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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Works
Report: #2025-INFO-35
Date: May 16, 2025

Subject:

Temporary Lane Closures on Kingston Road (Regional Highway 2) for Bus Rapid Transit Construction from Harwood Avenue to Galea Drive, in the Town of Ajax

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) Council of upcoming lane restrictions and traffic management controls along Kingston Road related to the construction of Phase 1 of the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit (DSBRT) segments.
- a. The first segment of DSBRT construction will commence along Kingston Road from approximately 300 metres west of Harwood Avenue to Galea Drive in the Town of Ajax. Work will begin in summer 2025 and will include the construction of dedicated median bus lanes, median transit stop platforms and shelters, road reconstruction, traffic signals with dedicated bus movements, dedicated in-boulevard cycle tracks with crossrides, sidewalks with accessibility improvements, watermain and sanitary sewer installation, street lighting and landscaping.

- 1.2 Construction will be staged with lane shifts and daytime lane restrictions, reducing traffic to one lane in each direction during off-peak periods. In the final stages of the project, Kingston Road from 400 metres west of Harwood Avenue to east of Salem Road (Regional Road 41) will be reduced to one lane in each direction during the summer of 2026. To shorten the overall construction schedule, weekend work will also be utilized where appropriate.

2. Background

- 2.1 Kingston Road is the designated route for the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit (DSBRT) corridor. The DSBRT project spans approximately 36 kilometres through the City of Oshawa, the Town of Whitby, the Town of Ajax, the City of Pickering and the City of Toronto. The corridor is ultimately expected to provide two-way service every five minutes, dedicated bus lanes, priority signals, and anticipated time savings of 20 minutes for transit trips along the corridor.
- 2.2 Through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), the Regional Municipality of Durham will begin construction of Phase 1 segments of the DSBRT through the City of Pickering and the Town of Ajax.
 - a. The following Kingston Road DSBRT segments have been selected for construction between 2025 and 2030.
 - Harwood Avenue to Galea Drive, Town of Ajax.
 - Rotherglen Road to Harwood Avenue, Town of Ajax.
 - Dixie Road to Bainbridge Drive, City of Pickering.
 - Steeple Hill to Merritton Road, City of Pickering.

3. Construction Staging – Harwood Avenue to Galea Drive

- 3.1 Construction is anticipated to begin with Stage 1 on the south side of Kingston Road, followed by Stage 2 on the north side of Kingston Road (Regional Highway 2). Once the road and boulevard works are completed in the first two stages, the work will proceed to Stage 3, involving construction in the middle of Kingston Road. During this stage, Kingston Road (Regional Highway 2) will be reduced to one lane in each direction to facilitate the construction of median

transit stop platforms and shelters. Construction for the entire segment is expected to last 18 months, from July 2025 to end of 2026.

- 3.2 To respond to traffic delays during construction and to maintain reliability, Durham Region Transit (DRT) will allocate 2025 revenue service hours to increase schedule and recovery times for the affected routes (routes 900 and 920). DRT staff will work closely with the Region and vendor to monitor impacts to running time and adjust as necessary. DRT schedules will be updated accordingly throughout the construction.

4. Communication Plan

- 4.1 A communication plan is being implemented to support three main streams.

- Educating the general public about Rapid Transit.
- Providing ongoing construction and operational updates for businesses, residents and road users.
- Promoting “Open for Business” messaging to support business owners and customers.

5. Project Financing

- 5.1 Financing for this Bus Rapid Transit scope of work will be provided from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) fund. Sewer and water related infrastructure works will be funded from the approved Water and Sewerage Capital budgets.

6. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 6.1 This report aligns with and 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.
- C3. Improve public transit system connectivity, reliability, and competitiveness.

- C4. Improve road safety, including the expansion and connection of active transportation networks to enhance the range of safe mobility options.
- C6. Continue to revitalize and transform downtowns into hubs of economic, social, and cultural connection.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 The Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit project is a key transit project that will improve transit and rapid transit options, thereby strengthening the integrated transit network across the region and beyond. Significant disruptions will be encountered during the various construction phases and proactive and diligent efforts are being made to communicate the work to the public, with a focus on mitigating traffic impacts.
- 7.2 For additional information, contact: Ben McWade, Manager, Construction Management Services at 905-668-4113 extension 3480 or Dan Waechter, Director, Capital Projects Delivery at 905-668-4113 extension 3550.

8. Attachments

Attachment #1: Conceptual Plan of Median Shelters and Road Layout

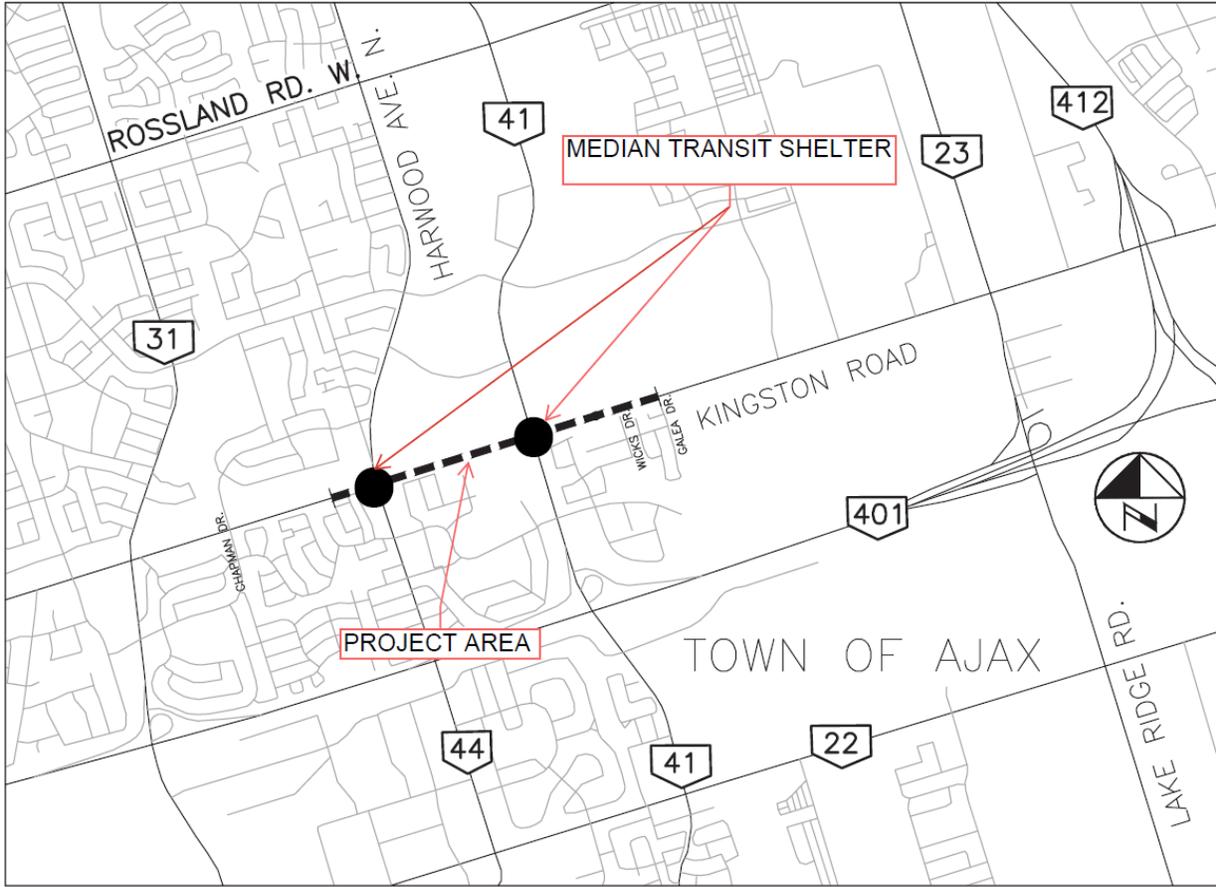
Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by:

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

Attachment #1: Conceptual plan of median shelters and road layout.





Median transit stop renderings



