



Town of Newmarket Council Information Package

Index of Attachments

Date: January 31, 2025

	Pages
General Correspondence Items	
1. MSC-2024-424 - Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program	1
Municipality of St.-Charles	
January 17, 2025	
2. Support Letter for the City of Toronto	2
Town of Kearney	
January 17, 2025	
3. Support Resolution from the Town of Kearney	6
Town of Kearney	
January 17, 2025	
4. Support Resolution Re: Redistribution of Taxes	8
Town of Kearney	
January 17, 2025	
5. Update: Proposed regulation regarding Minister's Permit and Review powers under the Conservation Authorities Act	11
Ministry of Natural Resources	
January 17, 2025	
6. U-Turn Restriction, Mulock Drive and Fernbank Road, Town of Newmarket	12

	York Region	
	January 20, 2025	
7.	Woolwich Council Resolution - Election Advocacy and Preparation	14
	Township of Woolwich	
	January 20, 2025	
8.	Bill 242, Safer Municipalities Act, 2024 Council Resolution	16
	City of Peterborough	
	January 21, 2025	
9.	Motion Requesting the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding	19
	Town of Ajax	
	January 23, 2025	
10.	Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding	21
	Town of Halton Hills	
	January 23, 2025	
11.	Strengthening Enforcement Against Illegal Land Use	24
	Township of King	
	January 28, 2025	
12.	Resolution No. 2025-0010 - Sovereignty of Canada	27
	Town of Halton Hills	
	January 29, 2025	
13.	Temporary Weight Restriction, Prospect Street Bridge, Town of Newmarket	30
	York Region	
	January 30, 2025	
14.	Regional Council Decision - 2025 Ontario Budget Consultation	32

York Region

January 31, 2025

- 15. Resolution Support 'Solve the Crisis Campaign' 45**

Northumberland County

January 31, 2025

Proclamation, Lighting Requests and Community Flag Raising

- 1. Congenital Heart Disease Awareness Week 50**

Lighting - February 7, 2025 (Red)

Information Reports

None.

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.2.
Resolution Number 2024-424
Title: Resolution Stemming from November 20, 2024 Regular Meeting - Item 8.1 -
Correspondence #9
Date: December 11, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed on October 21, 2024 by the Town of The Blue Mountains, regarding the Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Premier Doug Ford; the Minister of Transportation, Prabmeet Sarkaria; the Minister of Infrastructure, King Surma; the Minister of Agriculture, Rob Flack; the Minister of Rural Affairs, Lisa Thompson; the Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, Trevor Jones; the Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; Good Roads; and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



Town of Kearney

COUNCIL RESOLUTION # 2025 - 16

Date: January 16, 2025

MOVED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

SECONDED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives all items within Correspondence for Information Section;

AND FURTHER that Council direct Staff to write letters of support from the Town of Kearney for any of the mentioned resolutions of support.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

Recorded Vote Requested by: _____

Recorded Vote:

For

Opposed

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Beaucage, Keven | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pateman, Heather | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Philip, Cheryl – Mayor | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sharer, Jill | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



John D. Elvidge
City Clerk

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat
Sylwia Przewdziecki
Council Secretariat Support
City Hall, 12th Floor, West
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-7032
Fax: 416-392-2980
e-mail:
Sylwia.Przewdziecki@toronto.ca
web: www.toronto.ca

**In reply please quote:
Ref.: 24-MM23.1**

(Sent by Email)

December 20, 2024

ALL ONTARIO MUNICIPALITIES:

**Subject: Member Motion Item 23.1
Declaring Toronto a Paid-Plasma-Free Zone - by Councillor Chris Moise,
seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo (Ward All)**

City Council on November 13 and 14, 2024, adopted [Item MM23.1](#) and in doing so, has forward this item to Canadian Blood Services, federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Health, Grifols Pharmaceuticals, and all Ontario Municipalities and requested that they support only voluntary blood and plasma collection, where donors do not receive payment for their blood or plasma.

Yours sincerely,

Niko Markakis, for

for City Clerk

S. Przewdziecki/mp

Attachment

Sent to: All Ontario Municipalities
Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Blood Services
Chief Executive Officer, Grifols Canada

c. City Manager

City Council

Member Motions - Meeting 23

MM23.1	ACTION	Adopted		Ward: All
--------	--------	---------	--	-----------

Declaring Toronto a Paid-Plasma-Free Zone - by Councillor Chris Moise, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo

City Council Decision

City Council on November 13 and 14, 2024, adopted the following:

1. City Council express its opposition to the operation of private for-profit blood collection companies in the City.
2. City Council forward this item to Canadian Blood Services, federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Health, Grifols Pharmaceuticals, and all Ontario Municipalities and request that they support only voluntary blood and plasma collection, where donors do not receive payment for their blood or plasma.

Summary

In the City of Toronto, we uphold the principle of voluntary blood and plasma donation, acknowledging its vital importance as a public good. Our commitment derives from the lessons of Canada's tainted blood crisis, which tragically claimed approximately 8,000 lives. The subsequent Royal Krever Commission urged a fully voluntary, non-payment oriented blood and plasma donation system.

Within our Ontario healthcare system, we perceive blood donations as a priceless public resource, underscoring the need to safeguard the integrity of the public, voluntary donor system.

The Voluntary Blood Donations Act of Ontario strengthens this stance, legislating against the payment of donors and prohibiting donors from receiving financial compensation for their blood or plasma.

Canada Blood Services plans to open five paid plasma clinics, including one in Toronto, by 2025. This issue needs immediate attention and action. The public health community has raised concerns about Grifols Pharmaceuticals' plans to open a Toronto clinic. It's vital we protect vulnerable residents from exploitation by for-profit plasma collection companies offering cash for blood-plasma, a predatory practice.

In bringing this motion forward, we strive to reinforce the principles of voluntary, non-remunerated blood and plasma donation, protecting both the integrity of Canada's public blood system and the dignity of blood donors.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM23.1

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-249600.pdf>

Attachment 1 - Resolution to Declare the City of Hamilton a "No Paid Plasma Zone"

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-250144.pdf>



Town of Kearney

COUNCIL RESOLUTION # 2025 - 16

Date: January 16, 2025

MOVED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

SECONDED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives all items within Correspondence for Information Section;

AND FURTHER that Council direct Staff to write letters of support from the Town of Kearney for any of the mentioned resolutions of support.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

Recorded Vote Requested by: _____

Recorded Vote:

For

Opposed

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Beaucage, Keven | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pateman, Heather | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Philip, Cheryl – Mayor | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sharer, Jill | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Good day,

Please be advised that Council of the Township of South Stormont passed the following resolution on December 18, 2024:

Resolution No.: 254/2024

Moved By: Councillor Reid McIntyre

Seconded by: Councillor Jennifer MacIsaac

**Whereas rural, northern, and remote municipalities are fiscally strained by maintaining extensive road networks on a smaller tax base;
And whereas preventing crashes reduces the burden on Ontario's already strained rural health care system;
And whereas roadway collisions and associated lawsuits are significant factors in runaway municipal insurance premiums; preventing car crashes can have a significant impact in improving municipal risk profiles;
Therefore, be it resolved that the Township of South Stormont requests that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead;
And further that this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario requesting their support, as well as the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Transportation.
Result: CARRIED**

Kind regards,



Ashley Sloan, AMP

Deputy Clerk

Marriage Officiant

Email: ashley@southstormont.ca

Phone: 613-534-8889 ext. 204

2 Mille Roches Road, PO Box 84, Long Sault, ON K0C 1P0

<https://www.southstormont.ca>



Town of Kearney

COUNCIL RESOLUTION # 2025 - 16

Date: January 16, 2025

MOVED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

SECONDED BY:

- Beaucage, Keven
- Pateman, Heather
- Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor
- Sharer, Jill

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Kearney receives all items within Correspondence for Information Section;

AND FURTHER that Council direct Staff to write letters of support from the Town of Kearney for any of the mentioned resolutions of support.

CARRIED

DEFEATED

Recorded Vote Requested by: _____

Recorded Vote:

For

Opposed

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Beaucage, Keven | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pateman, Heather | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Philip, Cheryl – Mayor | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rickward, Michael – Deputy Mayor | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sharer, Jill | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Good day,

Please be advised that Council of the Township of South Stormont passed the following resolution on December 18, 2024:

Resolution No.: 253/2024

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Andrew Guindon

Seconded by: Councillor Cindy Woods

Whereas municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development;

And whereas, the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment;

And whereas, the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities;

And whereas, the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs;

And whereas, redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers;

And whereas, a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

Now therefore be it resolved that Council of the Township of South Stormont formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities; Further, that Council of the Township of South Stormont calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities;

Further, that this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs;

Further, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs);

And further be it resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Result: CARRIED

Kind regards,



Ashley Sloan, AMP

Deputy Clerk
Marriage Officiant

Email: ashley@southstormont.ca

Phone: 613-534-8889 ext. 204

2 Mille Roches Road, PO Box 84, Long Sault, ON K0C 1P0

<https://www.southstormont.ca>



From: ca.office (MNR) <ca.office@ontario.ca>

Sent: January 17, 2025 1:44 PM

To: ca.office (MNR) <ca.office@ontario.ca>

Subject: Update: Proposed regulation regarding Minister's Permit and Review powers under the Conservation Authorities Act

Good afternoon:

I am writing to you today to notify you of a new regulation prescribing the circumstances under which the Minister of Natural Resources ("Minister") may make permitting decisions in the place of a conservation authority or review a conservation authority's permitting decision.

New provisions in the *Conservation Authorities Act* came into effect on April 1, 2024, that included powers for the Minister to 1) issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from issuing a permit and to take over the permitting process in the place of a conservation authority ("Minister's permit"), and 2) review a conservation authority permit decision at the request of the applicant ("Minister's review"). It is important to note that when making a permitting decision using one of these tools, the Minister is required to satisfy the same legislative criteria concerning natural hazards and public safety that are considered by conservation authorities.

The new regulation sets out the circumstances under which the Minister may use these powers as circumstances where the proposed development activity or other activity, in the opinion of the Minister, pertains to or supports a matter of provincial interest described in the regulation. Additionally, it includes a transparent process for individuals or businesses to request the use of these powers and sets out the information that must be submitted as part of such a request. This regulation came into effect on January 1, 2025.

A Decision Notice is available at the Environmental Registry of Ontario, posting [#019-8320](#) and supporting information describing the process for requesting the use of these powers is available [online](#).

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Ministry of Natural Resources at ca.office@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,
Jennifer

Jennifer Keyes
Director, Development and Hazard Policy Branch
Ministry of Natural Resources

U-Turn Restriction

January 2025

Mulock Drive and
Fernbank Road/College Manor Drive
Town of Newmarket

york.ca/IntersectionSafety



New U-Turn Restriction

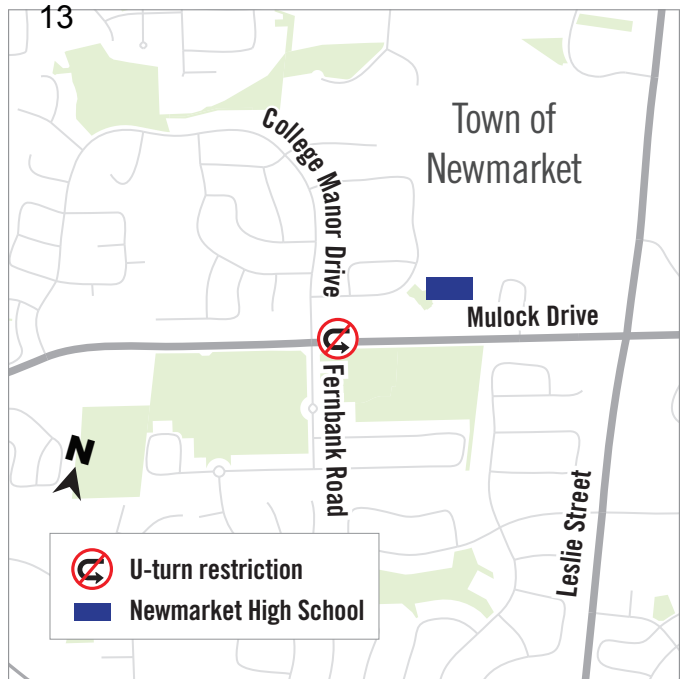
To improve safety and support York Region's Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan, York Region has implemented a westbound U-turn restriction at the intersection of Mulock Drive and Fernbank Road/College Manor Drive, near Newmarket High School.

Impacts to travellers and residents:

- Westbound traffic is not permitted to make U-turns at Mulock Drive and Fernbank Road/College Manor Drive
- Motorists travelling to and from Newmarket High School will be directed to use the rear parking lot to access Mulock Drive eastbound

The new restriction helps improve safety and protects vulnerable road users.

For more information on York Region's Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan please visit york.ca/TravellerSafety



Accessible formats of this postcard and communication supports are available upon request.

YORK REGION TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS

Phone: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75000

TTY: 1-866-512-6228

Email: transportation@york.ca

After hours emergency: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75200





THE TOWNSHIP OF
WOOLWICH

BOX 158, 24 CHURCH ST. W.
ELMIRA, ONTARIO N3B 2Z6
TEL. 519-669-1647 / 1-877-969-0094
COUNCIL/CAO/CLERKS FAX 519-669-1820
PLANNING/ENGINEERING/BUILDING FAX 519-669-4669
FINANCE/RECREATION/FACILITIES FAX 519-669-9348

January 17, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

BY EMAIL

Dear Premier,

RE: Resolution Passed by Woolwich Township Council – Election Advocacy and Preparation

This letter is to inform you that the Council of the Township of Woolwich passed the following resolution at their meeting held on January 14, 2025:

That the Council of the Township of Woolwich, considering Report C02-2025 respecting Election 2026 Report 1 – Election Advocacy and Preparation:

- 1. Endorse the resolutions from municipalities across Ontario including that from the Township of Terrace Bay calling on the Province of Ontario to update the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before the summer of 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections; and***
- 2. Forward this resolution to all municipalities in Ontario, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Public Business Service Delivery, Ministry of Finance, our local Minister of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO).***

Township of Terrace Bay Resolution:

WHEREAS elections rules need to be clear, supporting candidates and voters in their electoral participation and election administrators in running elections;

AND WHEREAS legislation needs to strike the right balance between providing clear rules and frameworks to ensure the integrity of the electoral process;

AND WHEREAS the legislation must also reduce administrative and operational burden for municipal staff ensuring that local election administrators can run elections in a way that responds to the unique circumstances of their local communities;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Elections Act 1996 (MEA) will be 30 years old by the next municipal and school board elections in 2026;

AND WHEREAS the MEA sets out the rules for local elections, the Assessment Act 1990 and the Education Act, 1990 also contain provisions impacting local elections adding more places for

voters, candidates, and administrators to look for the rules that bind the local democratic process in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Act can pose difficulties for voters, candidates, contributors and third-party advertisers to read, to interpret, to comply with and for election administrators to enforce;

AND WHEREAS while local elections are run as efficiently and effectively as can be within the current legislative framework, modernization and continuous improvement is needed to ensure the Act is responsive to today's needs and tomorrow's challenges;

AND WHEREAS to keep public trust and improve safeguards the Act should be reviewed considering the ever-changing landscape with impacts elections administration including privacy, the threats of foreign interference, increased spread of mis-disinformation and the increased use of technologies like artificial intelligence and use of digital identities;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) reviewed the Act and has provided several recommendations including modernizing the legislation, harmonizing rules, and streamlining and simplifying administration;

AND WHEREAS AMCTO put forward recommendations for amendments ahead of the 2026 elections and longer-term recommendation for amendments ahead of the 2030 elections;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Township of Terrace Bay calls for the Province to update the MEA with priority amendments as outlined by AMCTO before Summer 2025 and commence work to review and re-write the MEA with longer-term recommendations ahead of the 2030 elections;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario for support that each endorsement be then forwarded to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Public Business Service Delivery, Ministry of Finance, the Premier of Ontario, Thunder Bay MPP's, AMO and AMCTO.

Should you have any questions, please contact Tanya Bettridge, by email at tbettridge@woolwich.ca or by phone at 519-669-6004.

Yours truly,



Jeff Smith, Municipal Clerk

Corporate Services
Township of Woolwich

Cc: Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Minister of Education
Minister of Public Business Service Delivery
Minister of Finance
Mike Harris, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)
Municipalities of Ontario

“Proudly remembering our past; Confidently embracing our future.”



January 21, 2025

Peterborough - Kawartha MPP Dave Smith;
Honourable Doug Ford, Premier;
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General;
Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and
Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

Subject: Bill 242, Safer Municipalities Act, 2024

The following resolution, adopted by City Council at its meeting held on January 13, 2025, is forwarded for your consideration.

Whereas:

1. **A municipality's parks and open spaces are critical infrastructure that support a strong community, and the public's shared and safe use of the municipality's parks and open spaces is integral to ensuring that support.**
2. **Ontario's municipalities are struggling to maintain their parks and open spaces for their shared and safe use by the public as a result of the increasing proliferation of encampments and illicit activities related thereto.**
3. **Municipalities that enforce their standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in their parks and open spaces must have regard to the availability of shelter space for those who need shelter.**
4. **On January 27, 2023, Justice Valente of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice rendered his judgment in *Waterloo (Regional Municipality) v. Persons Unknown and to be Ascertained* (2023), [2023] O.J. No. 417 (Waterloo Decision) which declared that the municipality's by-law violated section 7 of the *Charter* and was therefore inoperative insofar as it applied to prevent encampment residents from erecting temporary shelters on a site when the number of homeless individuals in the region exceeded the number of accessible shelter beds.**
5. **The Waterloo Decision's analysis of the adequacy of shelter beds suggests an unworkable and unclear standard that goes beyond the number of shelter**

spaces and that includes the requirement to provide shelter spaces that must accommodate illicit drug use and other activities that could put shelter residents, workers and volunteers at risk. The result is that municipalities are impaired in their enforcement of their standards and have lost or are losing control of their parks and open spaces.

6. On December 12, 2024, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, introduced Bill 242, Safer Municipalities Act, 2024. Among its various initiatives, Bill 242 proposes to amend section 2 of the Trespass to Property Act by adding aggravating factors that must be considered in the court's determination of a penalty under that section. However, the key challenge is that a municipality's exercise of its rights at common law and under section 9 of the Trespass to Property Act to remove encampments from the municipality's parks and open spaces remains potentially subject to the unworkable and unclear standard for the adequacy of shelter space suggested by the Waterloo Decision.
7. In these circumstances, municipalities need provincial legislation that clearly defines a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.

Now therefore, be it resolved:

1. That the provincial government be respectfully requested to amend Bill 242 to clearly define a workable standard for shelter space for the purposes of a municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.
2. That, without limitation, Bill 242 provides that a municipality will have met the standard for shelter space for the purposes of the municipality's jurisdiction to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces:
 - a) despite the establishment and enforcement of shelter rules including rules that prohibit drug use and other activities that could put shelter residents, workers and volunteers at risk; and
 - b) if an official designated by the municipality is satisfied that the number of available shelter spaces is at least equal to the aggregate of the number of individuals actually seeking shelter and the number of individuals against whom the municipality is planning to enforce its standards regulating or prohibiting encampments in its parks and open spaces.
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- a) Peterborough - Kawartha MPP Dave Smith;
- b) Honourable Doug Ford, Premier;
- c) Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
- d) Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General;
- e) Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and to
- f) Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

Sincerely,



John Kennedy
City Clerk

cc:
City of Peterborough Council
City of Peterborough Staff



TOWN OF AJAX
65 Harwood Avenue South
Ajax ON L1S 3S9 www.ajax.ca

The Right Honorable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Sent by E-Mail

January 23, 2025

Re: Motion Requesting the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on January 20, 2025:

WHEREAS municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development;

AND WHEREAS the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs;

AND WHEREAS redistributing a portion of the LTT and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers;

AND WHEREAS a redistribution of a portion of the existing LTT and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;

AND WHEREAS on November 27, 2024, Durham Regional Council passed a resolution requesting the Federal and Provincial governments redistribute a portion of the LTT and GST to municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Ajax Council calls on the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities and remind the province that it has been asked by AMO and municipalities to develop a new and comprehensive funding arrangement with municipalities, including the housing affordability taskforce recommendations;
2. Ajax Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the Goods and Services Tax collected on property sales to municipalities;
3. Redistribution of the LTT and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs;
4. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs), all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 365-885-6983 or thomas.street@ajax.ca

Sincerely,



Thomas Street
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Councillor R. Tyler Morin
Regional Councillor M. Crawford
Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
All Durham Region MPs
All Durham Region MPPs
All Ontario municipalities
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario



1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, L7G 5G2
905-873-2600 | 1-877-712-2205
haltonhills.ca

January 23, 2025

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
Via Email

Re: Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, January 20, 2025, adopted Resolution No. 2025-0009 regarding Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2025-0009.

Respectfully,

Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

cc. Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Leaders of the Opposition Parties
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Local MPs
Local MPPs
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All 444 Municipalities of Ontario



THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2025-0009

Title: Request the Redistribution of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to Municipalities for Sustainable Infrastructure Funding

Date: January 20, 2025

Moved by: Mayor A. Lawlor

Seconded by: Councillor C. Somerville

Item No. 12.1

WHEREAS municipalities face growing infrastructure needs, including roads, bridges, public transit, water systems, and other critical services, which are essential to community well-being and economic development;

AND WHEREAS the current sources of municipal revenue, including property taxes and user fees, are insufficient to meet these increasing demands for infrastructure investment;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario currently collects the Land Transfer Tax (LTT) on property transactions in municipalities across the province, generating significant revenue that is not directly shared with municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government collects the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on property transactions, a portion of which could be directed to municipalities to address local infrastructure needs;

AND WHEREAS redistributing a portion of the Provincial Land Transfer Tax and GST to municipalities would provide a predictable and sustainable source of funding for local infrastructure projects without creating a new tax burden on residents or homebuyers;

AND WHEREAS a redistribution of a portion of the existing Land Transfer Tax

and GST would allow municipalities to better plan and invest in long-term infrastructure initiatives, supporting local economic growth and improving the quality of life for residents;



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Town of Halton Hills Council formally requests the Provincial Government to consider redistributing a portion of the Land Transfer Tax collected on property transactions to municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT Town of Halton Hills Council calls on the Federal Government to allocate a percentage of the GST collected on property sales to municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT this redistribution of the Land Transfer Tax and GST should be structured to provide predictable and sustainable funding to municipalities, allowing for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure projects that benefit local communities, thus ensuring that local governments receive a fair share of the revenue to address critical infrastructure needs;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, the Ontario Minister of Finance, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, local Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs);

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to all 444 Municipalities in Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) for their endorsement and advocacy.

Mayor Ann Lawlor



King Township
2585 King Road
King City, Ontario
Canada L7B 1A1

Phone: 905.833.5321
Fax: 905.833.2300
Website: www.king.ca
Email: clerks@king.ca

January 28, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford,

**RE: Township of King Resolution – Strengthening Enforcement Against
Illegal Land Use**

At its Council meeting of January 27, 2025, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of King adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the Township of King, as a rural community in Ontario, places a high priority on preserving its natural landscapes, agricultural heritage, and environmentally sensitive areas to ensure sustainable land-use planning and maintain its community integrity; and

Whereas illegal land use, including unauthorized development, unapproved land alterations, and other non-compliant activities, poses significant threats to the township's agricultural viability, water quality, and ecosystem health, in addition to undermining public trust in land-use governance; and

Whereas municipalities often incur significant costs associated with investigating, enforcing, monitoring, and remediating illegal activities, which are difficult to recover under current legislative and legal frameworks; and

Whereas existing penalties under the *Planning Act* are insufficient to deter violations, as they do not adequately reflect the economic gains derived from illegal land use activities; and

Whereas the Township of King recognizes the need for enhanced collaboration between municipal and provincial authorities, including stronger legislative tools, increased resources for enforcement, and streamlined processes, to uphold the principles of responsible land stewardship and to protect public trust; and

Whereas empowering municipalities with more timely and additional proactive enforcement measures, such as immediate penalties for non-compliance, would address systemic delays and create a more efficient and effective framework for resolving land-use violations; and

Whereas municipalities currently face delays in halting illegal land use due to limited enforcement authority under the *Planning Act*; and

Whereas lengthy Provincial Offences Court proceedings currently hinder municipalities' ability to address straightforward cases of non-compliance promptly and efficiently; and

Whereas granting municipalities the power to issue immediate and enforceable stop-work orders for illegal activities would enhance their ability to protect agricultural and environmentally sensitive lands promptly; and

Whereas providing municipalities with authority to impose immediate financial penalties for non-compliance would strengthen their capacity to enforce planning by-laws and deter ongoing violations;

Now therefore be it resolved that:

1. The Township of King urges the Government of Ontario to prioritize these legislative amendments to the *Planning Act* to safeguard Ontario's agricultural lands, natural heritage, and community well-being:
 - a. Make fines proportionate to the economic gain derived from violations to eliminate financial incentives for illegal land use by amending Section 67 (Offences and Penalties) of the *Planning Act* to increase fines for individuals to \$50,000 and corporations to \$100,000 and include a \$50,000 fine for each day the illegal land use continues. Apply escalating penalties for repeat offenders or for violations in areas of high environmental sensitivity (e.g., Greenbelt or conservation lands).
 - b. Allow municipalities to recover costs associated with investigating, enforcing, monitoring, and remediating illegal activities from violators by granting municipalities the ability to include all charges, fines, orders, notices, prohibitions, injunctions, and court-imposed fines as a lien against the property under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, which can be registered on title of a property under Section 128 of the *Land Titles Act*.
 - c. Empower enhanced enforcement by providing municipalities the ability to impose an Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS) by changing the *Planning Act*. The intended outcome of this action would be to help avoid court proceedings and encourage compliance to avoid financial penalties. It would have the added benefit of helping to relieve the already overburden Provincial Courts of Part III Offences and enable more efficient and timely resolution of land-use violations.
2. That the Township Clerk send a copy of this resolution to Premier Doug Ford, Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Hon. Doug Downey, Minister of the Attorney General, all local area municipalities in York Region, including York Region itself, and to the Towns of Bradford West Gwillimbury and Caledon, for their information and support.

Carried Unanimously.

Yours sincerely,



Denny Timm
Township Clerk

cc. Hon. Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org
Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario Doug.Downey@ontario.ca
Chris Raynor, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of York regional.clerk@york.ca
clerks@aurora.ca
llyons@newmarket.ca
rdillabough@georgina.ca
tlajevardi@eastwillimbury.ca
clerks@richmondhill.ca
todd.coles@vaughan.ca
clerks@townofws.ca
KKitteringham@markham.ca
Tara Reynolds, Clerk treynolds@townofbwg.com
Laura Hall, Town Clerk info@caledon.ca
Councillor Jennifer Anstey, King janstey@king.ca
Mayor Steve Pellegrini, King spellegrini@king.ca



1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, L7G 5G2
905-873-2600 | 1-877-712-2205
haltonhills.ca

January 29, 2025

All Municipalities in Ontario
Via Email

Re: Sovereignty of Canada

Please be advised that Council of the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, January 20, 2025, adopted Resolution No. 2025-0010 regarding Sovereignty of Canada.

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2025-0010.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Lawr'.

Melissa Lawr, AMP
Deputy Clerk – Legislation



THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Resolution No.: 2025-0010

Title: Sovereignty of Canada

Date: January 20, 2025

Moved by: Councillor D. Keene

Seconded by: Councillor J. Brass

Item No. 12.2

WHEREAS incoming President Trump has suggested that with the use of "economic force" such as tariffs, Canada should become the 51st state of the United States, and further he suggests that many Canadians would agree;

AND WHEREAS residents of our community, known as Canada's Most Patriotic Town, have demonstrated passion for and loyalty to our nation by opposing past "Buy America" trade measures; by celebrating Canada's 150th anniversary by simultaneously flying over 57,000 Canadian flags and along with other activities, by annually hosting popular Canada Day festivities throughout our municipality; and

AND WHEREAS Canada is a sovereign nation with a peaceful history of self-governance dating to its Confederation in 1867; and

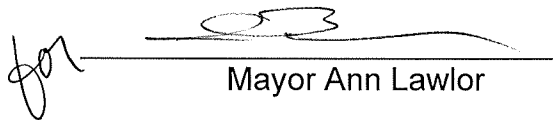
AND WHEREAS the Canadian identity is marked by a deep-rooted pride in its heritage and culture founded by French and British settlement, enriched by Indigenous culture and traditions and by more than a century and a half of multi-cultural immigration;

AND WHEREAS Canada has significant global standing, consistently supporting its allies, including the United States, in global conflicts such as two world wars, and wars in Korea and Afghanistan; and in international coalitions and in being consistently recognized as among the top countries in the world for quality of life;

AND WHEREAS the shared history of the United States and Canada has been one of friendship, respect and neighbourly relations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Halton Hills categorically rejects any efforts by incoming President Trump or any others to undermine the sovereignty of Canada. We stand united with our Ontario Premier Doug Ford and our Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for a Canada that remains strong, free, independent, and characterized by peace, order, and good government.

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor prepare correspondence containing this resolution for circulation to the office of the American president through our Canadian diplomatic channels with copies to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, The Honourable Melanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs, MP Michael Chong, Premier Doug Ford, The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade of Ontario, MPP Ted Arnott, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, AMO, FCM, and all municipalities in Ontario.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ann Lawlor', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mayor Ann Lawlor

Temporary Bridge Weight Restriction

January 2025

Prospect Street bridge,
north of Gorham Street
Town of Newmarket

york.ca/Roads



The Prospect Street bridge, built in 1966, is set for replacement in 2027. Until then, York Region has imposed a temporary weight restriction on the bridge, 550 metres north of Gorham Street, to ensure the structure remains safe and in good repair.

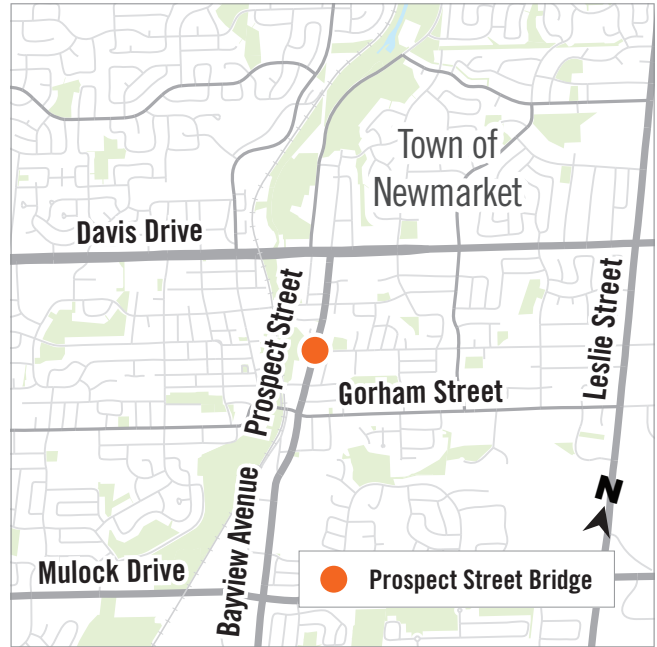
Weight restrictions

Vehicle Type	Gross Weight Limit in Tonnes
Single vehicle	21 tonnes
Single vehicle with one towed vehicle	39 tonnes
Single vehicle with two towed vehicles	54 tonnes

The bridge weight restriction will remain in effect until the bridge is replaced.

For more information on this restriction, visit york.ca/Roads

Accessible formats of this postcard and communication supports are available upon request.



YORK REGION TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS

Phone: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75000

TTY: 1-866-512-6228

Email: transportation@york.ca

After hours emergency: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75200



2025 Ontario Budget Consultation

On January 30, 2025 Regional Council made the following decision:

1. Council endorse this report, including the specific requests outlined in Appendix A, as York Region's submission to Ontario's 2025 Budget consultation.
2. The Regional Clerk send a copy of this report to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, Local Members of Provincial Parliament and local municipalities.



The Regional Municipality of York

Committee of the Whole
Finance and Administration

January 16, 2025

FOR DECISION

Report of the Commissioner of Finance **2025 Ontario Budget Consultation**

1. Recommendation

1. Council endorse this report, including the specific requests outlined in Appendix A, as York Region's submission to Ontario's 2025 Budget consultation.
2. The Regional Clerk send a copy of this report to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, Local Members of Provincial Parliament and local municipalities.

2. Purpose

This report outlines requests made to the Province during 2024 and in prior years, and seeks Council's endorsement to include them in the Ontario 2025 Budget consultation process. The deadline for submissions is February 3, 2025.

Key Points:

- While the Region is investing over \$8 billion in growth-enabling capital over the next 10 years, to adequately service growth, Provincial funding is needed, including for \$2.4 billion in unfunded critical bus rapid transit and community housing infrastructure.
- The Region continues to advocate for increased and sustained funding from senior levels of government to support affordable housing, growth-enabling infrastructure including the North York Durham Sewage System expansion, and social and human services.
- Provincial support is requested to address the estimated \$279 million reduction in development charges collections over the next ten years due to recent amendments to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, to avoid the need for additional tax levy and user rate increases

3. Background

Stakeholders will be able to provide input into the 2025 Ontario Budget until February 3, 2025

On November 14, 2024, the Minister of Finance announced stakeholders would have the opportunity to provide input into the Province of Ontario's 2025 Budget process. Pre-budget in-person consultations are being held across the province from November 2024 to February 2025, with the option to submit written input by February 3, 2025. While the Province has not yet announced the date the 2025 Budget will be released, based on recent years, it is expected to be delivered in March.

Previous advocacy efforts were the starting point for the proposed 2025 Ontario Budget submission

Council's advocacy efforts through 2024, including participation in the [2024 Ontario Budget Consultation](#), and endorsement of the [Social and Economic Prosperity Review](#) proposed by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), formed the foundation of York Region's proposed submission. Introduced as part of AMO's 2024 pre-budget submission, the review reinforces the critical need for infrastructure to support growth. It also highlights the challenges of housing affordability and the provision of health and social health services, emphasizing the importance of sustainability and a more accountable provincial-municipal relationship. These have been summarized into five categories: infrastructure required to support growth, housing affordability challenges, transit priorities, human and health services and other needs.

Senior government funding is required to enable the Region to deliver priority growth-enabling infrastructure

The [2025, 10-year capital plan](#) includes over \$8 billion in growth-enabling infrastructure, including \$3.2 billion for water and wastewater that will enable an additional 70,000 housing units in addition to the 80,000 already serviced and ready for construction. The other \$4.8 billion in growth-enabling projects include continuing to invest \$1.12 billion in the Region's share of the Yonge North Subway Extension, adding 101 kilometres to road networks, expanding transit services, and building 400 community housing units.

The \$8 billion in growth infrastructure includes \$31.3 million to advance environmental assessments and preliminary engineering for priority bus rapid transit (BRT). These efforts are to make the projects shovel-ready, enhancing the likelihood of securing funding from other levels of government.

To adequately service growth, the Region would need to invest an additional \$2.4 billion over the next 10 years for unfunded priority projects, including \$2.0 billion for BRT projects and \$380.2 million toward community housing. These amounts are not included in the Region's 10-year capital plan as they cannot go ahead without senior government support.

Building a transportation network to enable increased housing and job growth requires partnership with all levels of government

Over the next 10 years, the \$2.0 billion in unfunded transit projects includes \$1.7 billion for the Region's priority BRT projects along Jane Street in Vaughan and Highway 7 East in Markham, and \$0.3 billion to advance environmental assessments, preliminary engineering and design and construction of future BRT corridors (Leslie Street and Major Mackenzie Drive).

On July 17, 2024, the federal government [launched](#) the Canada Public Transit Fund (CPTF), a new \$30 billion investment over the first 10 years aimed at expanding public transit, starting in 2026. Most of this funding, the \$20 billion Metro-Region Agreement stream, requires participation in a joint application led by the Province.

As detailed in an [October 24, 2024 report](#) to the York Region Rapid Transit Corporation (YRRTC) Board of Directors, The Region will continue to work with YRRTC, local municipalities and the Province to support the Metro-Region Agreement stream application requirements. In addition to the potential 40% Federal contribution to capital projects through the CPTF, a Provincial cost-share is needed. Early confirmation of the provincial government's share of costs will enable the Region and the York Region Rapid Transit Corporation to continue to effectively plan and proceed with priority BRT projects along Jane Street and Highway 7 East.

Provincial support is needed for housing affordability initiatives, including increasing the supply of community housing

In [February 2021](#), York Regional Council declared a housing affordability crisis, emphasizing the urgent need for action. Information presented to the Region's Housing Affordability Task Force in [January 2024](#) and [May 2024](#), and information presented to Council in [June 2024](#) highlighted the need for increased and sustained funding to address residents' housing needs. Housing is not affordable to households with low and moderate incomes, and the Region's subsidized housing wait list continues to grow, with [15,716 households](#) waiting at the end of 2023.

An additional \$192.9 million is needed from the Province to meet a one-third funding share for community housing projects

The Region's 2025 10-year capital plan includes spending for about 400 new community housing units for two pre-development projects, 62 Bayview Parkway in Town of Newmarket and 14th Avenue Box Grove in City of Markham.

In October 2024, a report on [Actions to Increase Affordable and Community Housing Supply under the next 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan](#) outlined a further unfunded 915 new Housing York Inc. (HYI) units required. While the 2025 10-year capital plan includes \$74 million in Regional funding to advance these projects to a state of readiness, the remaining [\\$385.8 million](#) in costs are unfunded. The Region continues to advocate for a model where each level of government funds one-third of new development costs. Project costs for 1,315 total units are

\$597.6 million, with \$12.6 million in senior government funding allocated to these projects. An additional \$192.9 million is needed from the Province to meet a one-third funding share. These projects cannot move forward without long-term funding commitments from senior levels of government.

Ongoing Provincial funding would support the Region's sustainable investment in growth-enabling water and wastewater infrastructure

The Region, along with the Towns of Aurora, East Gwillimbury and Newmarket, welcome the Province's investment of nearly \$140 million for Phase 1 of the York Durham Sewage System (YDSS) North Expansion project through the Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund (HEWSF). The HEWSF is a one-time fund, and as a successful recipient, the Region was ineligible to apply for the second intake.

The [2025 10-Year Capital Plan](#) includes Phase 2 and a portion of Phase 3 of the North YDSS Expansion, and the Region is continuing to explore partnering with the development community through DC credit agreements to [sustainably finance](#) these costs. Additional provincial funding would help support delivery of the complex growth-enabling projects included in Phases 2 and 3 of the North YDSS Expansion within required timelines.

Development charges are an essential tool to recover costs of growth-related infrastructure

Development charges (DCs) help recover costs needed to fund vital growth-related infrastructure required to help build more homes faster throughout the Region and province. The *Development Charges Act, 1997* (DCA) requires municipalities to demonstrate the nexus between growth and the anticipated increased need for services, including considering the share of costs that benefit existing residents and businesses. This process provides a transparent and efficient way of funding the vital growth-related infrastructure required to build more homes faster throughout the Region and the Province.

However, as housing affordability challenges worsen, there have been recent efforts/considerations to further reduce DCs, such as through discounts and exemptions or eliminating some services to which they apply. Without funding from senior levels of government, DCs reductions would be funded from non-DC sources, shifting costs of growth to existing residents and businesses through increased property taxes and user rates. As a high growth municipality requiring significant growth-related infrastructure investments, shifting those costs to existing residential and commercial property taxes and water and wastewater rates would lead to unsustainable increases to maintain service levels. This would further exacerbate the housing affordability challenges and, from a commercial perspective, hinder the Region's economic competitiveness.

DCs as a funding source help keep property taxes and user rates more affordable, which helps homeowners afford monthly costs. These lower homeownership costs support affordability for

homebuyers as they are indirectly factored into lenders' mortgage assessments when considering household's monthly cashflow.

Through the Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force, one idea suggested to reduce upfront DCs was to remove the water and wastewater DCs and recover those growth-related costs through a utility model (i.e., user rates) under a municipal services corporation. Staff's preliminary analysis estimates that removing water and wastewater DCs could increase user rates in 2024 by about 85% or \$580 per household for York Region rates alone. While the Region supports the Province's effort to reduce upfront costs to building new homes, there is no guarantee or evidence that removing DCs would result in lower prices for new homebuyers.

Region continues to request the Province make it financially whole as a result of recent changes to how growth infrastructure is funded

Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*, introduced significant changes to how the Region administers development charges, including reducing DCs through various discounts and exemptions. In [April 2024](#), the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024* (Bill 185) reversed some of these changes.

The Region appreciates the Province's efforts to mitigate DC reductions by reversing some of the previous amendments to the DCA. In addition to legislative amendments requested to protect the affordability and rental tenure of housing receiving development charge exemptions, the Region continues to request that Housing Services be reinstated as a DC-eligible service. Additionally, the Region requests support to help address the \$279 million reduction in DC collections resulting from recent amendments to the DCA.

As an example, without additional funding, the one-time additional tax levy and user rate increase required to fund the 2024 to 2033 DC collection reductions would be 1.3% and 3.0% in 2025, respectively.

Sharing Provincial tax revenues could support housing development and growth-enabling infrastructure

During the [2024 Ontario Budget Consultation](#) process, the Region renewed its request for the Province to allocate a share of revenues collected through the Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST) to support York's affordable housing initiatives. From 2017 to 2023, the Province collected \$1.14 billion in NRST revenues, of which [\\$283 million](#) was collected from the Region; however, the Province indicated net revenues collected are smaller, as a significant portion of NRST revenues are rebated to buyers who receive permanent resident status within three years of their home purchase. A November 28, 2024 [resolution](#) requested that the Province also share net Land Transfer Tax revenues from transactions of York Region homes, estimated to total \$250 million in 2023 alone.

Rising costs of living and a lack of affordable housing options continue to place increased pressure on homelessness programs and supports

York Region continues to face an urgent need for affordable and community housing, compounded by a growing waitlist and rising homelessness. In 2023, Council invested \$12.8 million in critical social infrastructure, of which \$4.8 million was allocated to homelessness prevention initiatives. [The Homelessness Service System Plan 2024 to 2027](#) approved in June 2024, emphasized the critical need for increased investment and strategic action to meet the housing demands of the Region's most vulnerable residents.

Alongside the Homelessness Service System Plan, in [June 2024](#), Council approved a Rapid Deployment Action Plan to accelerate housing solutions, which included provisions for two new emergency and transitional housing projects totaling \$72 million (including land costs). These are included in the 2025 Budget, in addition to replacing three existing facilities, adding a total of 287 new emergency and transitional beds.

However, to fully implement these initiatives and meet the Region's growing needs, additional resources are essential. As requested in a July 10, 2024 [letter](#) to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) and members of parliament, an increase of \$7 million to York Region's annual Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program allocation starting in 2025 is needed to support operating costs associated with the Rapid Deployment Action Plan.

Echoing the asks above, a November 28, 2024 [memorandum](#) highlighted the need for continued investments in programs such as the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) beyond 2029 and sustained multi-year funding for affordable housing initiatives would help address homelessness and expand housing options across the Region.

Additional sustainable funding is needed for essential health, long-term care and other human services to meet growing needs

As detailed in the May 2024 Municipal Operation of Long-Term Care Homes report, the Region's tax levy subsidizes growing costs of operating its two long-term care homes, Maple Health Centre and Newmarket Health Centre. In 2023 alone, property taxes contributed \$18.6 million to cover shortfalls in long-term care funding, and this reliance on property tax subsidies is projected to grow to \$22.9 million (45.5%) by 2026.

[The 2024 to 2027 York Region Plan to Support Seniors](#) noted that investments are needed in programs and supports that enhance seniors' access to technology and reduce digital divides. The Region recommends establishing a sustainable and equitable multi-year funding formula that covers total cost of operating municipal long-term care homes and includes a comprehensive assessment of individual's ability to contribute to cost of their care.

Community Paramedicine programs aim to reduce 911 calls, emergency visits, and long-term care waitlist pressures. The September 2024 [Update on the Paramedic Services Master Plan 2021-2031](#) identified the need for sustainable Provincial funding to support the Region's

Improving Patient Access to Care in the Community (IMPACC) Program, which involves on-scene diagnostics, treatment, and discharge with home care plans when hospital visits are not needed. While funding for the Community Paramedicine for Long-Term Care program has been extended until the end of 2026, stable funding is still needed for all community paramedicine programs to continue delivering essential services.

Similar to Long-Term Care, the Region's tax levy continues to subsidize operating costs for Public Health beyond the 75%/25% provincial-municipal cost-sharing ratio. In 2023, the Region contributed 43% of total Public Health operating expenses. Provincial funding for administering Public Health programs and services is needed to keep pace with the significant increase in service demand, population growth, service complexity and inflation.

As noted in York Region's [Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan 2024 to 2027](#), families need access to licensed child care. While York Region was allocated 1,882 new affordable child care spaces between 2022 to 2026 through Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC), this is below the 7,372 new spaces needed and requested.

[Ontario Works rates](#) for clients have not increased since 2018. A single person on Ontario Works receives \$733 per month (\$343 in basic needs and \$390 in shelter allowance). This creates pressures for a growing community housing waitlist as Ontario Works clients face limited affordable housing options. Similar to the Ontario Disability Support Program, increasing and indexing Ontario Works rates with inflation will better support Ontario Works clients.

As mandated under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, [Community Safety and Well-Being Plan](#) for York Region is a long-term tool to enhance safety and well-being through proactive, targeted and community-driven actions. Permanent, dedicated funding is required to sustain progress made under the Region's Plan including community-led social infrastructure and new social development and prevention programs.

Proportionate funding allocation is essential to strengthen community safety and combat rising crime in York Region

Public safety is a shared responsibility requiring collaboration across all levels of government. In York Region, public safety is a key priority, aligned with the Community Safety and Well-being Plan and the York Regional Police Service Board's business plan. In 2023, the Region's [Violent Crime Severity Index rose by 6.7%](#), driven by incidents of vehicle theft, sexual assault, and weapons-related calls, including firearms, with firearm discharge cases more than doubling across the Region.

Auto theft remains a concern, with 4,709 vehicles stolen in 2023, representing 15% of Ontario's 30,134 vehicle thefts that year. While York Regional Police received an allocation of \$300,000 annually over three years through the Preventing Auto Theft (PAT) grant, this funding represents only 5% of the total annual grant availability, despite the Region bearing a disproportionately high share of auto thefts.

As described in [November 2024](#), allocating funding for community safety initiatives based on the level of criminal activity and victimization within police jurisdictions can help enhance public safety efforts. This targeted approach ensures resources are directed to high-need areas, such as those experiencing elevated rates of auto theft and organized crime. It also supports more effective policing, advances implementation of the Community Safety and Well-being Plan, and helps restore public confidence in the safety of our communities.

4. Analysis

Provincial support is requested to continue delivering critical programs while addressing legislative changes, population growth, and affordability pressures

While recognizing and valuing the vital provincial support already provided, further funding is essential to manage capacity challenges, respond to evolving legislation, and support growth. Aligned with past advocacy and Council's ongoing priorities, Provincial assistance is crucial for sustainable delivery of key infrastructure and services. Appendix A summarizes proposed requests to be submitted as part of the 2025 Ontario Budget consultation.

Should the Province adopt the Region's proposed requests, our active participation could lead to crucial Provincial investments and policy adjustments, supporting delivery of critical infrastructure and continuing to deliver quality services to York Region's growing population.

5. Financial Considerations

This report does not present current or anticipated financial changes to the Region's budget or fiscal position. While there are no immediate financial considerations associated with the recommendations of this report, the submission is expected to help inform the 2025 Ontario Budget.

As part of this submission, York Region has recommended the Province not remove the water and wastewater DCs. As noted previously, if that were to happen, and without any guarantee that this would result in lower home prices, York Region's water and wastewater rates could increase by about 85%, or \$580 per household.

6. Local Impact

The submission as part of the 2025 Ontario Budget consultation process is intended to support the continued provision of vital infrastructure and servicing required in a financially sustainable way to all nine local municipalities.

7. Conclusion

This report summarizes positions and requests that Council has made throughout the year that, if endorsed, would form York Region's submission to the Ontario 2025 Budget consultation.

For more information on this report, please contact Bonny Tam, Acting Director, Treasury Office and Deputy Treasurer at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75885. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.



Recommended by:

Laura Mirabella

Commissioner of Finance and Regional Treasurer



Approved for Submission:

Erin Mahoney

Chief Administrative Officer

January 6, 2025

16393014

Appendix A – Proposed 2025 Ontario Budget Consultation Submission

Proposed 2025 Ontario Budget Consultation Submission

Requests

Investing in Safer Communities

- Allocate funding to York Region Police for community safety initiatives based on level of criminal activity and victimization within the area for which a police service board has policing responsibility
 - Provide dedicated, long-term funding for implementation of Community Safety and Well-being Plans as mandated
-

Enabling Growth in Our Communities

Infrastructure to Support Growth

- Contribute a one-third Provincial funding share (\$192.9 million) towards 1,315 new community housing units to support local municipalities to address the growing subsidized housing waitlist
- Provide additional funding towards the York Durham Sewage System North expansion program, with flexibility in scope and timelines to support achieving provincial housing targets
- Provide York Region with its share of Provincial NRST revenues to support affordable housing initiatives, reported to be \$283 million to the end of 2023
- Allocate portion of Provincial Land Transfer Tax revenues to York Region raised from transactions of York Region properties
- Confirm the Region will be made financially whole as a result of changes to the *Development Charges Act*, due to Bill 23, including:
 - Reinstate Housing Services as eligible for funding under the *Development Charges Act*
 - Provide funding to cover the shortfall currently estimated to be at least \$279 million over the next ten years
- Amend legislation to allow upper-tier municipalities to have, or participate in, Community Investment Plans

Requests

- Clarify “use it or lose it” policies and consider allowing reassignment of servicing capacity, that has remained unused for a prescribed period (time to be determined through consultation), between different local municipalities for upper-tier municipalities
- Continue to focus on growth within municipally serviced areas where infrastructure is planned and financially sustainable through greater economies of scale
- Explicitly assess available municipal servicing or infrastructure in the process of considering Minister’s Zoning Orders
- Prioritize implementation of streamlined Municipal Projects Assessment Process regulations to provide structural changes to Environmental Assessments required to expedite delivery of infrastructure required to build more homes while protecting the environment
- Provide York Region with an opportunity to participate in Ministry consultations for enacting regulations required to bring certainty to approval timelines for municipal infrastructure projects

Housing and Homelessness Prevention Initiatives

Increase the annual Provincial Homelessness Prevention Program allocation by \$7 million starting in 2025 to fund operating costs for the Rapid Deployment Action Plan

- Increase capital and operating funding for construction and administration of required emergency and transitional housing facilities due to ongoing increases in service demand
- Provide multi-year funding under the Federal/Provincial Ontario Priorities Housing Initiatives and Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiatives for new supply and capital repairs
- Provide permanent long-term and predictable benefit programs like COHB beyond 2029 along with multi-year and sustained funding to tackle homelessness and expand access to affordable housing of all types

Requests

Health and Human Services

- Provide stable Provincial funding for Community Paramedicine program beyond 2026 and provide an update on the \$2 million Models of Care Innovation Fund application
- Establish a multi-year funding formula that covers total cost of operating municipal long-term care homes (\$22.9 million by 2026)
- Increase and index Ontario Works rates with inflation, similar to Ontario Disability Support Program
- Allocate additional funding for a total of 7,372 licensed CWELCC childcare spaces
- Increase annual Public Health funding to align with the 75%/25% provincial-municipal cost share

Keeping People, Goods and Information Moving

- Provide clarity on estimated investment for various streams for the permanent transit fund to support \$1.7 billion in two priority Bus Rapid Transit projects along the Jane Street and Highway 7 East corridors (including Enterprise Boulevard in Markham Centre), and provide long-term funding for capital and operating transit service budgets
- Elevate two priority Bus Rapid Transit projects in the Provincial submission for the Permanent Transit Fund and prioritize within the larger Provincial ask being coordinated through the Metrolinx Regional Transportation Plan



Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

January 31, 2025

Honourable Andrea Khanjin (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks)
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance)
Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
and MPP for Northumberland Peterborough-South)
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

Re: Correspondence, Municipality of St. Charles 'Deposit Return Program'

At a meeting held on January 22, 2025 Northumberland County Council approved Council Resolution # 2025-01-22-035, adopting the below recommendation from the January 6, 2025 Public Works Committee meeting:

Moved by: Councillor Mandy Martin
Seconded by: Councillor John Logel

"**That** the Public Works Committee, having considered correspondence from the Municipality of St. Charles regarding 'Deposit Return Program' recommend that County Council support this correspondence; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Andrea Khanjin (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks), the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance), the Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland Peterborough-South), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario Municipalities."

Council Resolution # 2025-01-22-035

Carried

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at matherm@northumberland.ca or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.

Sincerely,
Maddison Mather



Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County



Council Resolution

Moved By M. Mabin
 Seconded By J. Fogel

Agenda Item 10 Resolution Number 2025-01-22- 035

Council Date: January 22, 2025

“That Council adopt all recommendations from the three Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held January 6 and 8, 2025).”

Recorded Vote Requested by _____
 Councillor’s Name

Deferred _____
 Warden’s Signature

Carried [Signature]
 Warden’s Signature

Defeated _____
 Warden’s Signature



Public Works Committee Resolution

Committee Meeting Date: January 6, 2025

Agenda Item: 7.b

Resolution Number: 2025-01-06- 004

Moved by: B. Ostrander

Seconded by: J. Logel

Council Meeting Date: January 22, 2025

"**That** the Public Works Committee, having considered correspondence from the Municipality of St. Charles regarding 'Deposit Return Program' recommend that County Council support this correspondence; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Andrea Khanjin (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks), the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance), the Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland Peterborough-South), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario Municipalities."

Carried _____
 Committee Chair's Signature

Defeated _____
 Committee Chair's Signature

Deferred _____
 Committee Chair's Signature

The Corporation of the Municipality of St. Charles
RESOLUTION PAGE



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.2.
Resolution Number 2024-403
Title: Resolution Stemming from October 16, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 8.1 - Correspondence #4
Date: November 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus
Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the letter dated September 20, 2024 by the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, regarding the Ontario Deposit Return Program;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Andrea Khanjin; the Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

September 20, 2024

BY E-MAIL

Hon. Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Khanjin:

Ontario Deposit Return Program

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to formally address the recent discussions surrounding the Ontario Deposit Return Program, particularly regarding our community residents asking us about the recycling of nonalcoholic beverage plastics.

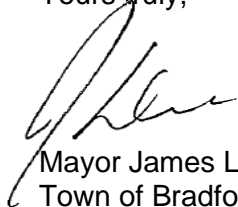
Whereas the Ontario Deposit Return Program has successfully incentivized the recycling of alcoholic beverage containers, resulting in the removal of over 204,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, we recognize the potential for similar success with nonalcoholic beverages.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks highlighted in their June 2023 letter that they are considering the adoption of a deposit-and-return system for nonalcoholic beverages. This initiative presents a unique opportunity to further promote recycling, reduce litter, and encourage sustainable practices among consumers.

Therefore, I am proud to announce that our Council endorses the expansion of the Ontario Deposit Return Program to include nonalcoholic beverage containers. We believe that this expansion will not only enhance environmental stewardship but also foster a culture of sustainability within our community.

We encourage all stakeholders to support this initiative and work collaboratively towards its implementation. Together, we can make a significant impact on our environment and set a positive example for future generations.

Yours truly,



Mayor James Leduc
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

CC:

Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Member of Provincial Parliament for York-Simcoe
MPP Sandy Shaw, Opposition Environment, Conservation and Parks Critic
Ontario's Municipal Councils and Conservation Authorities



January 27, 2025

Sent to: fundraising@cchaforlife.org

Dear Jennifer Graham:

RE: Lighting Request – February 7, 2025 – Congenital Heart Disease Awareness Week

On behalf of the Town of Newmarket Council I am pleased to recognize Congenital Heart Disease Awareness Week by illuminating the Fred A. Lundy Bridge located on Water Street in red on February 7, 2025 from sunset until 11:00 PM.

Thank you for submitting your request and for your contributions to the community.

Yours sincerely,

John Taylor
Mayor



Emily Thomas-Hopkins
Legislative Coordinator
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive
P.O. Box 328 Station Main
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7
Email: ethomashopkins@newmarket.ca
Tel: 905-953-5300 x2210
Fax: 905-953-5100

January 27, 2025

Sent to: fundraising@cchaforlife.org

Dear Jennfier Graham:

RE: Lighting Request – February 7, 2025 – Congenital Heart Disease Awareness Week

I am writing to advise that your lighting request has been approved in accordance with the Council-approved [Proclamation, Lighting Request and Community Flag Raising Policy](#), and the Fred A. Lundy Bridge located on Water Street will be illuminated in red on February 7, 2025 to recognize Congenital Heart Disease Awareness Week. Please note that the lighting will occur from sunset until 11:00 PM.

Approved proclamations, lighting requests, and community flag raisings will be listed on the Town's website. Approved lighting and community flag raisings will also be communicated to the public through the Town's social media.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "ETH", written in a cursive style.

Emily Thomas-Hopkins

Legislative Coordinator