



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Community Growth and Economic Development Committee
From: Commissioner of Community Growth and Economic Development
Report: #2025-EDT-8
Date: May 6, 2025

Subject:

Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority General Update

Recommendation:

That the Community Growth and Economic Development Committee recommends:

That this report be received for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Community Growth and Economic Development Committee a brief update on the recent and planned activities and achievements of the Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority (HOPA), and to notify Committee that a delegation from HOPA will be appearing at Committee to provide a presentation.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority (HOPA) is the entity responsible for the governance of the Ports of Hamilton and Oshawa. HOPA is the successor corporation to the Hamilton Port Authority and the Oshawa Port Authority, when port governance was merged on June 19, 2019.
- 2.2 The Port of Oshawa is one of Durham Region's gateways to the world. On average, the port handles \$23 million of cargo annually, from salt and steel products to asphalt and grain. The movement of cargo through the Port of Oshawa supports 294 jobs throughout the local economy and generates \$6 million in federal and

provincial taxes annually.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 HOPA has not previously provided an update to Durham Regional Committees or Council.

4. Oshawa Port Projects

4.1 Grain Terminal Expansion

- a. There is a \$35+ million expansion and modernization project underway. The newly expanded terminal now offers a total of 20,000 MT (metric tonnes) of storage capacity and features a vessel loading rate of up to 12,000 MT per day, ensuring fast and efficient grain loading.
- b. This new export capacity directly benefits agri-food producers in Durham and east GTA regions, through a more efficient terminal and through reducing the need for longer-distance trucking of agricultural products.

4.2 Proposed Road Reconstruction

- a. HOPA is proposing to improve vehicle access to the East Wharf at the Port of Oshawa. HOPA and the Region of Durham have been collaborating closely on this project, after HOPA purchased the southernmost section of Farewell St. in 2024 from the Region, which will be incorporated inside the port gates as part of this project
- b. The project proposes to widen and extend Farwell Street as well as extending Harbour Road.
- c. As of March 27, 2025, the public comment period on the project is closed.

4.3 Partnership with Friends of Second Marsh

- a. In 2019, Friends of Second Marsh (FSM) commenced a multi-year project called 'Let's De-Phrag the Marsh!' to manage Phragmites in Oshawa Second Marsh, McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve and surrounding areas.

5. The Future of HOPA – Strategic Priorities, Goals & Opportunities for Durham

- 5.1 The HOPA delegation will be providing Committee with an overview of their strategic priorities and goals, as well as identifying opportunities specific to Durham Region in relation to the Port's growth plans. This includes:

- a. Recent collaboration projects, including attendance and collaboration with Durham Region at HANNOVER MESSE 2025 Industrial Technology Trade Fair, and collaboration on the new Durham Relocation Guide
- b. The investigation of solutions to increased climate effects, especially related to the lateral movement of sediment
- c. Connections to regional civil and residential construction sector
- d. Opportunities related to steel sector supply chain and the automotive industry
- e. Status of new partnerships with U.S. cities along the Great Lakes

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.
- b. Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action
 - E1. Reduce corporate greenhouse gas emissions to meet established targets.
- c. 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.
 - R4. Protect and strengthen the local agriculture sector and food supply chains.
- d. Strong Relationships
 - S3. Collaborate across local area municipalities, with agencies, non-profits, and community partners to deliver co-ordinated and efficient services.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 HOPA will be appearing as a delegation before the Community Growth and Economic Development Committee to report on recent projects and future plans for the Oshawa Port.
- 7.2 HOPA is a valued partner in attracting new investment to the Region and supporting the Regional economy. It enables international goods movement and provides agri-food producers and other industries more options to efficiently engage in domestic and international trade.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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Commissioner of Community Growth and
Economic Development

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
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