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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

WORKS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

A regular meeting of the Works Committee was held on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Councillor Barton, Chair
Councillor Marimpietri, Vice-Chair
Councillor Cook*
Councillor Foster*
Regional Chair Henry attended the meeting at 9:31 AM
Councillor Mulcahy attended the meeting at 9:32 AM
***denotes Councillors participating electronically**

Absent: Councillor Lee was absent on municipal business
Councillor Nicholson

Also

Present: Councillor McDougall
Councillor Woo*
Councillor Wotten*
***denotes visiting Councillors participating electronically**

Staff

Present: N. Andres, Manager, Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Planning
E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
B. Bridgeman*, Commissioner of Community Growth & Economic Development
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
S. Dessureault, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
D. Dunn, Director, Transportation & Field Services
A. Evans, Director of Waste Management Services
C. Goodchild, Director of Community Growth
B. Holmes, General Manager of Transit
J. Hunt, Regional Solicitor/Director of Legal Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
R. Jagannathan, Commissioner of Works
E. Lamain, Manager, Maintenance Operations
L. Saha*, Manager, Waste Services
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

N. Taylor*, Commissioner of Finance
P. Veiga, Manager, Waste Management Operations
D. Waechter, Director, Capital Projects Delivery
* **denotes staff participating electronically**

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Marimpietri, Seconded by Councillor Cook,
(16) That the minutes of the regular Works Committee meeting held on
Wednesday, February 5, 2025, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Presentations

5.1 Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, and Peter Veiga, Manager, Waste Management Operations, re: Update on the Automated Cart-Based Garbage Collection Pilot Project and Future Waste Collection Contract Delivery (2025-WR-2) [Item 7.2 A)]

Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, and Peter Veiga Manager, Waste Management Operations, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding an update on the Automated Cart-Based Garbage Collection Pilot Project and future waste collection contract delivery.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- What is Automated Cart Waste Collection?
- Automated Cart Collection in Action
- Benefits of Automated Collection
- Automated Collection Pilot Results
- Options for Cart Sizes – 120L and 240L
- Health and Safety – Automated vs. Manual Collection
- Financial Impacts
- Cart Distribution
- Next Steps

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,
(17) That the order of the agenda be altered to consider Item 7.2 A) Report #2025-WR-2: Update on the Automated Cart-Based Garbage Collection Pilot Project and Future Waste Collection Contract Delivery next.

CARRIED

7. Waste

7.2 Reports

A) Update on the Automated Cart-Based Garbage Collection Pilot Project and Future Waste Collection Contract Delivery ([2025-WR-2](#))

Report #2025-WR-2 from R. Jagannathan, Commissioner of Works, was received.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether waste audits will be conducted before and after the implementation of the automated cart-based garbage collection; whether residents will be charged for the carts, what the carts will look like, and if they will lock to prevent animals getting in; the new technology on the trucks that will allow workers to see what is inside the bags as they are being tipped into the trucks; whether the pilot program can be continued or expanded; whether there will be a replacement program put in place for broken/damaged carts; where the carts will be acquired from; and what the feasibility of the carts is for rural residents with long driveways.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,
(18) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That Report #2025-WR-2 of the Commissioner of Works, “Automated Cart-Based Garbage Collection Pilot Project Results and Future Waste Collection Contract Delivery”, be received for information;
- B) That Regional Council approve the transition of Durham Region’s future residential curbside waste management collection contracts for garbage and organics from manual collection to automated collection;
- C) That Regional Council direct staff to amend By-law #2024-009, A By-law to Regulate the Provision of Waste Management Services Under the Jurisdiction of the Regional Municipality of Durham, effective April 1, 2028, to reflect an automated residential curbside waste collection program;
- D) That the costs resulting from the procurement for automated cart-based waste collection services be included in 2028 and future Waste Management Business Plans and Budgets; and

- E) That staff develop a process for recovering the future cost of carts issued to new homes and the cost to replace broken carts subject to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Finance and the Commissioner of Works.

CARRIED AS AMENDED
(See Following Motion)

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,
(19) That the main motion (18) of Regional Chair Henry and Councillor Marimpietri be amended to include a new Part F) to read as follows:

- F) That staff be requested to investigate and report back on the feasibility and costs of continuing the current pilot program in the Town of Ajax and the Township of Scugog locations, as well as what the costs would be to expand the pilot program to the rest of the Region's waste collection areas within the existing contractual framework(s).

CARRIED

The main motion (18) of Regional Chair Henry and Councillor Marimpietri was then put to a vote and CARRIED AS AMENDED.

6. Delegations

6.1 Claire Malcolmson, Executive Director, Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition and Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition, re: Provincial Action on Salt Pollution [Item 9.1 A)]

Claire Malcolmson, Executive Director, Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition and Ontario Salt Pollution Coalition appeared electronically before the Committee and provided a PowerPoint presentation with respect to Item 9.1 A) Provincial Action on Salt Pollution.

Highlights from the delegation included:

- Our Ask
- Water Quality Stressor
- Lake Simcoe Watershed Salt Vulnerable Areas
- Ontario Leads Canada in Salt Pollution
- Opportunity to Regulate Snow and Ice Management Sector in Ontario
- Industry Association Landscape Ontario is Asking for Limited Liability

Moved by Councillor Mulcahy, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,
(20) That the rules of procedure be suspended in order to extend C. Malcolmson's delegation by 2 minutes to finish their delegation.

CARRIED ON A 2/3rds VOTE

- Environment and Natural Resources 2001 Assessment Report of Road Salts

- Canadian Water Quality Guideline
 - Daphnia Species
- Hidden Costs of Salt
- Our Ask

C. Malcolmson responded to questions from the Committee.

It was the consensus of the committee to alter the agenda to consider Item 9.1 A) Resolution regarding Provincial Action on Salt Pollution, next.

9. Advisory Committee Resolutions

9.1 Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee

A) Resolution regarding Provincial Action on Salt Pollution

This item was referred from the February 4, 2025, Community Growth & Economic Development Committee.

Moved by Councillor Mulcahy, Seconded by Councillor Cook,
(21) That we recommend to Council:

That the following motion from the Ontario Road Salt Coalition be endorsed:

Whereas road salt is a known toxic substance designated under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act because of tangible threats of serious or irreversible environmental and health damage from road salt; and

Whereas salt levels in Ontario's groundwater aquifers, creeks, rivers, and lakes have increasingly worsened since the 1970s, seriously affecting municipal drinking water sources and aquatic life; and

Whereas the Ontario and Canadian governments have taken many actions over the past 25 years including setting water quality guidelines, developing voluntary codes of practice, signing the Canada-Ontario Great Lakes Agreement, and holding workshops, yet still the salt problem continues to grow; and

Whereas numerous situation analyses have recommended salt solutions involving liability protection, contractor certification, government-approved Best Management Practices (BMPs) and salt management plans; and

Whereas increased numbers of slips and falls claims, and other injury/collision claims related to snow and ice, are resulting in salt applicators overusing salt beyond levels considered best practices; and

Whereas unlimited contractor liability is making it difficult or expensive for snow and ice management contractors to obtain insurance coverage, resulting in

contractors leaving the business, thereby making it difficult for municipalities and private owners to find contractors; and

Whereas the Snow and Ice Management Sector (SMS) of Landscape Ontario is working with the Ontario government to institute a limited liability regime for snow and ice management, including enforceable contractor training/certification and government approved BMPs for salt application; and

Whereas many Ontario municipalities have Salt Management Plans, but these often require updating in light of improved science and better salt management practices now available.

Therefore be it resolved that:

1. That Durham Region urges the province of Ontario to work urgently with key stakeholders to develop limited liability legislation, including enforceable contractor training and a single set of provincially endorsed standard Best Management Practices for snow and ice management; and
2. That Durham Region urges the province of Ontario to create and fund an expert stakeholder advisory committee to advise the province and municipalities on the best courses of action to protect freshwater ecosystems and drinking water from the impacts of salt pollution; and
3. That Durham Region commits to the reduction of the use of road salt as much as possible while maintaining safety on roads and sidewalks; and
4. That this resolution be sent to all municipalities in Durham Region, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), local MPPs, Conservation Ontario, Minister Andrea Khanjin (MECP), Interim Minister Todd McCarthy (MECP), Attorney General Doug Downey, and Premier Doug Ford.

REFERRED BACK TO STAFF ON A

RECORDED VOTE

(See Following Motion)

Moved by Councillor Mulcahy, Seconded by Councillor Cook,

- (22) That the main motion (21) of Councillors Mulcahy and Cook be referred to Legal and Finance staff in order to review the resolution from a legal/risk management standpoint; that the resolution also be forwarded to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) for review and input; and that a resolution be brought back to a future Works Committee meeting for consideration.

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING

RECORDED VOTE:

Yes

No

Councillor Cook
Councillor Foster
Regional Chair Henry
Councillor Marimpietri
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Barton, Chair

None

Absent: Councillor Lee
Councillor Nicholson

Declarations of Interests: None

7. Waste

7.1 Correspondence

- A) Correspondence from Atif Durrani, Project Director, Residual Waste, Business Transformation, City of Toronto, dated February 20, 2025, re: City of Toronto - Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) – Residual Waste
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Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,
(23) That the correspondence from Atif Durrani, Project Director, Residual Waste, Business Transformation, City of Toronto, dated February 20, 2025, regarding the City of Toronto's request for Expression of Interest (REOI) – Residual Waste be referred to staff with the direction to decline.
CARRIED

7.2 Reports

- A) Update on the Automated Cart-Based Garbage Collection Pilot Project and Future Waste Collection Contract Delivery ([2025-WR-2](#))
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This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. Refer to pages 3 and 4 of these minutes.

8. Works

8.1 Correspondence

There were no communication items considered.

8.2 Reports

A) The Regional Municipality of Durham's Drinking Water Systems 2024 Summary Report (2025-W-5)

Report #2025-W-5 from R. Jagannathan, Commissioner of Works, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,
(24) That we recommend to Council:

- A) That the 2024 Summary Report for the Regional Municipality of Durham Drinking Water Systems be received for information;
- B) That receipt of Report #2025-W-5 of the Commissioner of Works be confirmed by resolution of Regional Council; and
- C) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' York-Durham District Office to indicate that the conditions of Schedule 22 of Ontario Regulation 170/03 have been fulfilled.

CARRIED

9. Advisory Committee Resolutions

9.1 Durham Environment and Climate Advisory Committee

A) Resolution regarding Provincial Action on Salt Pollution

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. Refer to pages 5 to 7 of these minutes.

10. Confidential Matters

10.1 Reports

A) Confidential Report of the Commissioner of Works – Proposed or Pending Acquisition of Land for Regional Corporation Purposes as it relates to Property in the Township of Brock (2025-W-6)

Confidential Report #2025-W-6 from R. Jagannathan, Commissioner of Works, was received.

Moved by Councillor Mulcahy, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,
(25) That we recommend to Council:

That the recommendations contained in Confidential Report #2025-W-6 of the Commissioner of Works be adopted.

CARRIED

11. Other Business

There was no other business considered.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Works Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 9:30 AM in Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Mulcahy,
(26) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM

Respectfully submitted,

D. Barton, Chair

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk