


Sent by Email

December 29, 2025

The Honourable Kinga Surma
Minister of Infrastructure
777 Bay St. – 5th Floor, Room 5E200
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|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | January 02, 2026 3:21 pm |
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Subject: Seaton Trail

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on December 15, 2025 and adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, the Seaton Trail is an important recreational and natural asset for the Hamlet of Whitevale, and residents of Pickering, Durham as well as used by people from across the Greater Toronto Area;

And Whereas, the Region of Durham recognizes the Seaton Trail as part of its Activity Trail Network with the future connection to the Rouge Park and the City of Pickering recognizes the Seaton Trail in its City of Pickering Recreation & Parks Ten Year Plan (2024) noting the growing popularity and use of trails and highly desirable amenity as a valued community asset and destination;

And Whereas, there has been a recent closure of the Seaton Trail between the Green River Trail Head (Highway 7) and the Whitevale Bridge (Whitevale Road);

And Whereas, recently, Province of Ontario signage has been erected that indicates "Trail Closed" for this northern portion of the trail but there has been no information on this for area residents;

And Whereas, the Ministry of Infrastructure has indicated that the north section of the Seaton Trail is in need of significant repairs, including work on 11 small foot bridges and associated stairs. The timeline for repairs has yet to be determined. The situation will be reassessed in the spring to explore potential funding availability for repairs, design, project management fees and contingencies, etc. In the meantime, signage remains in place to discourage public use of the trail due to its current condition;

And Whereas, immediately north of Whitevale, there are lands recognized by Pickering Council and members of the community as a regenerating pit/marsh area, through which informal trails have provided access to much needed nature and green space;

And Whereas, these lands are suitably located to provide a Seaton Trail Head with ample parking, and connections to the Rouge National Urban Park;

And Whereas, despite these attributes, Infrastructure Ontario has designated these lands Low Density Residential as part of Bundle Ten of a real estate offering;

And Whereas, on three separate occasions, being July 19, 2021, May 16, 2022 (as per Pickering Council Resolution #886/22) and September 16, 2024, the Mayor of Pickering of the day wrote the (then) appropriate Provincial Minister of Infrastructure requesting the lands be redesignated to either Hamlet Heritage Open Space or Seaton Natural Heritage System;

And Whereas, there is a synergy in maintaining a functional Seaton Trail north of the Hamlet of Whitevale and the creation of a Trail Head and parking facility at the regenerating marsh/pit area north of Whitevale:

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering directs through the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer:


1. That staff request the Minister of Infrastructure, as owners of the land, to undertake and provide the necessary funding, as soon as possible in the spring of 2026, to make the necessary repairs to re-open the Seaton Trail between the Hamlet of Whitevale Bridge and the Green River Trail Head to the public;
2. That staff request a meeting with Infrastructure Ontario to explore long-term, sustainable funding and stewardship in collaboration with organizational partners, the Rouge National Park, and representatives from Infrastructure Ontario, the Region of Durham, and the City of Pickering;
3. That staff request the Minister of Infrastructure eliminate Bundle 10 from the Provincial sales offerings and in consultation with the City of Pickering and Hamlet of Whitevale community, create a Trail Head and parking facility at the regenerating marsh/pit area north of Whitevale;
4. That staff request the Minister of Infrastructure, in consultation with the City, the Region of Durham, the Federal Government, the Rouge National Urban Park, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, the Whitevale District Residents Association, volunteer and civic organizations supporting the trail network and

nearby residents, to explore options for more permanent improvements to the Seaton Trail as well as continue to provide maintenance and stewardship of the Seaton Trail; and,

5. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Jaunita Nathan, MP Pickering-Brooklin, The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering-Uxbridge, The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure, the Region of Durham, The Honourable Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature, the Rouge National Urban Park (Parks Canada), and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Copy: The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering-Uxbridge
The Honourable Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature
Juanita Nathan, MP Pickering-Brooklin
The Regional Municipality of Durham
Rouge National Urban Park (Parks Canada)
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Chief Administrative Officer