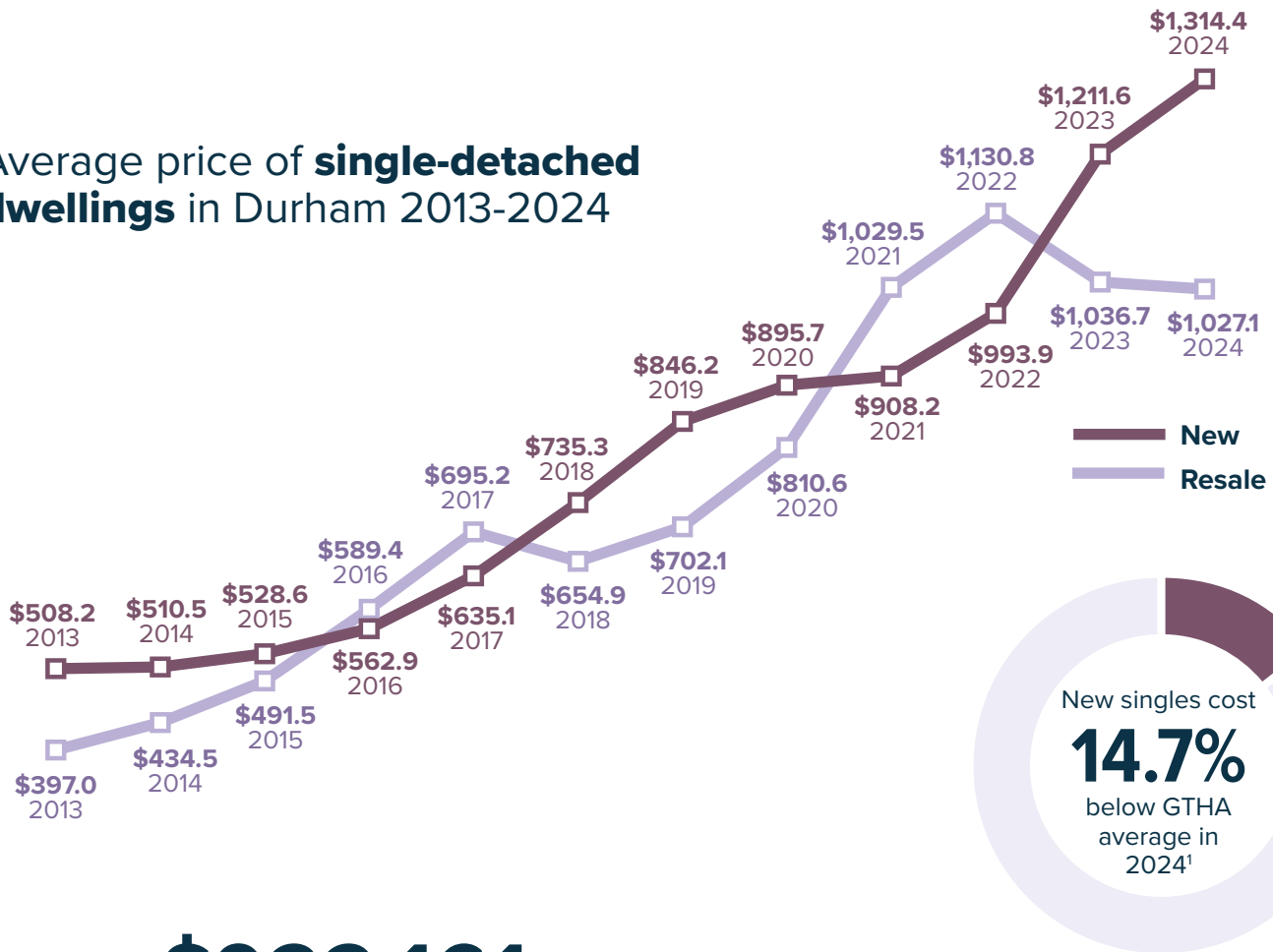
<sup>1</sup>Durham Region Community Growth & Economic Development Department - Residential growth forecasts for infrastructure planning, Spring 2024.

**Note:** The building permit forecasts are based on achieving Durham's overall population forecast of 1.3 million to 2051 as identified in Envision Durham.



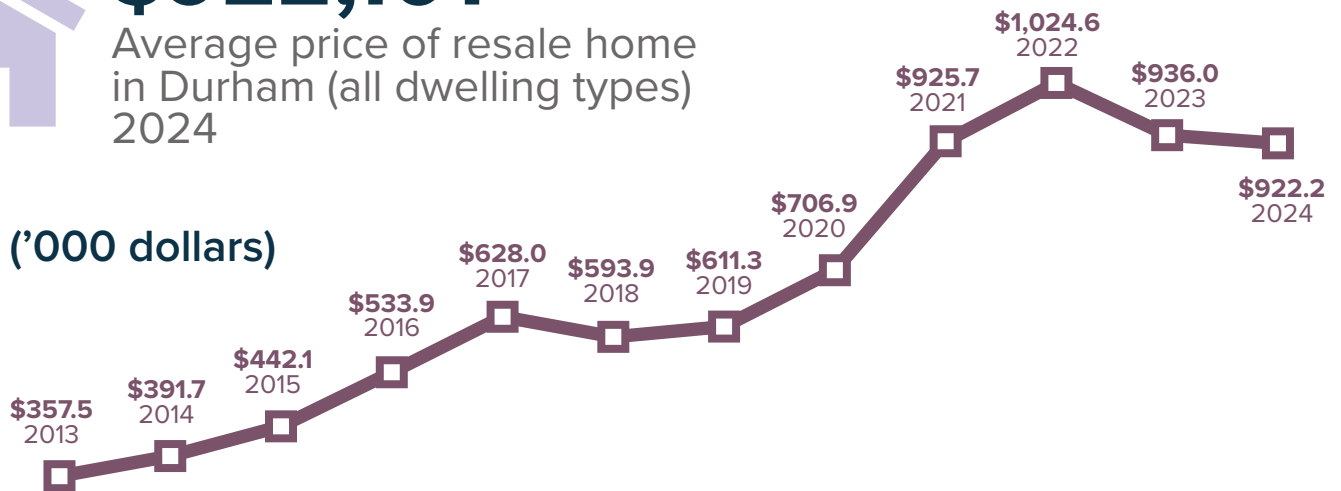
# HOUSING MARKET

Average price of **single-detached dwellings** in Durham 2013-2024



 **\$922,161**  
Average price of resale home in Durham (all dwelling types) 2024

('000 dollars)



<sup>1</sup>In 2024, the average cost of a new single-detached dwelling was \$1.31 million in Durham and \$1.54 million for the GTHA.





**The Regional Municipality of Durham**

Community Growth & Economic Development Department

605 Rossland Road East., Whitby, ON

905-668-7711 or 1-800-372-1102

**[www.durham.ca](http://www.durham.ca)**

If this information is required in an accessible format,  
please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2546.

**Attachment 2**  
**Building Permit Activity in Durham - January to December**

**Table 1**  
Total value of building permits (\$ million)

| Key Indicators                                       | 2023           |             | 2024           |             | % change     |
|--|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|
|  | #              | %           | #              | %           |              |
| <b>Total value of building permits (\$ millions)</b> | <b>2,874.9</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>2,512.1</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>-12.6</b> |
| <b>a) By area municipality:</b>                      |                |             |                |             |              |
| Ajax   | 542.0          | 18.9        | 264.2          | 10.5        | -51.3        |
| Brock  | 41.5           | 1.4         | 12.0           | 0.5         | -71.1        |
| Clarington   | 433.6          | 15.1        | 263.3          | 10.5        | -39.3        |
| Oshawa   | 639.5          | 22.2        | 648.7          | 25.8        | 1.5          |
| Pickering  | 732.9          | 25.5        | 719.2          | 28.6        | -1.9         |
| Scugog   | 32.3           | 1.1         | 65.2           | 2.6         | 101.8        |
| Uxbridge   | 72.6           | 2.5         | 66.7           | 2.7         | -8.1         |
| Whitby   | 380.5          | 13.2        | 472.7          | 18.8        | 24.2         |
| <b>b) By permit type:</b>                            |                |             |                |             |              |
| Residential  | 1,645.0        | 57.2        | 1,345.5        | 53.6        | -18.2        |
| Non-Residential                                      | 1,229.9        | 42.8        | 1,166.6        | 46.4        | -5.2         |

**Table 2**  
Total value of residential building permits (\$ million)

| Key Indicators   | 2023           |             | 2024           |             | % change     |
|--|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|
|  | #              | %           | #              | %           |              |
| <b>Total value of residential building permits (\$ millions)</b> | <b>1,645.0</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>1,345.5</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>-18.2</b> |
| <b>a) By area municipality:</b>                                  |                |             |                |             |              |
| Ajax   | 75.9           | 4.6         | 159.4          | 11.8        | 110.0        |
| Brock  | 13.2           | 0.8         | 8.6            | 0.6         | -35.1        |
| Clarington   | 312.7          | 19.0        | 94.1           | 7.0         | -69.9        |
| Oshawa   | 375.0          | 22.8        | 286.3          | 21.3        | -23.6        |
| Pickering  | 621.0          | 37.8        | 440.2          | 32.7        | -29.1        |
| Scugog   | 24.5           | 1.5         | 56.3           | 4.2         | 130.2        |
| Uxbridge   | 58.9           | 3.6         | 44.3           | 3.3         | -24.9        |
| Whitby   | 163.7          | 10.0        | 256.3          | 19.1        | 56.6         |
| <b>b) By construction type:</b>                                  |                |             |                |             |              |
| New residential units  | 1,504.9        | 91.5        | 1,211.8        | 90.1        | -19.5        |
| Renovations, additions and improvements                          | 140.1          | 8.5         | 133.7          | 9.9         | -4.5         |

Note: All figures rounded  
Source: Durham Region Community Growth Division building permit summaries.

**Table 3**  
Permits issued for new residential units (# of units)

| Key Indicators                                    | 2023         |             | 2024         |             | %            |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
|   | #            | %           | #            | %           | Change       |
| <b>Permits issued for new residential units</b>   | <b>5,869</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>3,609</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>-38.5</b> |
| <b>a) By unit type:</b>                           |              |             |              |             |              |
| Single  | 1,189        | 20.3        | 738          | 20.4        | -37.9        |
| Semi  | 101          | 1.7         | 28           | 0.8         | -72.3        |
| Town  | 1,069        | 18.2        | 705          | 19.5        | -34.1        |
| Apartment   | 2,502        | 42.6        | 1,139        | 31.6        | -54.5        |
| Additional residential units                      | 1,008        | 17.2        | 999          | 27.7        | -0.9         |
| <b>b) By area municipality:</b>                   |              |             |              |             |              |
| Ajax  | 381          | 6.5         | 503          | 13.9        | 32.0         |
| Brock   | 18           | 0.3         | 9            | 0.2         | -50.0        |
| Clarington  | 813          | 13.9        | 233          | 6.5         | -71.3        |
| Oshawa  | 1,205        | 20.5        | 934          | 25.9        | -22.5        |
| Pickering   | 2,686        | 45.8        | 1,146        | 31.8        | -57.3        |
| Scugog  | 39           | 0.7         | 130          | 3.6         | 233.3        |
| Uxbridge  | 86           | 1.5         | 21           | 0.6         | -75.6        |
| Whitby  | 641          | 10.9        | 633          | 17.5        | -1.2         |
| <b>c) By urban/rural area:</b>                    |              |             |              |             |              |
| Urban   | 5,780        | 98.5        | 3,458        | 95.8        | -40.2        |
| Rural   | 89           | 1.5         | 151          | 4.2         | 69.7         |
| <b>d) By average dwelling size (square feet):</b> |              |             |              |             |              |
| Single  | 2,576        |             | 2,918        |             | 13.3         |
| Semi  | 1,879        |             | 2,415        |             | 28.5         |
| Town  | 1,698        |             | 1,760        |             | 3.6          |
| Apartment*  | 786          |             | 636          |             | -19.1        |

Note: All figures rounded

Source: Durham Region Community Growth Division building permit summaries.

**Table 4**  
Value of non-residential building permits (\$ millions)

| Key Indicators  | 2023          |              | 2024          |              | %            |
|---|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | #             | %            | #             | %            | Change       |
| <b>Value of non-residential building permits</b>            | <b>1229.9</b> | <b>100%</b>  | <b>1166.6</b> | <b>100%</b>  | <b>-5.2</b>  |
| <b>a) By sector:</b>  |               |              |               |              |              |
| Commercial  | 244.5         | 19.9         | 166.9         | 14.3         | -31.7        |
| Industrial  | 722.6         | 58.8         | 402.4         | 34.5         | -44.3        |
| Agricultural  | 15.7          | 1.3          | 13.6          | 1.2          | -13.2        |
| Institutional   | 200.0         | 16.3         | 265.2         | 22.7         | 32.6         |
| Governmental  | 47.1          | 3.8          | 318.5         | 27.3         | 576.6        |
| <b>b) By area municipality:</b>                             |               |              |               |              |              |
| Ajax  | 466.1         | 37.9         | 104.8         | 9.0          | -77.5        |
| Brock   | 28.3          | 2.3          | 3.4           | 0.3          | -88.0        |
| Clarington  | 120.8         | 9.8          | 169.2         | 14.5         | 40.1         |
| Oshawa  | 264.5         | 21.5         | 362.4         | 31.1         | 37.0         |
| Pickering   | 111.8         | 9.1          | 279.1         | 23.9         | 149.5        |
| Scugog  | 7.9           | 0.6          | 8.9           | 0.8          | 13.4         |
| Uxbridge  | 13.7          | 1.1          | 22.4          | 1.9          | 64.2         |
| Whitby  | 216.9         | 17.6         | 216.3         | 18.5         | -0.2         |
| <b>c) Commercial, industrial, and agricultural sectors:</b> | <b>982.8</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>717.2</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>-27.0</b> |
| Value Associated with New Construction                      | 753.6         | 76.7         | 336.3         | 46.9         | -55.4        |
| Value of Renovations, Additions and Improvements            | 229.2         | 23.3         | 380.9         | 53.1         | 66.2         |
| <b>d) Institutional and governmental sectors:</b>           | <b>247.1</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>694.6</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>181.1</b> |
| Value Associated with New Construction                      | 135.8         | 55.0         | 344.0         | 49.5         | 153.2        |
| Value of Renovations, Additions and Improvements            | 111.3         | 45.0         | 350.6         | 50.5         | 215.1        |

**Table 5**  
Non-residential floor space (thousand sq. ft.)

| Key Indicators                                       | 2023           |             | 2024           |             | %            |
|--|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|
|  | #              | %           | #              | %           | Change       |
| <b>Non-residential floorspace (thousand sq. ft.)</b> | <b>5,534.7</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>3,517.0</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>-36.5</b> |
| <b>a) By sector:</b>                                 |                |             |                |             |              |
| Commercial   | 394.9          | 7.1         | 152.4          | 4.3         | -61.4        |
| Industrial   | 4,450.6        | 80.4        | 2,384.0        | 67.8        | -46.4        |
| Agricultural   | 264.8          | 4.8         | 325.8          | 9.3         | 23.1         |
| Institutional  | 415.7          | 7.5         | 425.6          | 12.1        | 2.4          |
| Governmental   | 8.8            | 0.2         | 229.2          | 6.5         | 2510.0       |
| <b>b) By area municipality:</b>                      |                |             |                |             |              |
| Ajax   | 2,570.9        | 46.5        | 125.3          | 3.6         | -95.1        |
| Brock  | 102.4          | 1.9         | 196.4          | 5.6         | 91.7         |
| Clarington   | 498.6          | 9.0         | 363.5          | 10.3        | -27.1        |
| Oshawa   | 679.0          | 12.3        | 780.5          | 22.2        | 15.0         |
| Pickering  | 313.9          | 5.7         | 845.7          | 24.0        | 169.4        |
| Scugog   | 80.9           | 1.5         | 86.5           | 2.5         | 6.8          |
| Uxbridge   | 89.0           | 1.6         | 88.2           | 2.5         | -0.9         |
| Whitby   | 1,200.0        | 21.7        | 1,031.0        | 29.3        | -14.1        |

Note: All figures rounded

Source: Durham Region Community Growth Division building permit summaries.

**Table 6**  
Building permit activity in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA)

| Key indicators  | 2023     | 2024   | % Change |        |        |
|---|----------|--------|----------|--------|--------|
| 1. Durham's share of GTHA building permit activity (%)        |          |        |          |        |        |
| Total Value   | 9.2      | 7.7    | -1.6     |        |        |
| Residential Value   | 8.7      | 6.8    | -2.0     |        |        |
| Residential Units   | 9.4      | 6.4    | -3.0     |        |        |
| Non-Residential Value   | 10.0     | 9.0    | -0.9     |        |        |
|   | 2023     | 2023   | 2024     | 2024   | %      |
|   | #        | %      | #        | %      | Change |
| 2. Total value of building permits issued (\$ millions)       |          |        |          |        |        |
| GTHA  | 31,150.9 | 100.0% | 32,717.7 | 100.0% | 5.0%   |
| Durham  | 2,874.9  | 9.2%   | 2,512.1  | 7.7%   | -12.6% |
| Halton  | 2,953.4  | 9.5%   | 3,943.0  | 12.1%  | 33.5%  |
| Peel  | 4,932.5  | 15.8%  | 4,993.6  | 15.3%  | 1.2%   |
| Toronto   | 12,410.8 | 39.8%  | 15,722.9 | 48.1%  | 26.7%  |
| York  | 5,452.7  | 17.5%  | 4,463.8  | 13.6%  | -18.1% |
| Hamilton  | 2,526.6  | 8.1%   | 1,082.3  | 3.3%   | -57.2% |
| 3. Value of residential building permits issued (\$ millions) |          |        |          |        |        |
| GTHA  | 18,800.7 | 100.0% | 19,813.0 | 100.0% | 5.4%   |
| Durham  | 1,645.0  | 8.7%   | 1,345.5  | 6.8%   | -18.2% |
| Halton  | 1,834.7  | 9.8%   | 3,067.2  | 15.5%  | 67.2%  |
| Peel  | 2,984.0  | 15.9%  | 2,486.7  | 12.6%  | -16.7% |
| Toronto   | 6,535.7  | 34.8%  | 9,860.8  | 49.8%  | 50.9%  |
| York  | 4,123.2  | 21.9%  | 2,597.9  | 13.1%  | -37.0% |
| Hamilton  | 1,678.2  | 8.9%   | 454.9    | 2.3%   | -72.9% |

Note: This data may contain estimated values by Statistics Canada. As such, this data is subject to change

Sources: Statistics Canada (Halton, Peel, Toronto, York), City of Hamilton, and Durham Region Community Growth Division building permit records

**Table 7**  
Permits issued for new residential unit types in the GTHA

| Key indicators  | 2023<br>#     | 2023<br>%     | 2024<br>#     | 2024<br>%     | %<br>Change   |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>GTHA</b>     | <b>62,632</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>56,507</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>-9.8%</b>  |
| Single          | 5,337         | 8.5%          | 4,463         | 7.9%          | -16.4%        |
| Semi            | 470           | 0.8%          | 890           | 1.6%          | 89.4%         |
| Town            | 6,322         | 10.1%         | 5,124         | 9.1%          | -18.9%        |
| Apartment       | 50,503        | 80.6%         | 46,030        | 81.5%         | -8.9%         |
| <b>Durham</b>   | <b>5,869</b>  | <b>9.4%</b>   | <b>3,609</b>  | <b>6.4%</b>   | <b>-38.5%</b> |
| Single          | 1,189         | 22.3%         | 738           | 16.5%         | -37.9%        |
| Semi            | 101           | 21.5%         | 28            | 3.1%          | -72.3%        |
| Town            | 1,069         | 16.9%         | 705           | 13.8%         | -34.1%        |
| Apartment       | 3,510         | 7.0%          | 2,138         | 4.6%          | -39.1%        |
| <b>Halton</b>   | <b>5,158</b>  | <b>8.2%</b>   | <b>6,727</b>  | <b>11.9%</b>  | <b>30.4%</b>  |
| Single          | 536           | 10.0%         | 637           | 14.3%         | 18.8%         |
| Semi            | 97            | 20.6%         | 630           | 70.8%         | 549.5%        |
| Town            | 1,381         | 21.8%         | 1,149         | 22.4%         | -16.8%        |
| Apartment       | 3,144         | 6.2%          | 4,311         | 9.4%          | 37.1%         |
| <b>Peel</b>     | <b>15,502</b> | <b>24.8%</b>  | <b>12,135</b> | <b>21.5%</b>  | <b>-21.7%</b> |
| Single          | 677           | 12.7%         | 753           | 16.9%         | 11.2%         |
| Semi            | 22            | 4.7%          | 48            | 5.4%          | 118.2%        |
| Town            | 929           | 14.7%         | 897           | 17.5%         | -3.4%         |
| Apartment       | 13,874        | 27.5%         | 10,437        | 22.7%         | -24.8%        |
| <b>Toronto</b>  | <b>18,000</b> | <b>28.7%</b>  | <b>25,784</b> | <b>45.6%</b>  | <b>43.2%</b>  |
| Single          | 857           | 16.1%         | 656           | 14.7%         | -23.5%        |
| Semi            | 70            | 14.9%         | 26            | 2.9%          | -62.9%        |
| Town            | 592           | 9.4%          | 806           | 15.7%         | 36.1%         |
| Apartment       | 16,481        | 32.6%         | 24,296        | 52.8%         | 47.4%         |
| <b>York</b>     | <b>12,353</b> | <b>19.7%</b>  | <b>6,917</b>  | <b>12.2%</b>  | <b>-44.0%</b> |
| Single          | 1,778         | 33.3%         | 1,534         | 34.4%         | -13.7%        |
| Semi            | 131           | 27.9%         | 96            | 10.8%         | -26.7%        |
| Town            | 2,047         | 32.4%         | 1,281         | 25.0%         | -37.4%        |
| Apartment       | 8,397         | 16.6%         | 4,006         | 8.7%          | -52.3%        |
| <b>Hamilton</b> | <b>5,750</b>  | <b>9.2%</b>   | <b>1,335</b>  | <b>2.4%</b>   | <b>-76.8%</b> |
| Single          | 300           | 5.6%          | 145           | 3.2%          | -51.7%        |
| Semi            | 49            | 0.9%          | 62            | 7.0%          | 26.5%         |
| Town            | 304           | 5.7%          | 286           | 5.6%          | -5.9%         |
| Apartment       | 5,097         | 95.5%         | 842           | 1.8%          | -83.5%        |

**Table 8**  
Value of non-residential building permits issued in the GTHA (\$ millions)

| Key indicators | 2023<br>#       | 2023<br>%     | 2024<br>#       | 2024<br>%     | %<br>Change |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>GTHA</b>    | <b>12,350.2</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>12,904.7</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>4.5%</b> |
| Durham         | 1,229.9         | 10.0%         | 1,166.6         | 9.0%          | -5.2%       |
| Halton         | 1,118.7         | 9.1%          | 875.8           | 6.8%          | -21.7%      |
| Peel           | 1,948.5         | 15.8%         | 2,506.8         | 19.4%         | 28.7%       |
| Toronto        | 5,875.1         | 47.6%         | 5,862.1         | 45.4%         | -0.2%       |
| York           | 1,329.6         | 10.8%         | 1,865.9         | 14.5%         | 40.3%       |
| Hamilton       | 848.4           | 6.9%          | 627.5           | 4.9%          | -26.0%      |

Note: This data may contain estimated values by Statistics Canada. As such, this data is subject to change

Sources: Statistics Canada (Halton, Peel, Toronto, York), City of Hamilton, and Durham Region Community Growth Division building permit records



**Table 9**  
Housing Market Supply of New Units in Durham - January to December

| Key Indicators                  | 2023          |             | 2024         |             | %            |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
|                                 | #             | %           | #            | %           | Change       |
| <b>1. Housing Supply</b>        |               |             |              |             |              |
| a) <b>Total Supply</b>          | <b>10,330</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>8,438</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>-18.3</b> |
| Pending Starts                  | 2,496         | 24.2        | 1,589        | 18.8        | -36.3        |
| Under Construction              | 7,827         | 75.8        | 6,749        | 80.0        | -13.8        |
| Completed & Not Absorbed        | 7             | 0.1         | 100          | 1.2         | 1328.6       |
| b) <b>Starts</b>                | <b>3,864</b>  |             | <b>3,980</b> |             | <b>3.0</b>   |
| c) <b>Completions</b>           | <b>4,904</b>  |             | <b>4,989</b> |             | <b>1.7</b>   |
| <b>2. Total Supply</b>          | <b>10,330</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>8,345</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>-19.2</b> |
| a) <b>By unit type:</b>         |               |             |              |             |              |
| Single                          | 2,180         | 21.1        | 1,981        | 23.7        | -9.1         |
| Semi                            | 208           | 2.0         | 165          | 2.0         | -20.7        |
| Town                            | 2,210         | 21.4        | 1,050        | 12.6        | -52.5        |
| Apartment                       | 5,732         | 55.5        | 5,149        | 61.7        | -10.2        |
| <b>3. Absorptions</b>           | <b>4,651</b>  | <b>100%</b> | <b>4,131</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>-11.2</b> |
| a) <b>By unit type:</b>         |               |             |              |             |              |
| Single                          | 1,582         | 90.6        | 1,283        | 67.0        | -18.9        |
| Semi                            | 164           | 9.4         | 150          | 7.8         | -8.5         |
| Town                            | 2,208         | 126.5       | 1,898        | 99.2        | -14.0        |
| Apartment                       | 697           | 39.9        | 800          | 41.8        | 14.8         |
| b) <b>By area municipality:</b> |               |             |              |             |              |
| Ajax                            | 233           | 13.3        | 362          | 18.9        | 55.4         |
| Brock                           | -             | -           | -            | -           | -            |
| Clarington                      | 398           | 22.8        | 392          | 20.5        | -1.5         |
| Oshawa                          | 1299          | 74.4        | 684          | 35.7        | -47.3        |
| Pickering                       | 1746          | 100.0       | 1,914        | 100.0       | 9.6          |
| Scugog                          | -             | -           | -            | -           | -            |
| Uxbridge                        | 88            | 5.0         | 83           | 4.3         | -5.7         |
| Whitby                          | 887           | 50.8        | 696          | 36.4        | -21.5        |

Source: Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation (CMHC) - Local Housing Market Tables, 2023/24 and Housing Market Information Portal

**Table 10**  
Housing Market Indicators - January to December

|           | Key Indicators  | 2023               | 2024               | %<br>Change |
|-----------|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| <b>1.</b> | <b>Average Interest Rates<sup>1</sup></b>                         |                    |                    |             |
|           | <b>Conventional Mortgage Rates (%):</b>                           |                    |                    |             |
|           | 1 Year Term   | 7.15               | 7.64               | 6.8         |
|           | 3 Year Term   | 6.61               | 6.85               | 3.6         |
|           | 5 Year Term   | 6.68               | 6.73               | 0.6         |
|           | <b>Bank Rate (%):</b>   | <b>5.02</b>        | <b>4.68</b>        | <b>-6.8</b> |
| <b>2.</b> | <b>Average Cost of a New Single Detached Dwelling<sup>2</sup></b> |                    |                    |             |
|           | <b>Durham Region:</b>   | <b>\$1,211,552</b> | <b>\$1,314,384</b> | <b>8.5</b>  |
|           | Ajax  | \$1,295,925        | \$1,512,917        | 16.7        |
|           | Brock   | --                 | --                 | --          |
|           | Clarington  | \$1,177,541        | \$1,198,892        | 1.8         |
|           | Oshawa  | \$1,199,216        | \$1,193,449        | -0.5        |
|           | Pickering   | \$1,232,638        | \$1,329,574        | 7.9         |
|           | Scugog  | --                 | --                 | --          |
|           | Uxbridge  | \$1,534,682        | --                 | --          |
|           | Whitby  | \$1,172,438        | \$1,481,973        | 26.4        |
|           | City of Toronto   | \$2,064,866        | \$2,009,568        | -2.7        |
|           | York Region   | \$1,629,377        | \$1,729,468        | 6.1         |
|           | Peel Region   | \$1,172,823        | \$1,519,875        | 29.6        |
|           | Halton Region   | \$1,192,312        | \$1,389,552        | 16.5        |
|           | Hamilton  | \$710,968          | \$954,177          | 34.2        |
| <b>3.</b> | <b>Resale Housing Market in Durham<sup>3</sup></b>                |                    |                    |             |
|           | Number of Sales   | 8,487              | 9,012              | 6.2         |
|           | Number of New Listings  | 16,389             | 18,769             | 14.5        |
|           | Average Price (all dwelling types)                                | \$936,023          | \$922,161          | -1.5        |
|           | Average Price (single-detached dwelling)                          | \$1,036,698        | \$1,027,096        | -0.9        |

Sources: 1. Bank of Canada Website: <http://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/interest-rates/canadian-interest-rates/>  
2. CMHC Housing Market Information Portal. Prices rounded.  
3. Toronto Regional Real Estate Board - Market Watch, December 2023/2024. Prices rounded.



# Interoffice Memorandum

**Date:** June 27, 2025

**To:** Health & Social Services Committee

**From:** Dr. Robert Kyle

**Subject:** Health Information Update – June 22, 2025

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Health  
Department

Please find attached the latest links to health information from the Health Department and other key sources that you may find of interest. Links may need to be copied and pasted directly in your web browser to open, including the link below.

You may also wish to browse the online Health Department Reference Manual available at [Board of Health Manual](#), which is continually updated.

Boards of health are required to “superintend, provide or ensure the provision of the health programs and services required by the [Health Protection and Promotion] Act and the regulations to the persons who reside in the health unit served by the board” (section 4, clause a, HPPA). In addition, medical officers of health are required to “[report] directly to the board of health on issues relating to public health concerns and to public health programs and services under this or any other Act” (sub-section 67.(1), HPPA).

Accordingly, the Health Information Update is a component of the Health Department’s ‘Accountability Framework’, which also may include program and other reports, Health Plans, Quality Enhancement Plans, Durham Health Check-Ups, business plans and budgets; provincial performance indicators and targets, monitoring, compliance audits and assessments; RDPS certification; and accreditation by Accreditation Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

R.J. Kyle, BSc, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC, FACPM  
Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health

*“Service Excellence  
for our Communities*

## **UPDATES FOR HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

### **June 22, 2025**

#### **Health Department Media Releases/Publications**

**[tinyurl.com/mp77fzc8](https://tinyurl.com/mp77fzc8)**

- Weekly beach test results now available online through Check&Go! Durham (Jun 9)

**[tinyurl.com/2u3jhyck](https://tinyurl.com/2u3jhyck)**

- COVID-19 Vaccine: Moderna Supply Update (Jun 10)

**[tinyurl.com/56sj39xb](https://tinyurl.com/56sj39xb)**

- Measles Preparedness – Update (Jun 12)

#### **GOVERNMENT OF CANADA**

##### **Environment and Climate Change Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/bdf5r4xj](https://tinyurl.com/bdf5r4xj)**

- Environment and Climate Change Canada presents summer seasonal outlook (Jun 10)

##### **Prime Minister's Office**

**[tinyurl.com/3z52e5m4](https://tinyurl.com/3z52e5m4)**

- Prime Minister Carney announces changes in the senior ranks of the public service (Jun 20)

##### **Public Health Agency of Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/5n7r8yav](https://tinyurl.com/5n7r8yav)**

- Minister Michel welcomes External Expert Review report on the modernization of preventive health care guideline development in Canada (Jun 13)

**[tinyurl.com/4ydx67cy](https://tinyurl.com/4ydx67cy)**

- Government of Canada provide support for ParticipACTION to promote active lifestyles (Jun 16)

#### **GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO**

##### **Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade**

**[tinyurl.com/yw99x8hh](https://tinyurl.com/yw99x8hh)**

- Ontario Supporting Life Sciences Innovations (Jun 9)

##### **Ministry of Energy and Mines**

**[tinyurl.com/y955r7ah](https://tinyurl.com/y955r7ah)**

- Ontario Launches Plan to Secure Energy for Generations (Jun 12)

##### **Ministry of Health**

**[tinyurl.com/mrxufh2k](https://tinyurl.com/mrxufh2k)**

- Ontario Expanding Uxbridge Hospital and Adding New Long-Term Care Home (Jun 10)

**[tinyurl.com/ms89sdvk](https://tinyurl.com/ms89sdvk)**

- Ontario Celebrates Completion of New Community Health Centre in Cannington (Jun 10)

**[tinyurl.com/2tm58zb4](https://tinyurl.com/2tm58zb4)**

- Ontario Helping More Families Access Fertility Supports (Jun 11)

## **OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Canada Health Infoway**

**[tinyurl.com/4v52kywr](https://tinyurl.com/4v52kywr)**

- Canada Health Infoway Launches AI Scribe Program: Enrollment Now Open for Primary Care Clinicians (Jun 10)

### **Canadian Automobile Association**

**[tinyurl.com/2eakaxvr](https://tinyurl.com/2eakaxvr)**

- Cyclists, pedestrians in daily danger at intersections, CAA study finds (Jun 18)

### **Canadian Cancer Society**

**[tinyurl.com/bde8hcf3](https://tinyurl.com/bde8hcf3)**

- Expert report an impressive first step to reimagine and modernize the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care (Jun 13)

### **Canadian Institute for Health Information**

**[tinyurl.com/ytsb883](https://tinyurl.com/ytsb883)**

- Longer wait times for surgeries and diagnostic imaging persist across Canada compared with the pre-pandemic period (Jun 12)

### **Canadian Medical Association**

**[tinyurl.com/ywmz44k2](https://tinyurl.com/ywmz44k2)**

- Statement – CMA reflects on National Indigenous Peoples Day (Jun 21)

### **Colorectal Cancer Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/536khpjk](https://tinyurl.com/536khpjk)**

- Colorectal Cancer Canada (CCC) advocates to lower the age for colorectal cancer screening to 45 for Canadians at average risk (Jun 17)

### **Heart and Stroke Foundation**

**[tinyurl.com/fe7wbax](https://tinyurl.com/fe7wbax)**

- Pouring over the data: researchers find Canada's first sugary drink tax lowered odds of consumption nearly 25% (Jun 17)

### **IC/ES**

**[tinyurl.com/nhh3dxrc](https://tinyurl.com/nhh3dxrc)**

- Correctional populations in Ontario have twenty times the rate of substance use-related healthcare visits, study finds (Jun 12)

### **Office of the Auditor General of Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/mwsbzy52](https://tinyurl.com/mwsbzy52)**

- Canada's strategy for adapting to climate change lacks key elements and progress (Jun 10)

**[tinyurl.com/mry4n3ku](https://tinyurl.com/mry4n3ku)**

- The federal government has struggled with implementing sustainable development in Canada (Jun 10)

### **Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner/Ontario**

**[tinyurl.com/4ev3ffr7](https://tinyurl.com/4ev3ffr7)**

- Information and Privacy Commissioner urges government to close regulatory gaps and secure public trust (Jun 12)

### **Office of the Information Commissioner of Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/2fz93h47](https://tinyurl.com/2fz93h47)**

- Commissioner Maynard Tables 2024-2025 Annual Report, Reinforces Commitment to Strengthening Access to Information (Jun 17)

### **Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/mr2883rw](https://tinyurl.com/mr2883rw)**

- Privacy Commissioner of Canada's annual report underscores the need to prioritize privacy in an increasingly data-driven world (Jun 5)

**[tinyurl.com/ycxrxj5s9](https://tinyurl.com/ycxrxj5s9)**

- Data breach at 23andMe is a reminder to all organizations to prioritize privacy, Privacy Commissioner of Canada cautions in wake of investigation (Jun 17)

### **Ontario Drug Policy Research Network**

**[tinyurl.com/5as3tn9k](https://tinyurl.com/5as3tn9k)**

- Hydromorphone dispensing across public health units in Ontario (Jun 18)

### **Ontario Tech University**

**[tinyurl.com/4xme4avc](https://tinyurl.com/4xme4avc)**

- Ontario Tech researcher launches digital tool with Durham Region Health Department and Lakeridge Health to empower breastfeeding parents (Jun 10)

### **Patented Medicine Prices Review Board**

**[tinyurl.com/4fcac2cu](https://tinyurl.com/4fcac2cu)**

- PMPRB report reviews potential impact of new medicines on the Canadian market (Jun 17)

### **Quebec Coalition for Tobacco Control**

**[tinyurl.com/2s3dwbfc](https://tinyurl.com/2s3dwbfc)**

- Draft vaping regulations: Four Years Later, It's Time to Finalize a Federal Ban on Flavoured Vapes (Jun 19)

### **The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/5d6j6mts](https://tinyurl.com/5d6j6mts)**

- SOGC Releases New National Guidance to Improve Care for Women After Early Pregnancy Loss (Jun 16)

### **World Health Organization**

**[tinyurl.com/mrym2ezm](https://tinyurl.com/mrym2ezm)**

- WHO Director-General announces that mpox remains a public health emergency of international concern (Jun 9)




**TOWN OF AJAX**  
65 Harwood Avenue South  
Ajax ON L1S 3S9  
[www.ajax.ca](http://www.ajax.ca)

The Honorable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Sent by E-Mail**

June 25, 2025

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department<br>Legislative Services Division |  |
| Date & Time Received:  | June 25, 2025<br>11:58 am                              |
| Original To:   | CIP  |
| Copies To:   |  |
| Take Appropriate Action  | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments:  |  |

**Re: Aligning Tenant Compensation with Provincial Affordable Housing Rates**

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on June 23, 2025:

**Whereas** the *Ontario Residential Tenancies Act* (ORTA) mandates compensation for tenants when a landlord terminates a tenancy for purposes such as demolition, conversion to non-residential use, or substantial repairs or renovations; and,

**Whereas** under the current provisions:

Demolition or Conversion: Landlords must compensate tenants with an amount equal to one month's rent if the residential complex contains fewer than five units, or three months' rent if it contains five or more units; or offer the tenant another rental unit acceptable to the tenant.

Tribunals Ontario: Substantial Repairs or Renovations: Similar compensation requirements apply if the landlord intends to carry out repairs or renovations that require vacant possession of the rental unit; and,

**Whereas** these compensation amounts are based on the tenant's current rent, which may not reflect the affordability standards set by the Province's Affordable Residential Units for the Purposes of the Development Charges Act, 1997 Bulletin (Province's Bulletin); and,

**Whereas** the planned Red Bricks redevelopment in Ajax illustrates how the current ORTA policy on tenant compensation can fall short of the Province's



Bulletin, leaving tenants unable to secure comparable housing in cases of redevelopment, for example;

|                  | <b>Province's<br/>Bulletin<br/>(2024)</b> | <b>Red Bricks</b> | <b>% Below<br/>AMR</b> |
|------------------|---|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1-Bedroom<br>AMR | \$1,456                                   | \$1,020~          | -30%                   |
| 2-Bedroom<br>AMR | \$1,809                                   | \$1,130~          | -37.5%                 |

\*AMR = Average Market Rate

**Whereas** aligning tenant compensation, at a minimum, with the Province's affordability standards would ensure that tenants with a rental rate lower than a comparable unit identified in the Province's Bulletin receives fair compensation that more accurately reflects the current housing market and their ability to secure alternative accommodations;

**Therefore It Be Resolved:**

1. That Ajax Council requests that the Province amends the Ontario Residential Tenancies Act to require that the compensation provided to tenants upon termination for purposes such as demolition, conversion, or substantial repairs or renovations, at a minimum, be based on the Province's Bulletin, when a tenant's current rent is lower than the rental rate identified in the Province's Bulletin; and
2. That Public and Strategic Affairs engage with tenant advocacy groups, housing organizations, and other stakeholders to build support for this initiative and to ensure that the voices of affected tenants are heard in the policymaking process; and
3. That a copy of this motion be sent to Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, Ajax MPP Rob Cerjanec, Ajax MP Jennifer McKelvie, Durham Regional Chair John Henry, lower tier Durham Region municipalities, Ontario Big City Mayors, and the Landlord and Tenant Board.

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6983 or [Thomas.street@ajax.ca](mailto:Thomas.street@ajax.ca)

Sincerely,



Thomas Street  
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Councillor L. Bower  
Regional Councillor M. Crawford  
Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Rob Cerjanec, Ajax MPP  
Jennifer McKelvie, Ajax MP  
Durham Regional Chair John Henry  
All Durham Region lower-tier municipalities  
Ontario's Big City Mayors  
Landlord and Tenant Board



**TOWN OF AJAX**  
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The Honorable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Sent by E-Mail**

June 25, 2025

**Re: GO Lakeshore East Express Service**

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on June 23, 2025:


**Whereas** GO Lakeshore East Express train service previously provided a vital transit option for residents of Durham Region commuting to Union Station in downtown Toronto; and,

**Whereas** the original timeline indicated that this disruption would last for three years and be completed by 2024, yet there is currently no updated timeline or clear communication on when the service will resume, raising concerns about project continuity and delivery; and,

**Whereas** on Monday, May 15, 2023, Metrolinx gave a delegation to Ajax Council, where representatives confirmed the service was on track to resume in August 2024; and,

**Whereas** on Monday, May 26, 2025, Ajax MPP Rob Cerjanec, raised a question in the Ontario Legislature to the Minister of Transportation regarding the timeline for the return of the GO Lakeshore East Express service, but did not receive a clear response; and,

**Whereas** the return of this express service would significantly improve public transportation options for residents of Durham Region and reduce the vehicular traffic and gridlock in and out of Toronto; and,

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department<br><b>Legislative Services Division</b> |  |
| Date & Time Received:   | June 25, 2025<br>12:00 pm                              |
| Original To:  | CIP  |
| Copies To:  |  |
| Take Appropriate Action   | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments:   |  |

**Whereas** Durham Region is one of the fastest-growing areas in Ontario, and ensuring reliable, efficient public transit options is essential to support this growth and reduce congestion on regional roadways; and,

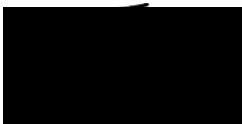
**Therefore It Be Resolved:**

1. That the Town of Ajax Council requests the provincial government to prioritize the reinstatement of the GO Lakeshore East Express Train service and provide residents of Durham Region an update on the timeline for resumed service;
2. That Metrolinx be invited to present a project update at a future meeting of Council; and
3. That a copy of this motion be sent to Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Sarkaria, Ajax MPP Rob Cerjanec, Durham Regional Chair John Henry, all lower tier Durham Region municipalities, Interim President and CEO of Metrolinx, Michael Lindsay.

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6983 or [Thomas.street@ajax.ca](mailto:Thomas.street@ajax.ca)


Sincerely,



Thomas Street  
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Regional Councillor S. Lee  
Councillor R. Tyler Morin  
Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation  
Rob Cerjanec, Ajax MPP  
Durham Regional Chair John Henry  
All Durham Region lower-tier municipalities  
Interim President and CEO of Metrolinx, Michael Lindsay



|   |  |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department<br>Legislative Services Division |  |
| Date & Time Received:   | June 25, 2025<br>1:42 pm                               |
| Original To:  | CIP  |
| Copies To:  |  |
| Take Appropriate Action   | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments:   |  |

**TOWN OF AJAX**  
65 Harwood Avenue South  
Ajax ON L1S 3S9  
[www.ajax.ca](http://www.ajax.ca)

---

**Sent by E-Mail**

June 25, 2025

**Re: City of Pickering - Raising Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)**

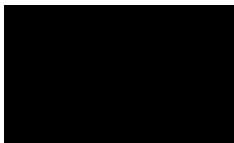
The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on June 23, 2025:

1. That the correspondence from the City of Pickering regarding "Raising Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP" be endorsed; and
2. That a copy of this motion be sent to all Durham MPPs and all Durham Region lower-tier municipalities.

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6983 or [Thomas.street@ajax.ca](mailto:Thomas.street@ajax.ca)

Sincerely,



Thomas Street  
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Councillor N. Henry  
Regional Councillor J. Dies  
All Durham MPPs  
All Durham Region lower-tier municipalities

Sent by Email

June 4, 2025

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy  
MPP Pickering-Uxbridge  
1550 Kingston Rd., Suite 213  
Pickering, ON L1V 1C3  
[peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)

Subject: Raising Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)

---

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on May 26, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

**WHEREAS** individuals and families receiving income support through Ontario Works (OW) and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) are facing increasing challenges in meeting basic needs due to rising costs of living;

**And Whereas** Statistics Canada notes that people with disabilities have a higher poverty rate and a lower rate of employment than the overall population;

**And Whereas** the annual income support for Ontario Works is currently \$8,796.00 and \$16,416.00 for Ontario Disability Support Program. These supports have not increased sufficiently to keep up with inflation and the cost of living. Such costs are anticipated to continue increasing;

**And Whereas** the low income measure for a single person in Greater Toronto Area is estimated to be approximately \$27,343 annually, and the deep income poverty threshold is determined to be \$20,508;

**And Whereas** Food Banks, including our local Food Banks, provide a necessary service with increasing demands in our communities;

**And Whereas** the Pickering Food Bank served 1,722 adults, and 1,054 children in February 2025;

**And Whereas** food banks are already reducing their distribution capacity; and it is anticipated that due to developing economic circumstances, such as the current tariff war, there will be increased unemployment, increased food prices, and a heightened demand for food distribution, while donations continue to decline;


**And Whereas** these economic trends will continue to erode the purchasing power of OW and ODSP recipients, increasing reliance on food banks and placing additional pressure on municipalities and community organizations;

**Now therefore it be resolved** that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering directs through the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:

1. That staff send a letter to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Finance, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, and the Minister for Seniors and Accessibility, to strongly urge that the Ontario Provincial Government significantly raise the payments of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program and the increases be reflected in the upcoming Provincial Budget and that the increased amount aligns with inflationary costs and thereby decrease the pressure on food banks and the reliance on municipalities and taxpayers to supplement the gap in financial need; and,
2. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), the Regional Municipality of Durham, all Municipalities in the Province of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

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: Robert Cerjanec, MPP Ajax  
Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby  
Jennifer French, MPP Oshawa  
Todd McCarthy, MPP Durham  
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock  
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Region of Durham  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

All Ontario Municipalities

Chief Administrative Officer





|   |  |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department<br>Legislative Services Division |  |
| Date & Time Received:   | June 20, 2025<br>9:50 am                               |
| Original To:  | CIP  |
| Copies To:  |  |
| Take Appropriate Action   | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments:   |  |

Hon. Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
VIA EMAIL:  
[premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Hon. Rob Flack  
Minister of Municipal Affairs  
and Housing  
VIA EMAIL:  
[rob.flack@pc.ola.org](mailto:rob.flack@pc.ola.org)

Township of Puslinch  
7404 Wellington Road 34  
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0  
[www.puslinch.ca](http://www.puslinch.ca)

June 18, 2025

Hon. Todd McCarthy  
Minister of the  
Environment, Conservation  
and Parks  
VIA EMAIL:  
[todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org](mailto:todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org)

MPP Joseph Racinsky  
Wellington-Halton Hills  
VIA EMAIL:  
[joseph.racinsky@pc.ola.org](mailto:joseph.racinsky@pc.ola.org)

RE: Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act 2025

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on May 28, 2025 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

**Resolution No. 2025-167:**

Moved by Councillor Sepulis and  
Seconded by Councillor Hurst

**That the Consent Agenda item 6.9 and 6.10 be received for information; and**

**Whereas the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the Endangered Species Act and the creation of "Special Economic Zones" that may override local planning authority; and**

**Whereas the Township of Puslinch supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be achieved without undermining environmental protections or compromising the integrity of municipal planning processes; and**

## **H**

**Whereas Bill 5, as proposed, risks weakening safeguards for Ontario's natural heritage and reducing the role of municipalities in managing growth in a responsible and locally informed manner;**

**Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Puslinch:**

- **Opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would reduce environmental protections or override municipal planning authority;**
- **Urges the Province of Ontario to advance housing and infrastructure growth through policies that respect sound environmental planning principles and uphold the planning tools available to local governments;**
- **Opposes the use of Bill 5 that may reduce a municipality's ability to enforce its local by-laws (planning and other affected by-laws);**
- **Opposes the potential use of Bill 5 to supersede Ministry jurisdiction to require proper approvals such as ARA licences or ECAs; and**
- **Opposes the potential use of Bill 5 to apply a SEZ to lands that are already licenced through provincial approvals such as an ARA licence or ECA to supersede requirements under those licenses or approvals.**
- **Directs that this resolution be forwarded to:**
  - 1. The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario**
  - 2. The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing**
  - 3. The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks**
  - 4. MPP Joseph Racinsky**
  - 5. The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**
  - 6. All Ontario municipalities for their awareness and consideration.**
  - 7. All Conservation Authorities in Ontario**
  - 8. Conservation Ontario**

**CARRIED**

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston  
Municipal Clerk

## Monika Farncombe

---

**From:** Jennifer E. Willoughby <jwilloughby@shelburne.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 14, 2025 9:50 AM  
**To:** rob.flack@pc.ola.org; sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org; premier@ontario.ca; todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org  
**Cc:** policy@amo.on.ca; Minister (MMAH); romachair@roma.on.ca; Alice Byl  
**Subject:** Town of Shelburne - Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

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Good Morning

At the May 12, 2025, meeting of Shelburne Town Council, the following resolution was passed unanimously

Moved By: Councillor Len Guchardi  
Seconded By: Councillor Lindsay Wegener

Whereas the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the Endangered Species Act and the creation of “Special Economic Zones” that may override local planning authority;

And Whereas the Town of Shelburne supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be achieved without undermining environmental protections or compromising the integrity of municipal planning processes;

And Whereas Bill 5, as proposed, risks weakening safeguards for Ontario’s natural heritage and reducing the role of municipalities in managing growth in a responsible and locally informed manner;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That Council for the Town of Shelburne:

- Opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would reduce environmental protections or override municipal planning authority;
- Urges the Province of Ontario to advance housing and infrastructure growth through policies that respect sound environmental planning principles and uphold the planning tools available to local governments;
- Urges the Province to support municipalities through ensuring responsible growth through infrastructure projects designed to ensure protection of sensitive wildlife and natural resources;

And Directs that this resolution be forwarded to:

- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario,

- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
- The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks,
- Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin–Caledon,
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO),
- All Ontario municipalities for their awareness and consideration,
- All Conservation Authorities in Ontario,
- Conservation Ontario

CARRIED; Mayor Wade Mills

Thank You

Jennifer Willoughby, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk

Phone: 519-925-2600 ext 223 | Fax: 519-925-6134 | [jwilloughby@shelburne.ca](mailto:jwilloughby@shelburne.ca)

Town of Shelburne | 203 Main Street East, Shelburne ON L9V 3K7

[www.shelburne.ca](http://www.shelburne.ca)



## Resolution

**Meeting Date:** May 12, 2025

**Resolution No.** 2025-093

**Moved:** Councillor Prendergast

**Seconded:** Councillor Andrews

### **Responsible Growth and Opposition to Elements of Bill 5**

Whereas the Government of Ontario has introduced Bill 5: Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025, which proposes substantial changes to environmental planning legislation, including the repeal of the Endangered Species Act and the creation of “Special Economic Zones” that may override local planning authority; and

Whereas the Town of Orangeville supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be achieved without undermining environmental protections or compromising the integrity of municipal planning processes; and

Whereas Bill 5, as proposed, risks weakening safeguards for Ontario’s natural heritage and reducing the role of municipalities in managing growth in a responsible and locally informed manner;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council for the Town of Orangeville:

- Opposes the provisions in Bill 5 that would reduce environmental protections or override municipal planning authority;
- Urges the Province of Ontario to advance housing and infrastructure growth through policies that respect sound environmental planning principles and uphold the planning tools available to local governments;
- Directs that this resolution be forwarded to:
  - The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
  - The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
  - The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
  - The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health and MPP for Dufferin–Caledon
  - The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
  - All Ontario municipalities for their awareness and consideration.

**Result:** Carried Unanimously



# Township of Perry

PO Box 70, Emsdale, ON POA 1J0


PHONE: (705)636-5941

FAX: (705)636-5759

[www.townshipofperry.ca](http://www.townshipofperry.ca)

June 24, 2025

Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Queens Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department<br>Legislative Services Division |  |
| Date & Time Received:  | June 25, 2025<br>8:57 am                               |
| Original To:   | CIP  |
| Copies To:   |  |
| Take Appropriate Action  | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments:  |  |

Via Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Dear Honourable Doug Ford,

**RE: Resolution of Support – Municipality of Chatham-Kent re: Bill 5 – Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, 2025**

---

At their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday June 4, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Perry supported the following resolution:

**“Resolution #2025-199**

**Moved by: Joe Lumley**

**Seconded by: Paul Sowrey**

***Be it resolved that*** Council hereby receive and supports the Municipality of Chatham-Kent’s Resolution “Bill 5 – Risks to your communities”;

***And further that*** Council directs staff to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Municipality of Chatham-Kent, and all Ontario municipalities.

***Carried”***

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Beth Morton  
Clerk-Administrator

Encl.

cc Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Municipality of Chatham-Kent, and all Ontario Municipalities





**The Corporation of the  
Township of Perry**

Box 70 1695 Emsdale Road Emsdale, Ontario P0A 1J0

Date: June 4, 2025


Resolution No.: 2025- 199

**Moved By:** Joe Lumley **Seconded By:** Paul Sowrey

**Be it resolved that** Council hereby receives and supports the Municipality of Chatham-Kent's Resolution "Bill 5 – Risks to your communities";

**And further that** Council directs staff to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Municipality of Chatham-Kent, and all Ontario municipalities.

**Carried:** ✓ **Defeated:**                     

  
Margaret Ann MacPhail, **Acting Mayor**

| RECORDED VOTE                             |     |         |
|---|-----|---------|
| Council                                   | For | Against |
| <b>Councillors</b> Jim Cushman            |     |         |
| Joe Lumley                                |     |         |
| Paul Sowrey                               |     |         |
| <b>Acting Mayor</b> Margaret Ann MacPhail |     |         |



May 13, 2025

To all Ontario Municipalities, AMO, ROMA and FCM:

Re: Bill 5 - Risks to your communities and support requested

As Mayor of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, I am sharing this motion to bring to your attention the potential risks to your communities and ask for your support to oppose this approach. The following motion was approved yesterday, May 12, 2025:

"Whereas 29831 Irish School Road in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is a property approximately 800 metres from the Town of Dresden;

And Whereas the property contain small fill areas used for historic local landfill purposes, and the property has never been properly studied or zoned for any significant landfilling use;

And Whereas the current property owners are attempting to create a new recycling and landfill facility for millions of tonnes of waste, which would result in hundreds of trucks travelling through towns and communities in the area;

And Whereas this approach has been strongly opposed by Council, the Community, neighbouring Indigenous Nations and many other voices, due to impacts to the environment, our homes, the safety of our families and children, and the fabric of our communities;

And Whereas the Provincial government has proposed Bill 5, which includes a section removing the obligation for a full Environmental Assessment for this new landfill and recycling facility;

And Whereas if this limited, historic local landfill use on the edge of Dresden can be expanded into a massive landfill and recycling facility, then this can happen anywhere;

And Whereas there are likely hundreds of properties across the Province that may have had limited, historic waste uses, which could also face this threat;

And Whereas Bill 197 established a veto for Municipalities within 3.5 kms of a new landfill, which reflected the need for local government and community approval of landfill sites;

And Whereas the approach being taken for this property disregards the importance of our rural communities, and local voices, in determining appropriate landfill sites within their communities:

Cont'd...



Now Therefore to ensure that other Municipal Councils and communities know about what is happening in Dresden, and the potential risk to their community if this approach is taken by the Province, Council requests that the Mayor's Office write a letter to all other Ontario Municipalities, AMO, ROMA and FCM:

1. Advising them of this issue and the risks to their community if a similar approach is taken for other historic landfill properties; the possibility of the Ontario government setting a precedence and
2. Requesting their support in opposing this approach and ensuring that full Environmental Assessments are required for all landfills and that municipalities have a strong voice in determining appropriate locations for landfills in their communities."

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Darrin Canniff, Mayor/CEO  
Municipality of Chatham-Kent


**Township of Southgate**  
**Administration Office**  
185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1  
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



**Phone:** 519-923-2110  
**Toll Free:** 1-888-560-6607  
**Fax:** 519-923-9262  
**Web:** www.southgate.ca

June 23, 2025

**Re: Bill 5 – Protecting Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act**

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department<br>Legislative Services Division |  |
| Date & Time Received:  | June 24, 2025<br>8:50 am                               |
| Original To:   | CIP  |
| Copies To:   |  |
| Take Action  | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments:  |  |

At their regular Council meeting held on June 18, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate adopted the following:

No. 2025-343

**Moved By** Deputy Mayor Dobreen  
**Seconded By** Councillor John

**Be it resolved that** the Township of Southgate receives and supports the correspondence from the City of Woodstock - Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing our Economy Act, 2025, and by virtue of that the correspondence, supports the resolution from City of Kingston; and

**Whereas** the Township of Southgate supports increasing housing supply and economic growth, but believes this must be done in a way that upholds environmental responsibility and maintains the integrity of local planning processes; and

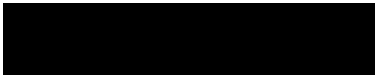
**Therefore, be it resolved that** the Township of Southgate oppose all provisions in Bill 5 that reduce environmental protections and Ontario's proud legacy of protections of Endangered Species, that override the rule of law and that nullify municipal planning authority; and

**That** the Council of the Township of Southgate urge the Province of Ontario to rescind Bill 5 and instead support housing and infrastructure development in ways that aligns with sound environmental planning and wildlife protection, respects the sovereignty and stewardship of Indigenous peoples, and empowers municipalities with appropriate planning tools; and

**That** this resolution be sent to The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier; The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation; The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines; The Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka, MPP Paul Vickers Bruce Grey Owen Sound, The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA); Conservation Ontario; Saugeen Ojibway Nation Chief Conrad Ritchie; Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation Chief Greg Nadjiwon; Six Nations of the Grand River Chief Sherri-Lyn Hill; Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief Linda DeBassige; Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) President Margaret Froh; and all Ontario Municipalities. **Carried**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,




Lindsey Green, Clerk  
Township of Southgate

cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
The Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
The Honourable Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation  
The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines  
The Honourable Graydon Smith, MPP Parry Sound-Muskoka  
Paul Vickers, MPP Bruce Grey Owen Sound  
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)  
The Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)  
Conservation Ontario  
Conrad Ritchie, Chief, Saugeen Ojibway Nation  
Gregory Nadjiwon, Chief, Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation  
Sherri-Lyn Hill, Chief, Six Nations of the Grand River  
Linda DeBassige, Chief, Anishinabek Nation Grand Council  
Margaret Froh, President, Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO)  
All Ontario Municipalities



# Northumberland County Council Resolution

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department<br>Legislative Services Division |  |
| Date & Time Received:  | June 25, 2025<br>1:13 pm                               |
| Original To:   | CIP  |
| Copies To:   |  |
| Take Appropriate Action  | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments:  |  |

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

**June 25, 2025**

Right Honourable Mark Carney (Prime Minister of Canada)  
Honourable Philip Lawrence (MP for Northumberland-Clarke)  
Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario)  
Honourable Victor Fedeli (Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade)  
Honourable Paul Calandra (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing)  
Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
Northumberland County's 7 Member Municipalities  
All Ontario municipalities

**Re: Correspondence, Township of Mulmur  
'Procurement and Advocacy for Trade Agreement Exemptions'**

At a meeting held on June 18, 2025 Northumberland County Council approved Council Resolution # 2025-06-18-508, adopting the below recommendation from the June 3, 2025 Finance and Audit Committee meeting:

**Moved by:** Councillor John Logel  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Scott Jibb

"**That** the Finance and Audit Committee, having considered the correspondence from the Township of Mulmur regarding 'Procurement Advocacy for Trade Agreement Exemptions', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to key stakeholders, including the stakeholders listed in the correspondence, as well as the MP for Northumberland - Clarke, MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South, and Northumberland County's 7 Member Municipalities."

**Council Resolution # 2025-06-18-508**

**Carried**

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at [matherm@northumberland.ca](mailto:matherm@northumberland.ca) or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.

Sincerely,  
Maddison Mather



Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk  
Northumberland County

## Council Resolution

---

Moved By J. Logel (SL)  
Seconded By S. Dibb (SS)

Agenda  
Item 10

Resolution Number  
2025-06-18- 508

**Council Date: June 18, 2025**

"That Council adopt all recommendations from the six Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held June 2, 3 and 4, 2025).

Recorded Vote  
Requested by

Councillor's Name

Deferred

Warden's Signature

Car

Defeated

Warden's Signature

## Finance & Audit Committee Resolution

---

Committee Meeting Date: June 3, 2025

Agenda Item: 7.a

Resolution Number: 2025-06-03- 444

Moved by: M. Martin

Seconded by: B. Ostrander

Council Meeting Date: June 18, 2025

---

"**That** the Finance and Audit Committee, having considered the correspondence from the Township of Mulmur regarding 'Procurement Advocacy for Trade Agreement Exemptions', recommend that County Council support this correspondence and direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to key stakeholders, including the stakeholders listed in the correspondence, as well as the MP for Northumberland - Clarke, MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South, and Northumberland County's 7 Member Municipalities."

Carried   
Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair's Signature



758070 2<sup>nd</sup> Line E  
Mulmur, Ontario  
L9V 0G8

Local **(705) 466-3341**  
Toll Free from 519 only **(866) 472-0417**  
Fax **(705) 466-2922**

April 11, 2025

## **Procurement & Advocacy for Trade Agreement Exemptions**

---

At the meeting held on April 2, 2025, Council of the Township of Mulmur passed the following resolution:

### **Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Cunningham**

Whereas the Township of Mulmur recognizes that tariffs may increase the costs of goods and services sought by the Township;

And whereas the Township of Mulmur recognizes the importance of supporting Canadian businesses and workers through responsible procurement practices;

And whereas municipalities have significant purchasing power but are bound by international trade agreements;

And whereas trade agreements such as the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) impose restrictions on municipalities, and prevent municipalities from giving preference to Canadian suppliers in procurement decisions above certain thresholds;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Township of Mulmur commits to considering Canadian suppliers for goods and services when it is feasible and fiscally responsible to do so for procurements under trade agreement thresholds:

And that the Township of Mulmur commits to continue to utilize cooperative purchasing groups to explore cost-saving measures and Canadian suppliers when it is feasible and fiscally responsible to do so.

And that the Township of Mulmur calls upon the Canadian federal and provincial governments to enact legislative changes to exempt municipalities from trade agreement restrictions while tariffs are imposed, allowing them to give preference to Canadian suppliers for goods, services, and infrastructure projects.

And further that a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- The Prime Minister of Canada
- The Premier of Ontario
- The Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
- All Ontario municipalities for their consideration and support.

**Carried.**

Sincerely,

*Roseann Knechtel*

Roseann Knechtel, Clerk




# PRESCOTT

EST 1784

## THE FORT TOWN

**Regular Council**  
**June 2, 2025**  
111 -2025

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department<br>Legislative Services Division |  |
| Date & Time Received:  | June 25, 2025<br>1:31 pm                               |
| Original To:   | CIP  |
| Copies To:   |  |
| Take Appropriate Action  | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments:  |  |

**Moved by:** Lee McConnell

**Seconded by:** Justin Kirkby

THAT Council endorse the attached draft letter to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing expressing the Town of Prescott's position on the Strong Mayor Powers; AND

THAT Council direct staff to send the letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and copy the Premier of Ontario, the Ministry of Red Tape Reduction, Member of Provincial Parliament for Leeds, Grenville and Rideau Lakes Steve Clark, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO), and all municipalities across the province.

| REQUESTED BY:  |                          |     |    |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----|----|
| RECORDED VOTE  |                          | YES | NO |
|                | Councillor Leanne Burton |     |    |
|                | Councillor Mary Campbell |     |    |
|                | Councillor Justin Kirkby |     |    |
|                | Councillor Ray Young     |     |    |
| CARRIED:       | ✓                        |     |    |
| TABLED:        |                          |     |    |
| DEFEATED:      |                          |     |    |
| RECORDED VOTE: |                          |     |    |
|                | Councillor Tracey Young  |     |    |

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| GAURI SHANKAR, MAYOR      | CHLOE PRESTON, CLERK |
| [Redacted Signature Area] |                      |

June 3, 2025

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
17<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON  
M7A 2J3  
Att: Minister Rob Flack

RE: Strong Mayor Powers – Town of Prescott Position

On behalf of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Prescott, we are writing regarding the Province's recent decision to expand Strong Mayor Powers to an additional 169 municipalities, including our own.

While we recognize the Province's stated intent to accelerate housing development across Ontario, Council remains unclear on how these powers—especially in the context of smaller municipalities—provide a practical or effective mechanism to build more homes, faster. We have identified some alternatives to the centralization of authority in the office of the Mayor to the complex housing challenges we face that would have a direct result in getting housing and infrastructure completed.

We would like to see the province and municipalities be fully aligned and develop a strong working relationship that addresses the barriers to housing development. These barriers are often beyond a municipalities control but are well within the provincial authority to reduce red tape and delays. Whether it be in planning approvals, environmental assessments, or infrastructure coordination, municipalities often face significant holdups not of their own making, but as a result of slow or opaque bureaucratic processes.

We would like to see the same concept of Strong Mayors be used at the provincial level to veto or override provincial-level bottlenecks that stall housing progress. By having conduit, through which municipalities can identify the issues they are facing on specific projects to the province, we would be able to get shovels in the ground quicker and projects completed within months and not years.


This Council remains firmly committed to addressing the housing crisis and to doing our part to enable more homes and more opportunity in Prescott and beyond our borders in neighbouring communities. We believe the path forward must be grounded in bi-lateral efforts, shared accountability, and a commitment to strengthening local governments to make decisions for their communities.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and would welcome further dialogue with the Province to develop housing solutions that are truly effective and locally appropriate by removing unnecessary and non-valued added steps to the process.

Kindly,



Mayor Gauri Shankar on behalf of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Prescott



On Behalf Of Steven Soos  
Sent: June 25, 2025 9:30 AM  
To: Clerks <Clerks@durham.ca>  
Subject: State of emergency

Good day Durham Regional Council,


My name is Steven Soos, I am the state of emergency advocate for mental health, homelessness and addiction in the Niagara Region for the last five years.

I am writing to Durham Regional Council after a resident from City of Pickering requested that Pickering declare a state of emergency on these issues. Of course, Pickering is apart of Durham and this is a Regional issue with the Regional municipality being responsible for service delivery.

The article from Jeff Brown can be found via this link: [Letter: Activist called "justice personified" in heartfelt letter](#)

There is a ton of media available in Niagara on the state of emergency issue. I also believe that Durham Region should establish an emergency operations committee on this issue.

The state of emergency in Niagara was successful in securing 20.8 million dollars for homeless prevention for the Region in 2023.

If any of the Regional politicians have any further questions about the state of emergency, please email me at 

Thank-you,

Steven Soos,



## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**June 10, 2025**

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025 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: Z. Cohoon, Member at Large, Chair

N. Guthrie, Ajax

J. McKay\*, Durham Farm Fresh

G. O'Connor, Member at Large

D. Risebrough, Member at Large

H. Schillings, Member at Large

B. Smith\*, Uxbridge, Vice-Chair

M. Somerville, Member at Large

D. Stevenson, Oshawa

G. Taylor, Pickering

T. Watpool, Brock

W. Woo, Regional Councillor Alternate

W. Wotten\*, Regional Councillor

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

Absent: T. Barrie, Clarington

R. Death, Whitby

B. Hulshof, Uxbridge

M. Shiers, Durham Region Federation of Agriculture

N. Swain, Scugog, Vice-Chair

#### **Staff**

Present: A. De Vos, Program Specialist, Department of Community Growth and Economic Development

R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT

A. Janes, Project Manager, Works Department

M. Scott, Project Planner, Department of Community Growth and Economic Development

K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

L. Talling\*, Acting Manager, Agricultural & Rural Economic Development, Department of Community Growth and Economic Development

**\* denotes staff participating electronically**

## **2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

M. Sommerville made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Item 4.B) Presentation by Dean Orr, Ontario Farmland Trust – Vision for the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve. He indicated that he works as a Heritage Planner for the City of Pickering in which the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve is located.

## **3. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by G.L. O'Connor, Seconded by G. Taylor,  
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting  
held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

## **4. Presentations**

### **A) Carey Yeoman, Durham College – Barrett Centre Program Update**

Carey Yeoman, Durham College, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the Barrett Centre Program Update.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- The Barrett Centre Ajax Urban Farm
- The Barrett Centre Indoor Farm
- Hoop Houses
- Market Ranges
- Partnerships in Motion
- Stouffville Location
- Curriculum Informed Programming
- In Classroom Opportunities – Grade 1-12
- On Farm Opportunities – Grade 1-12
- Food IQ Workshops
- Community Respite
- Open House Days
- Farm Gate Sales
- Additional Revenue
- Urban Agriculture Community Portal and Resource Distribution
- Barrett Centre Knowledge Centre
- Elevating Agriculture's Profile

C. Yeoman responded to questions with regards to which lower tier municipalities are part of the service area; the areas of Durham Region that are travelling to the Barrett Centre for on farm opportunities; the high schools that are partnering with the Barrett Centre; whether the program will be expanding to the northern municipalities in Durham Region; clarification on how the program is organically lead; and the farm model required to offer the program.

B) Dean Orr, Ontario Farmland Trust – Vision for the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve

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Dean Orr, Ontario Farmland Trust, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to the Vision for the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Ontario Farmland Trust
- Why We're Here Today
- Why Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve (DRAP)?
- Why create a vision for DRAP?
- About the Project
- Project Activities
- Who else are we reaching out to?
- Examples of ideas and opportunities
- How You Can Help

D. Orr responded to questions with regards to restrictions on using chemicals within the DRAP; whether tile drainage can be added; experience with trespassers onto the preserve; buying and selling land within the Ontario Farmland Trust; who currently owns the DRAP; potential changes to the overseeing body to the DRAP; whether any land within the Ontario Farmland Trust has changed ownership within the last 10 years; whether the DRAP is within the Greenbelt; and changing the legislation around easements.

Discussion ensued with regards to making agriculture profitable for the next generation; lands being protected under the Ontario Farmland Trust for 1,000 years; and supporting the easements being transferred to the Ontario Farmland Trust from the City of Pickering.

Moved by D. Risebrough, Seconded by G.L. O'Connor,  
That we recommend to the Community Growth and Economic  
Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation  
to Regional Council:

That Council be advised of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee's support of the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve (DRAP) easements being transferred from the City of Pickering to the Ontario Farmland Trust.

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING  
RECORDED VOTE:

Yes

J. McKay  
G.L. O'Connor  
D. Risebrough  
H. Schillings  
B. Smith  
D. Stevenson

No

N. Guthrie

G. Taylor  
T. Watpool  
Councillor Wotten  
Z. Cohoon, Chair

Members Absent: T. Barrie  
R. Death  
B. Hulshof  
M. Shiers  
N. Swain

Declarations of Interest: M. Sommerville

C) Andrew Janes, Project Manager, Durham Region Works Department – Roads Capital Program Update

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Andrew Janes, Project Manager, Works Department, Durham Region, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Roads Capital Program Update.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Overview of Presentation
- 2024 Accomplishments
  - Service Improvements
- 2025 Roads Projects
  - Bowmanville Ave. (Reg. Rd. 57) from Baseline Rd. to south of Reg. Hwy. 2, Clarington
  - Simcoe St. (Reg. Rd. 2) from 0.2km south of Old Simcoe to 0.8km north of Scugog Line 3, Scugog
  - Taunton Rd. (Reg. Rd. 4) from east of Townline Rd. to west of Enfield Rd., Clarington
  - Island Rd. (Reg. Rd. 7) from Fralicks Beach Rd. to Carnegie Beach Rd., Scugog
  - Reg. Rd. 12 Cameron Street from Simcoe Street to 0.65km east of Laidlaw Street, Brock
  - Zephyr Rd. (Reg. Rd. 13) from Conc. 3 (Reg. Rd. 39) to Conc. 4, Uxbridge
  - Reg. Rd. 13 from 0.3km east of Hwy 12 to 4.9km east of Hwy 12, Brock
  - Lake Ridge Road (Reg. Rd. 23) from 0.2km north of Reg. Hwy 47 to 0.42km south of Blue Mountain Road, Uxbridge/Scugog
  - York/Durham Line (Reg. Rd. 30) from 0.16km north of Aurora Road to 0.25km south of Reg. Rd. 8, Uxbridge
  - Shore Line Rd. (Reg. Rd. 47) from 0.1km north of Mara Rd. to Durham/Simcoe Boundary, Brock
  - Reg. Rd. 57 from Shirley Rd. to 0.7km north of Edgerton Rd., Scugog
- Proposed 2025 Structures Replacement/Rehabilitation Projects
- Planned 2025 Road Tenders Funded from Previous Year Budgets



- Planned Culvert Replacement at Central Street over Mitchell Creek with Provisions for Future Road Widening
- Road Closures for Bridge Replacement
- Major Future Projects

A. Janes responded to questions with regards to whether Island Road in the Township of Scugog will be widened; the new proposed width and whether there will be guardrails on the planned culvert replacement at Central Street over Mitchell Creek; whether Simcoe Street is Regionally owned; whether community input is considered when major construction is happening on two roads in close proximity; when the roundabout on Taunton Road at Courtice Road will begin construction; the potential budget impacts on road improvements; and the new width for Simcoe Street between Townline Road and Shirely Road.

Discussion ensued with regards to the potential express train between Toronto and Peterborough and the need for another north-south road between Regional Road 57 and Simcoe Street.

## **5. Discussion Items**

### **A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update**

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A. De Vos provided the following update:

- The Precision Agricultural Field Day was held on May 27, 2025 at the Barrie Farm and was well received by the over 50 students.
- A. De Vos was a panelist on the Housing Needs and Actions for the Agricultural Sector in Rural Greenbelt Communities webinar hosted by Greenbelt Foundation.
- Staff will be participating in a meeting with Invest Durham's Business Development and Invest Durham team and OMAFA to discuss future agri-food investment opportunities for Durham Region. Staff will provide an update at the next meeting.

### **B) Agricultural Advisory Committee Clarington Update**

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T. Barrie was not in attendance to provide the Agricultural Advisory Committee Clarington update.

### **C) Durham Farm Fresh Update**

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J. McKay provided the following Durham Farm Fresh update:

- Strawberry season is beginning to open up.
- There are 48 members this year on Durham Farm Fresh.
- The new Durham Farm Fresh brochures have been distributed.

- There are 3 culinary demonstrations booked for the year in partnership with Durham Farm Connections, Durham Tourism and Chef Alex Page.

D) Greater Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance Update

M. Sommerville advised he has been retained by the Barrett Centre and the Greater Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance to prepare a paper focusing on economically viable near-urban and urban agriculture by looking at vertical agriculture, agri-hoods, aqua-culture and rooftop greenhouses. The paper is to research what is limiting urban agriculture and at developing zoning by-laws that will allow for more urban agriculture to be integrated throughout the GTHA.

E) Durham Region Federation of Agriculture Update

M. Shiers was not in attendance to provide the Durham Region Federation of Agriculture update.

F) 2025 DAAC Farm Tour

D. Risebrough advised that there will be a site meeting to finalize remaining details; and that the menu has been finalized with a change from beef to pork loin and chicken, and the greens for the salad will be provided by Mighty Harvest. D. Risebrough suggested a sub-committee meeting take place at the end of August to go over the final details and requested that a Committee member be at each table on the day of the event.

**6. Information Items**

A) DAAC Resolution – Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Rural Clean Water Program

Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Resolution regarding Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Rural Clean Water Program for recommendation to the Community Growth and Economic Development Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to Regional Council was provided as Attachment #2 to the agenda and received.

B) #2025-EDT-8 – Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority General Update

A copy of Commissioner Report #2025-EDT-8 of the Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development was provided as Attachment #3 to the agenda and received.

C) Township of Scugog – Delegation Regarding an Introduction to DAAC, a Summary of DAAC's Work in 2024

Correspondence from Blair Labelle, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk, Township of Scugog, regarding Delegation Regarding an Introduction to DAAC, a

Summary of DAAC's Work in 2024, was provided as Attachment #4 to the agenda and received.

D) #2025-EDT-11 – Local Food in Durham Region: Durham Farm Fresh Marketing Association Annual Update and Ontario Local Food Week

A copy of Commissioner Report #2025-EDT-11 of the Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development was provided as Attachment #5 to the agenda and received.

E) #2025-INFO-37 – Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Annual Presentations to Area Municipal Councils

A copy of Information Report #2025-INFO-37 of the Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development was provided as Attachment #6 to the agenda and received.

Moved by G.L. O'Connor, Seconded by D. Risebrough,  
That Information Items 6. A) to 6. E) inclusive, be received for information.  
CARRIED

**7. Other Business**

A) Future Off-Site DAAC Meeting

M. Scott advised staff are looking into holding an off-site meeting at Mighty Harvest and more information will be provided when details have been finalized.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 starting at 7:30 PM.

**9. Adjournment**

Moved by M. Sommerville, Seconded by H. Schillings,  
That the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 PM

Respectfully submitted,

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Z. Cohoon, Chair

---

K. Smith, Committee Clerk

## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **DURHAM ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, June 12, 2025**

A meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee was held on Thursday, June 12, 2025 in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:05 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

#### **1. Call to Order & Traditional Territory Acknowledgement**

V. Walker read the following land acknowledgement:

The Region of Durham exists on lands that the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg inhabited for thousands of years prior to European colonization. These lands are the traditional and treaty territories of the Nations covered under the Williams Treaties, including the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, and the Chippewa Nations of Georgina Island, Beausoleil and Rama.

We honour, recognize, and respect Indigenous Peoples as rights holders and stewards of the lands and waters on which we have the privilege to live. In our efforts towards reconciliation, we continue to build and strengthen relationships with First Nations, as well as the growing Inuit communities and large Métis communities here in Durham. We commit to learning from Indigenous values and knowledge, building opportunities for collaboration, and recognizing that we are all connected.

#### **2. Roll Call**

Present: R. Lalonde, Whitby, Chair  
C. Houston, Clarington, Vice-Chair  
J. Jutzi, Scugog  
Councillor Kerr  
K. Mirani\*, Brock  
T. Van Helsdingen\*, Ajax attended the meeting at 7:35 PM  
**\* denotes members participating electronically**

Absent: B. Astley, Oshawa  
A. Heywood, Pickering  
P. Smith, Uxbridge

Staff  
Present: K. Chambers, Rural Tourism Specialist  
D. Culp, Project Planner, Transportation Planning  
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
C. Leitch, Manager, Transportation Planning  
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

**3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by C. Houston,  
That the minutes of the Durham Active Transportation Committee  
meeting held on March 6, 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

**5. Presentations**

A) Constable Vanessa Ford, Durham Kids Safety Village, re: Overview of  
Durham Kids Safety Village and Cycling Safety Insights

Constable Vanessa Ford, Durham Kids Safety Village, provided a  
PowerPoint presentation with regards to an Overview of Durham Kids Safety  
Village and Cycling Safety Insights.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Kids Safety Village of Durham Region
- Our Village
- Classrooms
- Police, Fire EMS, Elexicon, & Victim Services of Durham Region (VSDR)
- Programming
- New Class Beginning January 2024: Human Trafficking
- How Our Day Runs for Classes
- Our Events
  - Christmas in the Village
  - Easter
  - Halloween
  - Summer Drop-In
  - Other Events that We Host
- Student Volunteer Program

Constable Ford responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether factors have been identified that explain the delay in the average age that a child learns to ride a bicycle; and whether there is an opportunity to extend the safety program to also be offered during the fall season.

B) Kendra Couling, Park Planner, and Jason Yakelashek, Park Superintendent,  
Ontario Parks, re: Uxbridge Urban Provincial Park

Kendra Couling, Park Planner, and Jason Yakelashek, Park Superintendent, Ontario Parks, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Uxbridge Urban Provincial Park.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Historical Context
- What Was and Where Things Were Going
- Partnership and Engagement
- Values
- Life Science Information
- Management Planning Process
- Pressures on Park Values
- Inheriting Invasive Species
- Recreational Values in the Area
- Multi-Use Trails
- Existing Infrastructure
- How Things Are Evolving
- Park Operations
- Park Clean-Up Days
  - Clean-Up Days – Silver Lining
- Next Steps
- Active Transportation
- Land Acquisitions

J. Yakelashek responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether phase 2 of the Park's boundary creation project is anticipated to occur over a multi-year period; recreational mountain biking; the associated fee structure for using the Park; and whether the Park will continue to be maintained by volunteers or become a provincial responsibility.

C) Kristyn Chambers, Rural Tourism Specialist, re: Durham Tourism Rural Cycling Loops

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Kristyn Chambers, Rural Tourism Specialist, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Durham Tourism Rural Cycling Loops.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Rural Cycle Tourism: Destination / Experience Development
- Which of These Skills Levels Looks Most Like You?
  - Leisure
  - Intermediate
  - Advanced
- Ontario By Bike
  - Ontario by Bike Certification Program
  - Promotional Opportunities
  - Certification Criteria
- Cycling Wayfinding
  - Collaboration with Transportation Options
  - Signage Design
  - Signage Audit

- Installation, Fabrication, and Maintenance

K. Chambers responded to a question from the Committee with regards to whether the Region is collecting data to evaluate the program.

General discussion ensued with regards to the benefits of the Ontario by Bike Certification Program; and various methods that can be utilized to collect data.

**6. Delegations**

There were no delegations to be heard.

**7. Discussion Items**

There were no discussion items to consider.

**8. Information Items**

**A) Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) New Member Update**

R. Lalonde and D. Culp introduced J. Jutzi as the DATC's new Scugog representative and welcomed him to the Committee.

**B) Region of Durham Bike Month**

C. Leitch stated that Bike Month activities are underway, and that the Region's Bike-to-Work Day held on June 5<sup>th</sup> was a successful event.

C. Leitch highlighted the various activities and exhibits offered for Bike-to-Work Day, which included a group bike ride from the Whitby GO Station to Regional Headquarters; booth displays set up by Smart Mobility Durham, United Way, Durham Tourism, Durham Health Department, and the Durham Region Cycling Coalition; complimentary bike tune-ups by Cycle Life; and demonstrations by Durham Region Transit staff for using the bicycles racks on buses, and attendees had the opportunity to practice loading and offloading their bikes onto the bus racks.

C. Leitch stated that the Region has also organized additional activities for Bike Month that include a Bike Month Pledge, Bike Bingo, Walk and Roll to School Contest, and a Bike Month Contest on the Smart Commute tool.

C. Leitch provided an overview of the following local community events that have been organized for Bike Month:

- The City of Oshawa held a community bike ride on June 7<sup>th</sup> and will be hosting a scavenger hunt on June 18<sup>th</sup> at Lakeview Park.
- The Town of Whitby is offering drop-in bike repair workshops on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Waterfront Trail and June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Whitby Central Library.



- The Town of Ajax is hosting Trail Fest on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Audley Recreation Centre.
- Ontario Tech hosted a community bike ride on June 11<sup>th</sup> that led riders around Ontario Tech and the Windfields Farm neighbourhood.

C. Leitch advised that additional information on Bike Month can be accessed at [www.durham.ca/bikemonth](http://www.durham.ca/bikemonth).

Staff received feedback from the Committee that the Walk and Roll to School Contest submissions be expanded to permit additional school staff to submit entries, as the contest currently specifies the school administrator (i.e., principal).

C) Ontario Bike Summit Updates

---

R. Lalonde stated that the Ontario Bike Summit took place in Windsor in May 2025 and was hosted by Share the Road Cycling Coalition.

R. Lalonde shared the following highlights from the Summit:

- Shewkar Ibrahim, the Director of Traffic Operations for the City of Edmonton, delivered the keynote speech which was centred on community safety and the five (5) key pillars for planning, implementing, and sustaining active transportation initiatives.
- A workshop on Bike Friendly Communities included both a program overview and a panel discussion.
- A variety of break out sessions were offered, focusing on how advocates can support municipalities in advancing active transportation, fostering positive relationships between cyclists and drivers, and cycling data.
- A municipal leaders' panel discussion covered topics of what a bike friendly community looks like, how to support active transportation, continued advocacy for cycling improvements, and the biggest challenges as it relates to active transportation.
- A Queen's Park All Party Roundtable, which was attended by MPP Mike Schreiner, explored areas such as the increased polarization between governments and cyclists, benefits of bike lanes, and causes of gridlock.
- A tour of the Gordie Howe International Bridge, which is the largest cable-stay bridge in North America that connects Windsor with Detroit. The bridge runs 2.5 km in length and connects to a 3.6 metre multi-use path which is toll free for cyclists and pedestrians. The bridge is expected to open in Fall of 2025.

R. Lalonde congratulated D. Culp for receiving the Norma Moores Active Transportation Award.

D) 1 Metre Cycling Safety Campaign Update

---

D. Culp stated that the Region has partnered with the Durham Region Cycling Coalition to develop a cycling safety campaign that aims to raise awareness and educate road users of the 1-metre safe passing law. She further stated that the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) may also join as a collaborator on the campaign.

D. Culp advised that the campaign is expected to launch in mid-July and run for eight (8) weeks, with advertisements appearing on Durham Region Transit buses and shelters, and select Regional roads through Curbex signs, and various public service announcements and social media messaging being published throughout the campaign period.

Samples of the transit and Curbex sign advertisements created for the campaign were shared with the Committee, and members provided feedback on the images and verbiage contained in the posters.

E) North Durham Rail Trail Winter Storm Damage

---

R. Lalonde provided an update on the North Durham Trans Canada Rail Trail and advised that an ice storm in March 2025 caused significant damage to the trail that requires considerable repairs.

R. Lalonde stated that substantial work had been completed on the trail in 2024 to bring the trail up to acceptable standards. He further stated that the Mayor of Uxbridge had previously offered for the Township to monitor the trail once it was brought up to acceptable standards, however, due to the damage caused by the ice storm, such monitoring has not commenced.

R. Lalonde stated that significant tree damage across the full length of the corridor resulted from the ice storm and blocked access from Highway 7/12 across to Simcoe Street. He further stated that due to funding challenges, clean-up and repairs are still pending.

R. Lalonde advised that a meeting is scheduled to take place on June 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the damage and required repairs and clean-up. The meeting will be attended by key stakeholders, including the Eastern Ontario Trail Alliance, elected officials from Brock, Scugog and Uxbridge, TransCanada Trail, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, Durham Region, and Infrastructure Ontario.

**9. Other Business**

A) Active Transportation Network in the City of Oshawa

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Councillor Kerr advised that a pedestrian/cycling multi-use path (MUP) bridge that crosses the Oshawa Creek parallel to Simcoe Street, north of Glovers Road in Oshawa, is scheduled to be constructed in 2027. He advised that the current infrastructure poses safety concerns and the

implementation of an MUP bridge is an important component in achieving an active transportation network through the City of Oshawa.

Councillor Kerr provided a detailed overview of the envisioned network that would create a complete active transportation system that connects the secondary institutions in north Oshawa to the downtown core. He identified various challenges and potential solutions that are being considered as part of the planning process.

**B) Waterfront Trail Closure in Oshawa**

---

R. Lalonde stated that the Oshawa Waterfront Trail has been closed from Harbour Street to Colonel Sam Drive to complete multiple construction projects. He advised that no detours are planned for the duration of the construction, and no announcements or communication regarding the closures were initially issued to the community.

R. Lalonde stated that the projects include rehabilitation of Farewell Street and infrastructure upgrading to extend access to the Port of Oshawa. He added that the work is expected to be completed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2025.

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Durham Active Transportation Committee will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2025 in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 7:00 PM.

**11. Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by C. Houston,  
That the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM

---

R. Lalonde, Chair  
Durham Active Transportation  
Committee

---

V. Walker, Committee Clerk

## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **9-1-1 MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**June 17, 2025**

A regular meeting of the 9-1-1 Management Board was held in Meeting Room 1-B, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 1 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

#### **1. Roll Call**

Present: G. O'Blenes, Durham Regional Police, Chair  
S. Boyd, Fire & Emergency Services\*  
T. Cheseboro, Region of Durham Paramedic Services\*  
B. Garrod, Durham Regional Council  
M. Simpson, Director of Risk Management, Economic Studies and Procurement, Durham Region  
W. Spindler, Oshawa Central Ambulance Communications Centre\*  
J. Wichman, Communications/9-1-1 Technical Manager  
**\*denotes members of the Committee participated electronically**

Also

Present: Regional Chair Henry  
S. Carter, Durham Regional Police  
A. Naeem, Solicitor, Legal Department\*

Staff

Present: R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council, Legislative Services Division – Corporate Services Department

#### **2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

#### **3. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by J. Wichman, Seconded by M. Simpson,  
(5) That the minutes of the 9-1-1 Management Board meeting held on April 29, 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

**4. Update re: Leadership Change within DRPS**

G. O'Blenes introduced Inspector Sean Carter. He advised that there has been some changes within Communications 9-1-1 for DRPS and that S. Carter will be moving into the role that he has been in. G. O'Blenes also advised that as the 9-1-1 Management Board still falls within his portfolio, he will still actively participate but not as a voting member. G. O'Blenes stated he has enjoyed working with everyone on the Board for the three years that he has been a member.

**5. Update on NG9-1-1 GIS Readiness and Risk Assessment**

J. Wichman provided an update on the NG9-1-1 GIS Readiness Assessment. He stated that the assessment has been received and signed off on and he will be setting up a meeting with the Region's GIS to start working on tracking the suggested changes. He advised that the set date may be the end of 2027 to 2028 and advised that he will provide detailed updates on the tracking.

Discussion ensued with regards to the possibility of providing a high-level dashboard to the members to keep the project live and to provide an understanding of the tracking, progress and to identify any risks.

**6. 9-1-1 Call Statistics**

J. Wichman stated that the 2025 call volume is so far very similar to 2024. He advised that the numbers typically go up in the summer and drop towards the end of the year.

J. Wichman also advised of a new release for a watch by Android that has pulse detection and which is currently active in the United States and other countries. He has requested that staff see if it is available and active in Canada as this feature may impact the PSAPs, especially when the public is not aware of the new features. It was requested that this matter be added as an item on the next Agenda as the issue may impact 9-1-1 call volumes.

Discussion ensued with regards to whether the 9-1-1 calls are trending lower than 2024; whether the calls that go to police, ambulance and fire are tracked separately; and whether it is tracked when police and ambulance are dispatched.

**7. DRPS Update re: 9-1-1 System**

J. Wichman provided a brief update on the 9-1-1 System. He advised that there have been some issues with isolated trunks due to the ageing network however, the issues were found and repaired quickly with no lost calls.

J. Wichman also advised that construction has started at Taunton Road and Anderson Road in Whitby which is scheduled to continue through to December 2025 and any foreseeable issues are on staff's radar.

Discussion ensued with regards to what the 'scramble' time is to evacuate and move to the alternate site; whether both sites can be operated at the same time; and whether other PSAPs are affected by lines going down.

**8. Confidential Matters**

There were no confidential matters.

**Other Departments - Comments/Concerns**

1. Comments/Concerns – Regional Council

Councillor Garrod advised that he has followed up with T. Cheseboro with regards to sitting in with paramedic services.

Councillor Garrod expressed his thanks to G. O'Blenes for his assistance with understanding the processes involved with call takers, and welcomed Inspector Sean Carter to the Board.

2. Comments/Concerns – Durham Police

There were no updates.

3. Comments/Concerns – Fire Departments

S. Boyd advised that the new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system has been implemented for fire and is now operable and running smoothly. He advised that the new primary dispatch centre is now open in Oshawa.

4. Comments/Concerns – Oshawa Central Ambulance Communications Centre (CACC)

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W. Spindler advised that the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS) was implemented on May 21<sup>st</sup> and is going really well. He advised that there has been a lot of communication with police and paramedic services with regards to adjusting response plans and how the calls are attended. He also advised that staffing at the CACC continues to improve.

5. Comments/Concerns – Durham Finance

There were no updates.

6. Comments/Concerns – Region of Durham Paramedic Services

T. Cheseboro stated that the rollout of MPDS has been very successful. He advised that there has been a 40% reduction in Code 4 (lights and sirens) responses which means that calls are getting prioritized more effectively and accurately. He also stated that there has been a 40% reduction in meal claims which means that staff are getting their appropriate breaks.

**9. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**10. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on September 23, 2025 at 10 AM at the Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**11. Adjournment**

Moved by M. Simpson, Seconded by J. Wichman  
(6) That the meeting be adjourned.  
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 1:37 PM

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G. O'Blenes, Durham Regional Police

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N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to  
Council

## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **DURHAM ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**June 19, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, June 19, 2025, in Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:19 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

#### **1. Roll Call**

Present: J. Cuthbertson, Member at Large, Chair  
B. Baszytk, Brock  
G. Carpentier, Scugog, First Vice-Chair  
O. Chaudhry, Pickering  
C. DeAbreu, Youth Member  
K. Lui, Member at Large, Second Vice-Chair  
B. Widner, Whitby  
**\*all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: P. Cohen, Post-Secondary Student  
M. Nasir, Ajax  
K. Murray, Clarington  
Councillor Shahid  
D. Stathopoulos, Oshawa

#### **Staff**

Present: A. Bathe, Senior Planner, Community Growth & Economic Development  
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
N. Halim, Sustainability Policy Advisor, Office of the CAO  
S. Logan, Policy Advisory, Climate Change, Office of the CAO  
Department  
S. Vamathevan, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
**\*all staff members participated electronically**

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by O. Chaudhry, Seconded by B. Widner,  
That the agenda for the June 19, 2025 Durham Environment and Climate  
Advisory Committee (DECAC) meeting, be approved.  
CARRIED

#### **3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.



#### **4. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by O. Chaudhry, Seconded by G. Carpentier,  
That the minutes of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory  
Committee meeting held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, be adopted.  
CARRIED

#### **5. Presentations**

- A) Jasmine Green, Supervisor of Community Outreach and Education, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and Patricia Lowe, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, presenting on the Ajax and Whitby Neighbourhood SNAP Programs
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Jasmine Green, Supervisor of Community Outreach and Education, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), Patricia Lowe, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA), and Sarah MacKell, Program Manager, TRCA provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Town of Ajax and the Town of Whitby's Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Programs (SNAP).

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Agenda
- Sustainable Neighbourhoods Action Program (SNAP)
- Celebrating 15 Years of Revitalizing Neighbourhoods in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA)
- A Growing Network of SNAPs
- Town of Ajax SNAP
  - Ajax SNAP Action Plan
  - Quick-Start Projects – 2025
  - South Ajax Home Retrofit Program (2023-2025)
- Town of Ajax SNAP Neighbourhood Resilience Strategy
  - Neighbourhood Climate Vulnerability Assessment
  - Definition of a Resilient Neighbourhood
  - Neighbourhood Vulnerability Assessment Framework
  - Exposure
    - Ground Surface Temperature
    - Flood Risk
  - Sensitivity
    - Age, Education, and Language
  - Adaptive Capacity
    - Exposure to Nature
    - Community Assets and Services
  - Overall Results
    - Vulnerability = Sensitivity – Adaptive Capacity
  - Neighbourhood Adaptation and Resilience Strategies
  - Top 10 Adaptation and Resilience Strategies
- West Lynde SNAP

- Snapshot
- Durham Region Perspective/Benefits

J. Green responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether they have engaged large property owners and commercial/industrial owners with respect to planting trees/vegetation in their parking lots to help reduce the effects of heat islands; and whether there has ever been a focus on wildlife with respect to creating healthy communities.

B) Emily Whitehead, Sustainability Intern, Town of Ajax, presenting on the Ajax Mature Tree Incentive Program

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Emily Whitehead, Sustainability Intern, Town of Ajax provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Town of Ajax's Mature Tree Incentive Program.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Background
- Mature Tree Conservation Program
  - Parameters
  - Program Guidelines
- Supporting Policy
  - Town of Ajax Official Plan
  - Ajax Urban Forest Study: Technical Report (2023)
  - Ajax Climate Risk & Resiliency Plan
- Benefits of Maintaining Mature Urban Trees
  - Environmental
  - Financial
  - Communal

**6. Items for Action/Discussion**

A) Kingston Climate Forum Debrief (N. Halim)

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N. Halim advised that he attended the 2025 Kingston Climate Summit that took place on June 4 and 5, 2025 at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. He advised that the focus of the summit was to explore regional climate topics, attend information sessions, and take part in study tours across the community. He further advised that the goal was to spark new ideas and partnerships for local climate action.

N. Halim advised that the keynote speaker for the event was Brent Toderian, who is a world-renowned city planning expert known for his work on sustainable urban design.

B) Durham Climate Forum Discussion (N. Halim)

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N. Halim advised that staff have set November 15, 2025, as the tentative date for the Durham Climate Forum. He advised that the main foyer of Durham

headquarters will be used for the event, as well as the adjacent meeting rooms that will host various workshops. He further advised that various organizations will have booths set-up along the hallways to share their information.

Discussion ensued regarding having a booth set-up for DECAC members to hand out DECAC swag and to share the role of DECAC in the community; and how the DECAC awards will be incorporated into the event.

A. Bathe also stated that the nomination for the DECAC awards closes on June 27, 2025, and reminded the Committee members to share the nomination form within their networks.

## **7. For Information**

### **A) Information Report #2025-INFO-47: Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee Spring 2025 Pollinator Seed Giveaway Project**

A copy of Report #2025-INFO-47 of the Commissioner of Community Growth & Economic Development was received.

### **B) Commissioner's Report #2025-CG-7: Region of Durham Response to Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing the Economy Act, 2025**

A copy of Report #2025-CG-7 of the Commissioner of Community Growth & Economic Development was received.

It was the consensus of the Committee to support Report #2025-CG-7: Region of Durham Response to Bill 5, Protect Ontario by Unleashing the Economy Act, 2025, but specific concern was raised with respect to Attachment #1 to Report #2025-CG-7, Item 4., underplaying the negative impact that Bill 5 will have for endangered and at-risk species habitats and ecosystems.

### **C) Information Report #2025-INFO-40: Monitoring Growth Trends**

A copy of Report #2025-INFO-40 of the Commissioner of Community Growth & Economic Development was received.

### **D) Commissioner's Report #2025-CG-8: Durham Region's Active Transportation Progress Report 2024-2024**

A copy of Report #2025-CG-8 of the Commissioner of Community Growth & Economic Development was received.

### **E) Reclaiming Nature: Town of Ajax Reclamation Project**

A copy of the Reclaiming Nature: Town of Ajax Reclamation Project was received.

F) Town of Ajax Environmental Sustainability Projects and Programs: Status Update

A copy of the Town of Ajax's Environmental Sustainability Projects and Programs was received.

G) Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

A copy of the May 13, 2025, Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) meeting minutes was received.

Moved by O. Chaudhry, Seconded by B. Widner,  
That Information Items 7. A) to 7. G) inclusive, be received for  
information.

CARRIED

**8. Other Business**

A) Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas

G. Carpentier advised that the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas is a 5-year project that assesses avian health in Ontario. He stated he is the Regional Coordinator for the Region of Durham, and that nature has been doing well in Durham with 180 species being confirmed to be breeding in the region. He also recognized and thanked the 131 volunteers who have worked on the project.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, September 18, 2025, starting at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**10. Adjournment**

Moved by G. Carpentier, Seconded by B. Baszyk,  
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM

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J. Cuthbertson, Chair, Durham Environment  
and Climate Advisory Committee

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S. Ciani, Committee Clerk