



# The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

---

To: Planning and Economic Development Committee  
From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development  
Report: #2023-P-5  
Date: March 7, 2023

---

**Subject:**

Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) Membership Appointments

---

**Recommendations:**

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends to Regional Council:

- A) That the following citizen volunteers be appointed as “area municipal representatives” to the Durham Active Transportation Committee: Aisha Heywood (Pickering); Tanja Van Helsdingen (Ajax); Ron Lalonde (Whitby); Bob Astley (Oshawa); Connor Houston (Clarington); Kamal Mirani (Brock); Philip Smith (Uxbridge); and Marc Gibbons (Scugog);
  - B) That the above-named citizen volunteers be advised of their appointment to the 2023-2026 term of the Durham Active Transportation Committee; and,
  - C) That a copy of Commissioner’s Report #2023-P-5 be forwarded to the area municipalities and the Durham Active Transportation Committee.
- 

**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to appoint citizen volunteers to serve on the Durham Active Transportation Committee (DATC) for the 2023-2026 term.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 DATC, formerly the Durham Trails Coordinating Committee, was established in 2005 to provide advice to Regional Council on active transportation policy and planning matters, as expressed in the Durham Regional Official Plan and Regional Cycling Plan.
- 2.2 DATC's activities are guided by Regional Council's approved Terms of Reference that establishes the scope of activities, membership selection and composition, as well as meeting dates. The activities are further guided by an annual workplan, approved by Regional Council. DATC reports annually to the Planning and Economic Development Committee (PEDC) on their activities.
- 2.3 DATC Terms of Reference outlines PEDC's role to recommend individuals for appointment by Regional Council, based on nominations received from each of the eight area municipalities. DATC membership corresponds with the term of Regional Council.
- 2.4 DATC is comprised of nine members, as follows:
  - One Council representative from the Planning and Economic Development Committee (Councillor Rick Kerr), and Councillor Maleeha Shahid as the alternate member (appointed December 2022); and
  - Eight citizen volunteers as "area municipal representatives", one from each area municipality in Durham.

## **3. Membership Nominations/Appointments**

- 3.1 In accordance with the DATC Terms of Reference, advertisements were placed online and in local newspapers throughout the Summer and Fall of 2022 seeking expressions of interest from individuals wishing to serve on DATC. The names of all individuals who expressed interest are presented in confidence (refer to Confidential Attachment 1).
- 3.2 Each area municipality was provided with a list of qualified candidates and requested to nominate one Committee representative in accordance with the DATC Terms of Reference.
- 3.3 It is recommended that the citizen volunteers summarized in Table 1 be appointed as "area municipal representatives" to the 2023-2026 term of the Durham Active Transportation Committee:

**Table 1: Area Municipal DATC Recommended Representative**

Ref.	Area Municipality	DATC Representative
1	City of Pickering	Aisha Heywood
2	Town of Ajax	Tanja Van Helsdingen
3	Town of Whitby	Ron Lalonde
4	City of Oshawa	Bob Astley
5	Municipality of Clarington	Connor Houston
6	Township of Brock	Kamal Mirani
7	Township of Uxbridge	Philip Smith
8	Township of Scugog	Marc Gibbons

#### **4. Previous Reports and Decisions**

- 4.1 In January 2023, Council endorsed DATC's 2022 Annual Report through Commissioner's [Report #2023-P-3](#).

#### **5. Relationship to Strategic Plan**

- 5.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 1: Environmental Sustainability's objective: To protect the environment for the future by demonstrating leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.

#### **6. Attachments**

Attachment #1: Area Municipal Nominations (under separate cover)

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

---

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP  
Commissioner of Planning and  
Economic Development

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by

---

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair  
Chief Administrative Officer