

# Durham Region's Freight and Goods Movement Forum

**Presented to Planning and Economic Development Committee**

May 2, 2023



 **ARCADIS**

**IBI GROUP**



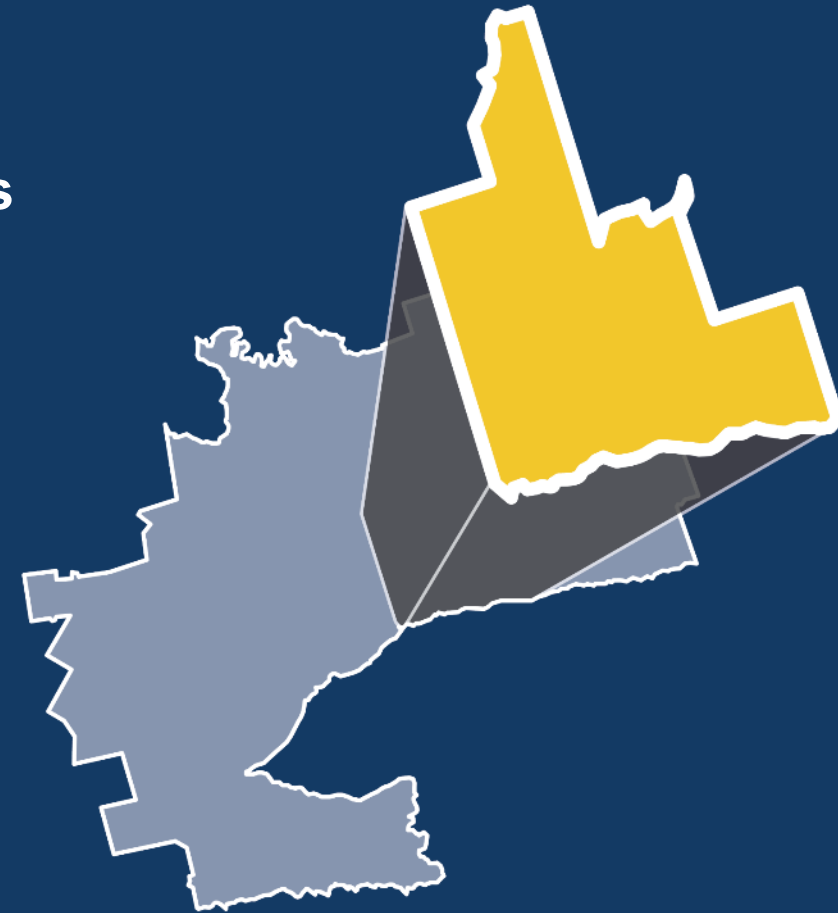
# Durham Region in Context

## DURHAM IS GROWING

Durham Region is one of the fastest growing communities in the Greater Golden Horseshoe, expected to grow from 700,000 people currently to 1.3 million by 2051

## JOBS ARE ON THE RISE

Durham Region's total number of jobs is planned to increase from 230,000 currently to 460,000 by 2051. The Region is also planning to provide an additional 1,170 hectares of employment land near 400-series highways.



# Durham Region in Context

## Freight Activity and Key Opportunities in Durham



Durham's Strategic Goods Movement Network includes Regional Roads totalling

**245 km**



Durham's marine port handles 500,000 to 750,000 tonnes of cargo annually, equivalent to

**16,000** truckloads



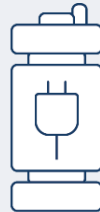
Durham's number of workers employed in freight and goods movement is just under

**10,000**



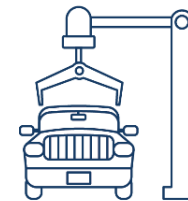
A high proportion of jobs in Durham are relevant to goods movement, including:

<b>49%</b>	<b>Commercial Sector</b>
<b>13%</b>	<b>Industrial Sector</b>
<b>6%</b>	<b>Agricultural Sector</b>



A new small modular reactor is planned in Durham by 2029, and will provide an additional

**300 MW** of power for electrification



The reopened General Motors Assembly plant is poised to host

**2,600** auto-manufacturing jobs

# Purpose of the Forum



## Identified Goods Movement Issues and Solutions

Identified specific goods movement issues both globally and locally and identified ways to address them in partnership with government, agencies and industry leaders.



## Fostered Collaboration and Partnerships

Increased collaboration and exposure to different perspectives between industry leaders, governments, and agencies within the Freight and Goods Movement sector.



## Informed Future Policy Development and Updates

Forum lay the groundwork to identify key trends and challenges globally and locally to help inform and appropriately scope future policy development and updates

# Alignment with Regional Plans and Goals

## 2020 – 2024 Durham Region Strategic Plan



### Economic Prosperity

3.3 Enhance communication and transportation networks to better connect people and move goods more effectively



### Service Excellence

5.1 Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value through knowledge sharing

## 2017 Durham Region Transportation Master Plan

### Direction 6: Improve goods movement to support economic development

- Goal: Collaboration will inform and support shared solutions
- Goal: Freight information will support policies, plans and practices
- Goal: The built environment will support goods movement

### Action 94: Initiate a Durham regional freight forum

- Bring together all levels of government and industry though leaders to identify specific goods movement issues and to find ways to address them in partnership

### Action 95: Develop a goods movement communication strategy

- Engages and educates the public and elected officials.
- Communicates the importance of integrating goods movement into all aspects of Regional business, identifying barriers in the existing network and promoting a consistent and supportive road network for goods movement.

# Forum Snapshot



June 22 and June 23, 2022

2

day virtual  
event

- Day 1 – Focused on the big picture
- Day 2 – Focused on Durham-specific trends and challenges

71

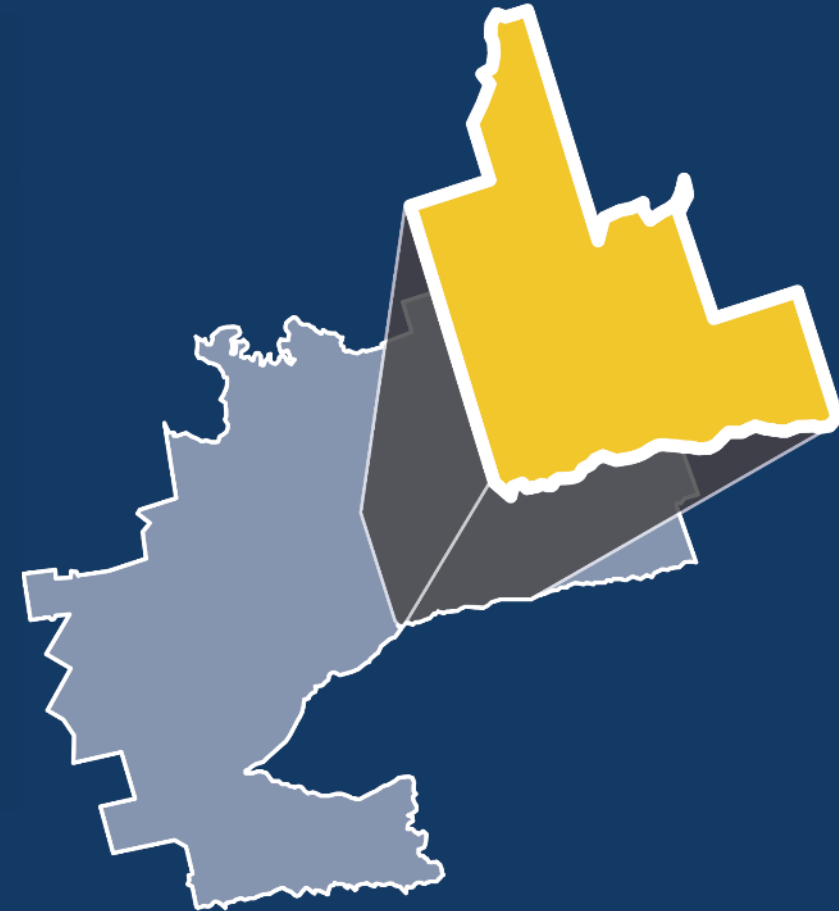
participants

- Attracted participants from across the goods movement spectrum including government, industry, service providers, academia, non-profits and more!

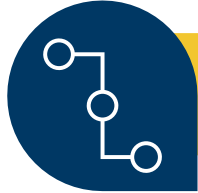
10

sessions

- The Forum provided a unique opportunity to share information on goods movement trends, needs, issues, best practices, and opportunities.



# Trends and Recommended Actions



## Congestion, connectivity and access challenges to moving freight

- Strengthen and integrate multi-modal infrastructure
- Improve access to marine ports and rail



## A clear commitment to reducing our environmental impacts

- Accelerate clean energy production and environmentally conscious practices in how we transport goods and people



## Increasing opportunities and efficiencies through emerging technologies

- Apply real-world precedents of adopting electric vehicle use
- Become an incubator for leading-edge research



## Impending labour shortages and skill gaps impacting delivery of goods

- Invest in growing and attracting new talent and skill upgrades
- Enhance the transportation/logistics profile



## Historic levels of investment in vehicle manufacturing, particularly EVs

- Leverage strategic location and opportunities for economic development



## Increasing e-commerce, automation and other transformative goods delivery

- Create freight and goods movement-policies that encourage disruptive technologies and applications that balance community and industry needs

# Key Takeaways



## Need Freight Supportive Guidelines

Clearly identifies factors that influence freight in the Region, helps identify specific issues and actions needed to support goods movement and economy



## Importance of Low Carbon Refueling and Charging Facilities

More investment in ultrafast charging technology is needed support the shift to electrification of fleet



## Explore Truck Only Lanes on 400-series Highways

Congestion on 400 series highways was one of the top issues identified and improving efficiency of deliveries was a top priority for freight and goods movement in the Region



## Investment in Agriculture and Goods Movement Hubs

Efficiency in getting goods from farm to table with a focus on economies of scale



# Next Steps

- **Update Region's Freight and Goods Movement Strategy**
  - Capitalize on Durham's unique context to shape goods movement and enable economic development
  - Continue to build a robust, integrated network of reliable multi-modal infrastructure
  - Respond to both the opportunities and challenges of commercial vehicle electrification
  - Focus on transitioning to sustainable goods movement
  - Enhance the profile of the transportation and logistics sector
  - Build on short-term initiatives
  - Strengthen industry-government dialogue to addressing new challenges and seeking buy-in through meaningful terms

## Goods Movement Strategy Update Timeline

Q4 – October 2023

**Phase 1:** Develop and confirm project scope

Q1 – February 2024

**Phase 2:** Issue project RFP and complete evaluation of proponents

Q2 – May 2024

**Phase 3:** Commence Durham Region's Goods Movement Strategy Update



# Thank You!

## Questions?



## Learn More:

For more information and updates on Freight and Goods Movement in Durham Region visit:

<https://www.durham.ca/en/living-here/transportation.aspx>

## Contact:

**Danielle Culp** – Project Planner,  
Transportation Planning  
Email: [Danielle.Culp@durham.ca](mailto:Danielle.Culp@durham.ca)

**Greg Pereira** – Manager,  
Transportation Planning  
Email: [Greg.Pereira@durham.ca](mailto:Greg.Pereira@durham.ca)