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## **The Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**Wednesday, November 13, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:31 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

Regional Chair Henry assumed the Chair.

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

Present: Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe\*, left the meeting at 12:19 PM  
Councillor Barton  
Councillor Brenner\*  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier, left the meeting at 10:19 AM due to municipal business  
and returned to the meeting at 10:40 AM  
Councillor Cook\*, left the meeting at 11:38 AM and returned to the meeting  
at 12:18 PM  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster\*  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Jubb\*  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor McDougall, left the meeting at 12:17 PM due to municipal  
business  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal\*, left the meeting at 12:55 PM  
Councillor Nicholson\*  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Schummer\*  
Councillor Shahid, left the meeting at 12:59 PM  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten\*, attended the meeting at 9:56 AM and left the meeting at  
12:53 PM due to municipal business  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

**\* denotes staff participating electronically**

All members of Committee were present with the exception of Councillor Carter.

**Staff**

Present: S. Austin, E. Baxter-Trahair, M. Broderick\*, A. Burgess, B. Bridgeman, D. Culp, S. Danos-Papaconstantinou\*, S. Dessureault, S. Foroutani\*, P. Gee, C. Goodchild, B. Goodwin, A. Harras, A. Hector-Alexander, J. Hunt, B. Holmes, R. Inacio, R. Jagannathan, R.J. Kyle, C. Leitch, L. Livery, I. McVey, N. Pincombe, C. Taylor\*, N. Taylor, E. Valant\*, S. Vamathevan, and V. Walker

**\*denotes staff participating electronically**

**2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

**3. Statutory Public Meetings**

There were no statutory public meetings.

**4. Presentations**

**4.1 Kevin Kamau, Founder & Consultant, Ediseed and Ekua Quansah, Consulting Partner, Ediseed, Re: DEI Strategy Development - Councillor Feedback**

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A. Hector-Alexander, Director, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion introduced K. Kamau, Founder & Consultant, Ediseed and E. Quansah, Consulting Partner, Ediseed to present a PowerPoint presentation regarding DEI Strategy Development – Councillor Feedback.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Introductions
- Vision and Mission
- Project Outline
- Discussion
- Survey Questions

K. Kamau and E. Quansah responded to questions from the Committee regarding the current barriers to creating equal access to regional services across all local municipalities of the Region of Durham, due to the differing conditions of each municipality; whether residents with limited access and time constraints are being considered when determining community engagement strategies; and concerns about the distinction between the roles of the Region of Durham and the lower-tier municipalities in developing the DEI strategy.

4.2 Chris Leitch, Manager, Transportation Planning, Danielle Culp, Project Planner, and Kate Whitfield, Principal, Alta Planning + Design Canada, Re: Durham Region Cycling Wayfinding and Signage Strategy (2024-COW-45) [Item 7.2]

C. Leitch, Manager, Transportation Planning, D. Culp, Project Planner, and K. Whitfield, Principal, Alta Planning + Design Canada provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Durham Region Cycling Wayfinding and Signage Strategy.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Introduction and Background
- Purpose
- Outcomes and Impact
- Foundations of the Cycling Wayfinding and Signage Strategy
- Alignment with Regional Plans and Policies
- The Network
- Vision
- Project Timeline and Engagement
- Audience Groups and Engagement Activities
- What We Heard
- Overview of Cycling Wayfinding and Signage Strategy Components
- Destinations
- Destination Hierarchy
- Establishing an Identity for the Primary Cycling Network (PCN)
- Sign Family Concept
- Implementation Plan
  - Phasing
  - Roles and Responsibilities
- Maintenance Considerations
- Funding Tools and Approach
- Conclusion and Next Steps

C. Leitch and D. Culp responded to questions from the Committee regarding what the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will look like when the cycling track ends regionally within a lower-tier municipality; whether Cycling Wayfinding Signage will continue into lower-tier municipalities; the potential impact of the new provincial legislation governing bicycle lanes within the Region of Durham; whether there are any measures in place to monitor the usage of the Region of Durham's cycling network; the difference between the current signage for cyclists and the proposed Cycling Wayfinding signage; whether funding for the signage will be provided by the Region of Durham or by local municipalities depending on the jurisdiction of the cycling routes; whether the Trans Canada Trail will be a part of the Regional Cycling Plan (RCP); safety concerns related to the current condition of some roadways in the Primary Cycling Network (PCN); whether natural corridors are being optimized in the RCP; how the layout of the signage

will be designed and distributed throughout the Region of Durham; the current kilometres of cycling facilities across all eight area municipalities; collaboration with cycling groups within the Region of Durham while developing the PCN; and concerns about the location of the PCN.

Staff provided clarification regarding the comprehensive consultation process through which the PCN was established and incorporated into the 2021 Regional Cycling Plan and confirmed that the PCN had been reviewed and approved by Council.

## 5. Delegations

### 5.1 Doug Glass, Durham Resident, Re: 2023 Durham Region Financial Statements and Financial Information Report

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Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,  
(77) That the Rules of Procedure be suspended in order to allow Mr. Glass to appear as a delegation.

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING RECORDED  
VOTE (A 2/3rds VOTE WAS ATTAINED):

Yes

Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Barton  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor McDougall  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy  
Councillor Schummer  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

No

Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Garrod

Members Absent: Councillor Carter  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Marimpietri

Declarations of Interest: None

Moved by Councillor Collier, Seconded by Councillor Woo,  
(78) That the delegations by Doug Glass on the 2023 Durham Region  
Financial Statements and Financial Information Report be deferred to the  
December 12, 2024 Special Committee of the Whole meeting.

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING RECORDED  
VOTE:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Councillor Anderson	Councillor Crawford
Councillor Ashe	Councillor Lee
Councillor Barton	Councillor Neal
Councillor Brenner	Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Chapman	Councillor Schummer
Councillor Collier	Councillor Yamada
Councillor Dies	
Councillor Foster	
Councillor Garrod	
Councillor Jubb	
Councillor Kerr	
Councillor Leahy	
Councillor McDougall	
Councillor Mulcahy	
Councillor Pickles	
Councillor Roy	
Councillor Shahid	
Councillor Woo	
Councillor Wotten	
Regional Chair Henry	

Members Absent: Councillor Carter  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Marimpietri

Declarations of Interest: None

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,  
(79) That the Committee recess for 10 minutes.

CARRIED

The Committee recessed at 11:42 AM and reconvened at 12:02 PM

A roll call was conducted following the recess and all members of the Committee were present with the exception of Councillors Carter and Cook.

## 6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

## 7. Reports

### 7.1 Enbridge Franchise Agreement Renewal (2024-COW-44)

Report #2024-COW-44 from J. Hunt, Regional Solicitor and Director of Legal Services, was received.

Moved by Councillor McDougall, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,  
(80) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That staff be authorized to enter into a franchise agreement with Enbridge Gas Inc. in the form of the Model Franchise Agreement attached hereto as Attachment #1 to Report #2024-COW-44 of the Regional Solicitor and Director of Legal Services, for a term of up to 20 years;
- B) That the draft by-law generally in the form attached hereto as Attachment #2 to Report #2024-COW-44, be approved;
- C) That the draft by-law and agreed-to franchise agreement be authorized for submission to the Ontario Energy Board for approval pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 of the Municipal Franchises Act;
- D) That the Ontario Energy Board be requested to make an Order declaring and directing that the assent of the municipal electors to the draft by-law and franchise agreement pertaining to the Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Durham is not necessary, pursuant to the provisions of Section 9(4) of the Municipal Franchises Act; and
- E) That the recommendations contained in the confidential memorandum from the Regional Solicitor (as contained in Attachment #3 to Report #2024-COW-44), be adopted.

CARRIED

### 7.2 Durham Region Cycling Wayfinding and Signage Strategy (2024-COW-45)

Report #2024-COW-45 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance and R. Jagannathan, Commissioner of Works, was received.

Moved by Councillor McDougall, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,

- (81) That we recommend to Council:
- A) That the Cycling Wayfinding and Signage Strategy, provided as Attachment #1 to Report #2024-COW-45 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, Commissioner of Finance and Commissioner of Works, be endorsed; and
    - i) Aligned with current practice and the existing Council approved funding formula for cycling infrastructure, that the Region will be responsible for funding, implementation, and maintenance of cycling wayfinding signage along on-road cycling facilities on Regional Roads, with area municipalities or other agencies to hold responsibility for funding, implementation, and maintenance of cycling wayfinding signage along all other corridors of the Primary Cycling Network, depending on route jurisdiction; and
  - B) That the Cycling Wayfinding and Signage Strategy actions be considered along with all other priorities through future annual Regional Business Plans and Budget processes.

CARRIED

7.3 Regional Electric Kick Scooter By-law Extension (2024-COW-46)

Report #2024-COW-46 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, R. Jagannathan, Commissioner of Works and J. Hunt, Regional Solicitor and Director of Legal Services, was received.

Moved by Councillor McDougall, Seconded by Councillor Anderson,

(82) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the Effective Date be removed from the Regional Electric Kick Scooter By-law, allowing it to continue to be in force for so long as the Province of Ontario's Regulation 389/19: Pilot Project – Electric Kick-Scooters is in effect; and
- B) That a by-law to amend the Electric Kick-Scooter By-law (#23-2022), generally in the form included as Attachment #2 to Report #2024-COW-46 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, Commissioner of Works and Regional Solicitor and Director of Legal Services, to remove the section titled "Effective Date", be presented to Council for adoption to give effect to the recommendation.

CARRIED

**8. Members Motions**

- 8.1 Motion Requesting the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Discussion ensued with respect to a new funding arrangement and definition from the provincial government; and the provision of specific financial requests to the provincial government to address infrastructure needs.

Moved by Councillor Leahy, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,  
(83) That we recommend to Council:

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development; and

Whereas the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities; and

Whereas the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs; and

Whereas redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers; and

Whereas a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That The Regional Municipality of Durham Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That The Regional Municipality of Durham Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local

governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs; and

4. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs); and
5. Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

CARRIED AS AMENDED  
(See Following Motions)

Moved by Councillor Schummer, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,  
(84) That the main motion (83) of Councillors Leahy and Yamada be amended by adding the following operative clause to the end:

“Be It Further Resolved That the province be reminded it has been asked by AMO and municipalities to develop a new and comprehensive funding arrangement with municipalities including the housing affordability taskforce recommendations.”

CARRIED

The main motion (83) of Councillors Leahy and Yamada was then put to a vote and CARRIED AS AMENDED.

## 8.2 Motion Regarding Use of Automated Speed Enforcement System

Discussion ensued with respect to the benefits of granting regional municipalities the authority to designate areas for the use of an automated speed enforcement (ASE) system; whether the Region of Durham has the capacity to manage a potential increase in ASE systems; the Town of Ajax’s request to the province to amend the Ontario Highway Traffic Act to permit ASE systems on municipal roads; and the implementation of ASE systems in all community safety zones within the Region of Durham before considering expansion beyond these zones.

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,  
(85) That we recommend to Council:

Whereas Section 205.1 of the Ontario Highway Traffic Act only allows the use of an automated speed enforcement (ASE) system in a community safety zone and/or in a school zone both of which must be designated by by-law; and

Whereas community safety zones in Ontario are designated areas that aim to protect vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and cyclists, through measures like reduced speed limits, enhanced signage and increased fines; and

Whereas a school zone is an area near a school or crosswalk with young pedestrians; and

Whereas the use of automated speed enforcement (ASE) systems in permitted zones has had a positive effect on influencing driver behavior and reducing vehicle speeds; and

Whereas many streets may not be suitable for designation as a community safety or school zone, but have seen an increase in the speed of vehicles;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham requests the Minister of Transportation amend the Ontario Highway Traffic Act to allow the use of automated speed enforcement (ASE) systems on any municipal highway, road or street a municipality believes ASE would have a positive effect on driver behavior and reduce vehicle speeds; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier, the Minister of Transportation, the Solicitor General, all Durham Region MPPs and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING RECORDED  
VOTE:

Yes

Councillor Anderson  
Councillor Brenner  
Councillor Chapman  
Councillor Collier  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Crawford  
Councillor Dies  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Garrod  
Councillor Jubb  
Councillor Kerr  
Councillor Leahy  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Marimpietri  
Councillor Mulcahy  
Councillor Neal  
Councillor Nicholson  
Councillor Pickles  
Councillor Roy

No

Councillor Barton

Councillor Schummer  
Councillor Shahid  
Councillor Woo  
Councillor Wotten  
Councillor Yamada  
Regional Chair Henry

Members Absent: Councillor Ashe  
Councillor Carter  
Councillor McDougall

Declarations of Interest: None

8.3 Motion Regarding Opportunities for Free Level 3 EV Charging Stations and Revenue Opportunities for Durham Region

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Discussion ensued with respect to the potential impact these charging stations could have on the electrical utility providers of the lower-tier municipalities; whether the Level 3 EV charging stations would be located at regional facilities; whether funding is provided by the federal carbon tax and what would happen if the carbon tax were to be repealed; and how the Region of Durham would monitor the content of the advertisements being displayed on the charging stations.

The Committee suggested staff explore how to monitor the content displayed on the advertisements for the Level 3 EV charging stations to ensure they are appropriate for the community.

Moved by Councillor Leahy, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,  
(86) That we recommend to Council:

Whereas electric vehicles (EVs) are increasingly becoming a critical component of sustainable transportation and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in Ontario;

Whereas the availability of free Level 3 EV charging stations in municipalities can support the Region's efforts to encourage EV adoption, enhance environmental sustainability, and improve air quality for residents;

Whereas free Level 3 EV charging stations provide an attractive amenity that encourages both local and regional tourism, fostering economic development by encouraging drivers to visit local businesses during charging stops;

Whereas other municipalities have successfully partnered with private sector companies to implement free EV charging solutions, thereby benefiting from potential revenue streams and public-private partnership opportunities;

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

1. Durham Region Council directs staff to explore partnership opportunities with Ontario providers that provide free level 3 charging stations;
2. Staff report back by Q2 of 2025 with their findings on potential partnerships with private sector entities, potential locations for charging stations, and opportunities for introducing free Level 3 charging infrastructure;
3. The analysis includes an assessment of possible revenue-generation models such as advertising, corporate sponsorships, and innovative technologies that would offset installation and maintenance costs while providing economic benefits to the Region;
4. Staff provide a timeline for implementation, should Council approve proceeding with any identified projects; and
5. This motion be circulated to all Durham Region municipalities.

CARRIED

## **9. Confidential Matters**

- 9.1 Confidential Report of the Commissioners of Finance and Planning and Economic Development - a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the Region with respect to Negotiations with Metrolinx for Design Services Agreement for GO Stations along the Lakeshore GO East Extension to Bowmanville (2024-COW-47)

Confidential Report #2024-COW-47 from N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance and B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Marimpietri, Seconded by Councillor Leahy,  
(87) That we recommend to Council:

That the recommendations contained in Confidential Report #2024-COW-47 of the Commissioners of Finance and Planning and Economic Development be adopted.

CARRIED

## **10. Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,  
(88) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 1:01 PM

Respectfully submitted,

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John Henry, Regional Chair

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Sarah Dessureault, Committee Clerk