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The Regional Municipality of Durham

Regional Council Minutes

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

The Council of The Regional Municipality of Durham met in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM.

Regional Chair Henry assumed the Chair.

Regional Chair Henry asked members to join him in a moment of personal reflection on the recent shooting tragedy in Bondi, Australia.

1. Traditional Territory Acknowledgment and National Anthem

Regional Chair Henry read the following land acknowledgement:

The Region of Durham exists on lands that the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg inhabited for thousands of years prior to European colonization. These lands are the traditional and treaty territories of the Nations covered under the Williams Treaties, including the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, Alderville First Nation, Hiawatha First Nation, Curve Lake First Nation, and the Chippewa Nations of Georgina Island, Beausoleil and Rama.

We honour, recognize, and respect Indigenous Peoples as rights holders and stewards of the lands and waters on which we have the privilege to live. In our efforts towards reconciliation, we continue to build and strengthen relationships with First Nations, as well as the large Métis communities and growing Inuit communities here in Durham. We commit to learning from Indigenous values and knowledge, building opportunities for collaboration, and recognizing that we are all connected.

Regional Chair Henry announced that Durham Region was named as the Intelligent Community of the Year by the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF).

Durham Region's top intelligent community award is thanks to the collaboration and innovative work taking place with community partners, including all eight of the local municipalities, 1855 Accelerator, Brilliant Catalyst, Spark Centre, Durham College, Ontario Tech University, Trent University Durham GTA, and local boards of trade and chambers of commerce.

To celebrate this recognition, the Region has launched the Proud to Call Durham Home campaign, highlighting the partnerships and organizations driving innovation and growth across the region. Visit durham.ca/LeadingTheWay for more information on current initiatives in the Region.

Chair Henry announced that today is Cheryl Bandel's final Regional Council meeting as she retires from her role as the Region's Deputy Clerk.

Cheryl has been with the Region for 24 years and started her career as a Committee Clerk in the Clerks Department and was appointed Deputy Clerk in 2013.

Chair Henry advised that Cheryl has been an integral part of the Region's governance and legislative process, ensuring transparency, accuracy and accountability. Cheryl's work has touched every aspect of Council operations. Regional Council is the heart of decision-making for Durham Region—shaping policies, services, and investments that impact every resident and Cheryl's role has been vital to this process.

Cheryl's patience and depth of knowledge have helped her to successfully navigate the team through many process changes including moving to digital meeting and agenda management platforms.

Cheryl was also instrumental in steering the Durham York Energy Centre through Council, first as the Committee Clerk for the Works Committee, and then as the Deputy Clerk.

Chair Henry thanked Cheryl for all that she has done and wished her well in retirement.

Regional Chair Henry announced that Lori Talling will be leaving the Region at the end of this year to pursue another exciting opportunity. Lori contributed greatly to Durham for the past 10 years as Sport Tourism Specialist. Lori's ability to build partnerships, attract events, and promote Durham as a destination, has played a major role in growing the Region's sport tourism excellence. The energy, organization, and insight Lori brought to this work has made a measurable difference, both to the Region and to the broader community.

Regional Chair Henry announced that Patricia Nokes is retiring and thanked Patricia for 20 years of support. Chair Henry stated that Patricia has been the person behind the scenes who made so much happen, quietly, professionally, and always with a smile.

Prior to coming to the Region, Patricia was with the City of Oshawa and supported council through downtown revitalization projects, including the redevelopment of the Genosha Hotel and new residential developments and helped keep things on track during major infrastructure initiatives like the GO Train extension to Bowmanville, the Northwood Business Park development, and the Highway 407 East expansion.

At the Region of Durham, Patricia played a key role in supporting transformative projects including the Highway 401 Overpass Replacement, Durham OneNet and Project Genesis for broadband expansion, the launch of the electric bus fleet under E-Mission Zero, and even the planning for a new acute care centre in Pickering.

Patricia's work included planning, housing, transit, and environmental initiatives, all completed with integrity and care.

Chair Henry thanked Patricia for being such an important part of the Region's success and wished Patricia happiness and new adventures in the years ahead.

Chair Henry introduced Nancy Kalotai who will be providing administrative support to the Regional Chair's Office.

2. Roll Call

Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.
*indicates individuals who participated electronically.

Members

Present:

- Councillor Anderson
- Councillor Ashe
- Councillor Barton
- Councillor Brenner
- Councillor Carter
- Councillor Chapman
- Councillor Collier
- Councillor Cook*
- Councillor Crawford
- Councillor Dies
- Councillor Foster
- Councillor Garrod
- Councillor Jubb
- Councillor Kerr
- Councillor Leahy
- Councillor Lee*
- Councillor Marimpietri
- Councillor McDougall
- Councillor Mulcahy
- Councillor Neal
- Councillor Nicholson
- Councillor Pettingill*
- Councillor Pickles
- Councillor Roy
- Councillor Shahid
- Councillor Woo
- Councillor Wotten
- Councillor Yamada
- Regional Chair Henry

Staff Present: S. Austin, C. Bandel, E. Baxter-Trahair, A. Burgess, C. Chu*, S. Danos-Papaconstantinou, J. Dixon, A. Evans*, T. Fetter, L. Fleury, L. Foulds*, P. Frizado*, S. Gill*, C. Goodchild, B. Goodwin, A. Harras, A. Hector-Alexander, B. Holmes, K. Hornburg, J. Hunt, R. Inacio, Z. Jaffer*, R. Jagannathan, J. Kilgour, R.J. Kyle, M. Laschuk*, J. Leonard, I. McVey, P. Moreira, G. Muller, A. Pezzetti*, and E. Valant

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Ashe made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Item 9.6 (Number 2) Report #2025-COW-45: The 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget for Property Tax Purposes, including General Purpose, Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Regional Police Service. He indicated that his son is employed in the Works Department.

Councillor Shahid made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Item 9.6 (Number 2) Report #2025-COW-45: The 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget for Property Tax Purposes, including General Purpose, Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Regional Police Service, as it pertains to the Police Budget. She indicated that her son is in the Youth in Policing program.

Councillor Woo made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Item 9.6 (Number 2) Report #2025-COW-45: The 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget for Property Tax Purposes, including General Purpose, Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Regional Police Service. He indicated that a family member is employed in the Social Services Department.

Councillor Mulcahy made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Item 9.6 (Number 2) Report #2025-COW-45: The 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget for Property Tax Purposes, including General Purpose, Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Regional Police Service, as it pertains to the Long-Term Care budget. She indicated that her daughter is employed in the Social Services Department.

Councillor Crawford made a declaration of interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to Item 9.6 (Number 2) Report #2025-COW-45: The 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget for Property Tax Purposes, including General Purpose, Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Regional Police Service. She indicated that her son is employed in the Finance Department.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Motion #178

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Pickles,
That the minutes of the Regular Regional Council meeting held on
November 26, 2025 be adopted.

Carried

Motion #179

Moved by Councillor Carter, Seconded by Councillor Woo,
That the minutes of the Closed Regional Council meeting held on
November 26, 2025 be adopted.

Carried

5. Presentations

5.1 Christmas Presentation of Children from Whitby Early Learning and Child Care Centre Singing for Council

Children from the Whitby Early Learning and Child Care Centre appeared later in the meeting to sing holiday songs for Council.

5.2 Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer and Nicole Pincombe, Commissioner of Finance re: 2026 Business Plans and Budget

Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer and Nicole Pincombe, Commissioner of Finance provided a presentation regarding the 2026 Business Plans and Budget.

E. Baxter-Trahair provided an overview of the decisions made at the Special Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting and advised that there are two ways to meet the 3% property tax cap. Those include reducing programs or using reserves and reserve funds to fund the gap.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- 2026 Budget – COW Recommendation
- Reserve and Reserve Fund Considerations
- Preliminary 2027 Budget Outlook

Staff responded to questions from Council members.

Motion #180

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Councillor Carter,
That Council recess until 1:00 PM.

Carried

Council recessed at 12:06 PM and reconvened at 1:01 PM.

A roll call was conducted following the recess and all members of Council were present.

Motion #181

Moved by Councillor Barton, Seconded by Councillor Garrod,

That the order of the agenda be altered to consider Item 9.6 Report #12 of the Committee of the Whole, Report #2025-COW-45 at this time.

Carried on the following Recorded Vote:

Yes: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Ashe
Councillor Barton
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Collier
Councillor Cook
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Leahy
Councillor Lee
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Roy
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Marimpietri
Councillor Neal
Councillor Nicholson

Members
Absent: None

Declaration
of Interest: None

9. Committee Reports

9.6 Report #12 of the Special Committee of the Whole

2. The 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budgets for Property Tax Purposes, including General Purpose, Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Regional Police Service
([2025-COW-45](#))

[Referred to Staff with Directions] [See Motion#183]

2026 General Purpose Property Tax Business Plans and Budget (excluding Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Regional Police Service)

- A) That the 2026 Business Plans and Property Tax Budget for General Purposes (including Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit, and Durham Regional Police Service) be approved, subject to use of existing Regional reserves to lower at a total net property tax requirement to 3% over the 2025 net property tax approved, and details within the 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget, which are highlighted in Report #2025-COW-45, be amended and summarized to reflect this increase, and be reported as follows:

	2026 Tax Requirements (\$000s)
Regional Operations	
i) Departmental Operations - excluding Long-term Care	385,829
ii) Departmental Operations – Long-term Care	65,626
iii) Regional Roads Reserve – Growth	12,549
iv) Regional Roads – Rehabilitation Reserve Fund	32,050
v) Regional Bridges – Rehabilitation Reserve Fund	5,525
Total Regional Operations	501,579
vi) Conservation Authorities	10,314
Special Contributions:	
vii) Durham Region Community Investment Grant	8,469
Total Special Contributions	8,469
SUBTOTAL	520,362
viii) Deferral for Seaton Assessment Growth	15,196
TOTAL GENERAL PROPERTY TAX PURPOSES (excluding Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Regional Police Service)	535,558

- B) That the 2026 Capital Program for General Property Tax Purposes and financing (excluding Durham Region Transit, Solid Waste Management, Durham Regional Police Service and Conservation Authorities' requirements), as outlined in Attachment 4 to Report #2025-COW-45 and as further detailed within the 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget, in the amount of \$286,191,000 be approved including up to \$70,534,064 in debenture financing;
- C) That the 2027 to 2035 Capital Forecast for General Property Tax Purposes (excluding Durham Region Transit, Solid Waste Management, Durham Regional Police Services and Conservation Authorities' requirements), as outlined in Attachment 4 to Report #2025-COW-45 and as further detailed within the 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget in the amount of \$5,068,463,000 be received for information purposes only and be subject to future approvals;

Contributions for Regional Roads and Bridges

- D) That a 2026 contribution of \$12,549,000 to the Regional Roads Reserve – Growth be authorized to allow for financing of Road Capital Construction Projects;
- E) That a 2026 contribution of \$32,050,000 to the Regional Roads Rehabilitation Reserve Fund be authorized to assist with road rehabilitation requirements;
- F) That a 2026 contribution of \$5,525,000 to the Regional Bridges Rehabilitation Reserve Fund be authorized to assist with bridge rehabilitation requirements;

Housing Durham

- G) That the 2026 Budget for Housing Durham be approved at a total net property tax requirement of \$17,834,720;

Conservation Authorities

- H) That funding totalling \$7,196,096 for 2026 Category 1 programs and services be approved for the Region's five Conservation Authorities as summarized below:

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority	\$3,844,854
Kawartha Region Conservation Authority	773,678
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority	758,648
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority	1,330,116
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority*	488,800
Total Conservation Authority – Category 1 Funding	\$7,196,096

* Category 1 program and services for Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority includes \$165,120 in Category 1 program and services for the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan

- I) That funding totalling \$1,261,189 for 2026 Category 2 programs and services be approved for the Region’s Conservation Authorities as summarized below:

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority	\$344,073
Kawartha Region Conservation Authority	152,171
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority	197,092
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority	544,000
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority	23,853
Total Conservation Authority – Category 2 Funding	\$1,261,189

- J) That funding totalling \$713,689 for 2026 Category 3 programs and services be approved for the Region’s Conservation Authorities as summarized below:

Central Lake Conservation Authority	\$665,211
Kawartha Region Conservation Authority	27,297
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority	21,181
Total Conservation Authority – Category 3 Funding	\$713,689

- K) That funding totalling \$200,000 for 2026 land management expenditures be approved for properties within Durham Region as outlined below:

Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority	\$85,000
Kawartha Region Conservation Authority	15,000
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority	37,000
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority	41,000
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority	22,000
Total Conservation Authority Land Management Funding	\$200,000

- L) That the Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program (ORMGP) initiatives be continued in 2026 at a funding level of \$180,000 for ongoing groundwater protection initiatives jointly funded with the City of Toronto, the Region of York, and the Region of Peel;
- M) That the special funding requests as outlined below be approved subject to the accountability of project costs incurred and project completion:
 - i) Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority for the Lynde Shore Restoration Project (Year 2 of 4) in the amount of \$100,000;
 - ii) Central Lake Ontario, in partnership with Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, Kawartha Conservation Authority and Ganaraska Conservation Authority, for the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) (Year 1 of 3) in the amount of \$78,500;
 - iii) Kawartha Region Conservation Authority for Watershed Planning Update in the amount of \$32,805;
 - iv) Kawartha Region Conservation Authority for implementation of their Environmental Monitoring Strategy (Year 4 of 10) in the amount of \$9,088;
 - v) Kawartha Region Conservation Authority for the implementation of their Asset Management Plan (Year 2 of 10) in the amount of \$18,612;
 - vi) Kawartha Region Conservation Authority for Forestry and Tree Planting in the amount of \$39,900;
 - vii) Kawartha Region Conservation Authority for implementation of their IT Modernization Plan (Year 1 of 2) in the amount of \$5,452; and
 - viii) Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority for Beaver River and Whites Creek Floodplain Mapping Update (Year 2 of 2) in the amount of \$200,000;
- N) That the special funding request from the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority as outlined below be approved subject to securing the remainder of the project funding under the federal Flood Hazard Information and Mapping Program (FHIMP), project completion and accountability of project costs incurred:
 - i) Bowmanville Creek and Soper Creek Floodplain Mapping in the amount of \$158,000;

- O) That the approval for the special funding request from the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority for a Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan Pilot Project (SNAP) in the amount of \$120,000 be delegated to the Commissioner of Finance pending final review of the project selected and its alignment with Regional responsibilities and priorities. The advancement of any funding approved for this special request will be subject to project completion and accountability of project costs incurred;

Solid Waste Management 2026 Business Plan and Budget

- P) That the 2026 Business Plan and Budget for Solid Waste Management at a net property tax requirement of \$59,852,000 be approved as detailed in the 2026 Solid Waste Management Business Plan and Budget;
- Q) That the 2026 Capital Program for Solid Waste Management and financing, as outlined in Attachment 4 to Report #2025-COW-45 and as further detailed within the 2026 Regional Business Plan and Budget for Solid Waste Management, in the amount of \$3,412,000 be approved;
- R) That the 2027 to 2035 Capital Forecast for Solid Waste Management as outlined in Attachment 4 to Report #2025-COW-45 and as further detailed within the 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget in the amount of \$899,823,000 be received for information purposes only and be subject to future approvals;

Durham Region Transit 2026 Business Plan and Budget

- S) That the 2026 Business Plan and Budget for Durham Region Transit be approved at a total net property tax requirement of \$123,865,000, as detailed in the 2026 Durham Region Transit Business Plan and Budget;
- T) That the 2026 Capital Program for Durham Region Transit and financing, as outlined in Attachment 4 to Report #2025-COW-45 and as further detailed within the 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget, in the gross amount of \$86,609,000 be approved subject to federal funding approval for applicable projects, including up to \$48,560,000 in debenture financing (including \$12,060,000 in long-term financing from the Canada Infrastructure Bank);
- U) That the 2027 to 2035 Capital Forecast for Durham Region Transit as outlined in Attachment 4 to Report #2025-COW-45 and as further detailed within the 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget in the amount of \$1,293,867,000 be received for information purposes only and be subject to future approvals;

- V) That staff report back to Transit Executive Committee and Finance and Administration Committee in advance of the 2027 Business Plan and Budget with an update to the Transit Service and Financing Strategy (2023 - 2032) to reflect funding realities;

Durham Regional Police Service 2026 Business Plan and Budget

- W) That the 2026 Business Plan and Budget for Durham Regional Police Service be approved at a total net property tax requirement of \$352,289,000, including both operating and capital;
- X) That as the Province of Ontario has announced regulatory amendments to Ontario Regulation 413/23 under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, introducing an 11 per cent cap on policing cost increases for 2026 for municipalities served by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), the Province be requested to extend equivalent financial relief to municipalities operating their own police services, which are facing similar cost pressures in meeting the requirements of the new Act and adapting to changing policing realities;

Financial Management and Accountability

- Y) That the Listing of 2026 Regional Fees and Charges, as set forth in the 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget, be approved and be made available to the public and all applicable by-laws be amended accordingly;
- Z) That any 2025 property tax surplus up to the maximum amount of the estimated 2025 development charge shortfall for property tax services be allocated to the Growth- Related Property Tax Infrastructure Reserve Fund and the Growth-Related Transit Infrastructure Reserve Fund;
- AA) That in accordance with the agreement with Business Advisory Council of Durham (BACD), the funds of approximately \$296,500 transferred from the BACD to the Region be transferred to the Economic Development Reserve Fund for future special programming and strategic investments to support businesses as approved through future Business Plans and Budgets;
- BB) That a transfer of \$200,000 to the Climate Change Mitigation and Environmental Reserve Fund from savings in the Region's natural gas hedging account be approved;
- CC) That in the event that the Restricted Acts after Nomination Day (as defined in the Municipal Act, 2021) should apply to the Region for the 2026 Municipal Election, Regional Council delegates authority to the Chief Administrative Officer and Treasurer, in consultation with the applicable Department Head to take action to make any expenditures or incur any liability that is deemed necessary but not included in the Region's 2026 Budget, and provided expenditures or liabilities are required to fulfil the

obligations of maintaining and ensuring the appropriate continuity of the Regional operations, including Durham Region Transit and Housing Durham, and that such actions taken shall subsequently be reported upon to Regional Council;

Such delegation shall be in addition and notwithstanding the provisions of the Region's Purchasing By-law (By-law No. 16-2020, as amended) and the Region's Budget Management Policy. In addition, the provision of Sections 19.1 to 19.6 of the Budget Management Policy (Delegation of Authority during Recess of Regional Council) shall be extended to apply in the event that the provisions of the Municipal Act, 2021 with respect to Restricted Acts after Nomination Day apply to the Region in the 2026 Municipal Election as if such period were a recess of Regional Council;

- DD) That based upon the 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget as recommended herein, the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to set 2026 Regional Property Tax Rates for General Purposes, Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Region Police Services and approval be granted for the requisite Bylaws;
- EE) That for any Regional program change or capital expenditure included within the 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budget which is proposed to be financed in whole, or in part, from provincial/federal subsidies, grants or related revenues, neither staffing, capital nor other related Regional expenditures can be committed until such time as adequate confirmation, to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Finance/Treasurer, is received from the respective provincial/federal ministry to commit to the subsidy, grant or related revenues in accordance with the Regional Budget Management Policy;
- FF) That funding totalling up to \$128,250 be approved for the Pickering Auxiliary Rescue Association with the funding to be provided from within the Finance Department's 2026 Business Plan and Budget to be administered by the Finance Department in consultation with the Durham Regional Police Service, based upon services rendered;
- GG) That funding totalling up to \$160,418 be approved for COMRA Marine Rescue Association operational needs with the funding to be provided from within the Finance Department's 2026 Business Plan and Budget to be administered by the Finance Department in consultation with the Durham Regional Police Service, based upon services rendered and that \$86,000 of this funding be provided for the capital replacement/rehabilitation of boat motors subject to further information to be provided by COMRA to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Finance;

- HH) That the Commissioner of Finance be delegated authority, for purposes of the Region's Humanitarian response to asylum-seekers and refugees, to extend the Region's agreement with Community Development Council Durham, execute any transfer payment agreements, expend funds in accordance with the program guidelines, make any modifications to the program(s) to ensure desired outcomes are achieved, receive any federal and/or provincial funds for this response, and waive the Region's Purchasing By-law and Budget Management Policy as required for this response; and that any costs associated with the extension of this agreement not reimbursed under the federal Interim Housing Assistance Program, federal Reaching Home Program or the provincial Homelessness Prevention Program and beyond the 2026 budget provision be funded at the discretion of the Commissioner of Finance;
- II) That the Region continue to advocate for stable funding from senior levels of government to support growth-related infrastructure needed for housing goals, and to help offset cash flow and debt servicing costs resulting from Bill 17, Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025, which amends the Development Charges Act to defer the payment of residential development charges to occupancy;
- JJ) That the Region continue to advocate for senior government funding for Vision Zero initiatives required due to the loss of automated speed enforcement fines under Bill 56, Building a More Competitive Economy Act, 2025;
- KK) That the reporting of the Impact of Excluded Expenses for tangible capital asset amortization, post-employment benefits and solid waste landfill closure/post-closure expenses be adopted, per requirements under the Ontario Regulation 284/09 of the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB):

**Estimated Impact of Excluded Expenses on Accumulated Surplus
For the 2026 Business Plans and Budget (\$,000's)**

	<u>2025</u>		<u>2026</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Property Tax</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
<u>PSAS Additions to Budget</u>					
Tangible Capital Asset Amortization	169,081	110,075	32,026	41,126	183,227
Post-Employment Benefit Expense	28,453	24,176	532	654	25,362
Asset Retirement Obligation	10,813	1,216	188	103	1,507
Transfers from Reserves and Reserve Funds	152,627	141,373	49,590	95,106	286,069
Proceeds of Debt issued for Regional Purposes	159,342	119,094	47,381	165,223	331,698
Total PSAB Additions	520,316	395,934	129,717	302,212	827,863
<u>PSAS Reductions to Budget</u>					
Gross Tangible Capital Assets Acquisitions	(745,198)	(394,962)	(231,708)	(396,288)	(1,022,958)
Less: Tangible Capital Asset Recoveries	28,510	-	125	67,042	67,167
Net Tangible Capital Asset Acquisitions	(716,688)	(394,962)	(231,583)	(329,246)	(955,791)
Revenue - Accrual Basis	(3,600)	-	-	-	-
Debt Principal Payments	(27,942)	(25,051)	(1,315)	(6,725)	(33,091)
Transfers to Reserves and Reserve Funds	(199,355)	(161,386)	(14,600)	(25,786)	(201,772)
Contributed Tangible Capital Assets	(33,283)	(1,215)	(15,560)	(23,430)	(40,205)
Total PSAB Reductions	(980,868)	(582,614)	(263,058)	(385,187)	(1,230,859)
Net Impact - (Increase) to Accumulated Surplus	(460,552)	(186,680)	(133,341)	(82,975)	(402,996)

LL) That sections of this resolution be forwarded to each relevant party to inform them of their approved funding and/or Council's position on the appropriate matter; and

MM) That Council defer the proposed extension of Service Durham Operations to 24/7 - \$1,295,284.

Motion #182

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor McDougall,
That the recommendations contained in Item 2 of Report #12 of the Committee of the Whole be adopted.

**Referred to Staff with Direction on a Recorded Vote
Later in the Meeting
(See Following Motion)**

Motion #183

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Foster,
That the main motion (182) of Councillors Ashe and McDougall to adopt the recommendations contained in Item #2 of Report #12 of the Committee of the Whole, be referred back to staff with direction to cap the tax increase to 4.8%;

That this will be achieved without reducing or amending the approved 2026 (Committee of the Whole (COW) Police budget; and

That staff be directed to report with adjustments to expenses and/or adjustments to reserves or reserve funds to the January 2026 Council meeting.

**Carried on a Recorded Vote Later in the Meeting
See Following Motion**

Motion #184

Moved by Councillor Pickles, Seconded by Councillor Leahy,

That the referral motion (183) of Councillors Ashe and Foster to refer the recommendations contained in Item #2 of Report #12 of the Committee of the Whole to staff, be amended to cap the tax increase to 3.75%.

Motion Defeated on the following Recorded Vote:

Yes: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Cook
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Leahy
Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Wotten

No: Councillor Ashe
Councillor Barton
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Collier
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor Marimpietri
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Neal
Councillor Roy
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Woo
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry

Members

Absent: None

Declaration
of Interest: None

The referral motion (183) of Councillors Ashe and Foster was then put to a vote and **Carried on the following Recorded Vote:**

Yes: Councillor Ashe
Councillor Barton
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Collier
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Roy
Councillor Woo
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Carter
Councillor Cook
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Leahy
Councillor Marimpietri
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Neal
Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada

Members
Absent: None

Declaration
of Interest: None

6. Delegations

There were no delegations.

7. Communications

CC 23 Memorandum dated December 17, 2025 from Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk re: Durham Regional Police Service Board Updates

Motion #185

Moved by Councillor Brenner, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
That notwithstanding the Information Sharing Agreement between the Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS) Board and the Durham Regional Council, that the DRPS Board and Police Chief be invited to address Regional Council at its meetings on February 25, 2026 and May 27, 2026.

Carried

CC 24 Memorandum dated December 17, 2025 from Adnan Naeem, Solicitor re: By-law to register certain Service Agreements entered into pursuant to Part VII.1 of Ontario Regulation 367/11 under the Housing Services Act, 2011. S.O. 2011, c.6 Schedule 1

Motion #186

Moved by Councillor Brenner, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
That council correspondence CC 24 from Adnan Naeem, Solicitor regarding a By-law to register certain Service Agreements entered into pursuant to Part VII.1 of Ontario Regulation 367/11 under the Housing Services Act, 2011. S.O. 2011, c.6 Schedule 1 be received for information.

Carried

CC 25 Memorandum dated December 17, 2025 from Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk re: Appointment of an Acting Deputy Regional Clerk

Motion #187

Moved by Councillor Brenner, Seconded by Councillor Wotten,
That council correspondence CC 25 from Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk regarding the appointment of an Acting Deputy Regional Clerk be received for information.

Carried

8. Reports related to Delegations/Presentations

There were no reports related to Delegations/Presentations.

9. Committee Reports and any related Notice of Motions

9.1 Report of the Finance and Administration Committee

None

9.2 Report of the Health and Social Services Committee

None

9.3 Report of the Community Growth and Economic Development Committee

None

9.4 Report of the Works Committee

1. Approval for Unbudgeted Capital Financing for the Metering Chamber Drainage at the Oshawa Water Supply Plant in the City of Oshawa ([2025-W-35](#))
-

[Carried]

1. That approval be granted for unbudgeted capital work in the amount not to exceed \$500,000 to replace existing meter chamber drainage at the Oshawa Water Supply Plant; and
2. That the financing for the project be provided by a reallocation of financing as follows:

Previously Approved Financing

Oshawa WSP Chamber Drainage Repairs (Project ID: D2550)
Water Supply Fund, User Revenue \$786,000

Proposed Reallocation

Ajax WSP Expansion Joint (Project ID: D1850)
Water Supply Fund, User Revenue \$500,000

Total Project Financing \$1,286,000

2. Approval for Unbudgeted Capital Financing for the Replacement of Chemical Room Doors at the Oshawa Water Supply Plant in the City of Oshawa ([2025-W-36](#))
-

[Carried]

1. That approval be granted for unbudgeted capital work in the amount not to exceed \$130,000 to replace existing chemical room doors at the Oshawa Water Supply Plant; and
2. That financing for the unbudgeted project be provided by a reallocation of financing as follows:

Proposed Financing

Ajax WSP Expansion Joint (Project ID: D1850)

Water Supply Fund, User Revenue \$130,000

Total Proposed Project Financing **\$130,000**

3. Approval for Unbudgeted Capital Financing for the Emergency Chemical Room Ventilation System Replacement at the Whitby Water Supply Plant in the Town of Whitby and for the Emergency Roof Replacement at the Ajax Water Supply Plant in the Town of Ajax
(2025-W-37)
-

[Carried]

1. That information related to unbudgeted capital work resulting from emergency events be received for information; and
2. That financing for the unbudgeted capital projects be provided by a reallocation of financing as follows:

Whitby Water Supply Plant

Chemical Room Ventilation System (Project ID: D2541) \$300,000

Ajax Water Supply Plant

Roof Replacement (Project ID: D2553) \$150,000

Total Financing Required **\$450,000**

Proposed Financing

Ajax WSP Expansion Joint (Project ID: D1850)

Water Supply Fund, User Revenue \$450,000

Total Proposed Project Financing **\$450,000**

4. Proposed Pilot Program to Enhance Road and Pedestrian Safety and to Mitigate Unsafe Solicitation
-

[Carried]

Whereas panhandling and solicitation occurring within live traffic lanes or roadway allowances pose significant risks to public safety and create potentially intimidating or hazardous situations for motorists and individuals engaged in panhandling;

Whereas individuals who panhandle on roadways, jaywalk, and cross between traffic islands, medians, and active traffic lanes are at heightened risk of severe injury or loss of life, thereby creating an urgent life-safety concern;

Whereas Oshawa Municipal Law Enforcement staff have documented repeated instances of loitering, nuisance behaviour, jaywalking, and solicitation on specific high-risk traffic islands, resulting in ongoing safety concerns for both motorists and pedestrians;

Whereas Oshawa City staff have identified the following three (3) locations on the Durham Regional Road System (“Regional Roads”) where such unsafe behaviour is most concentrated:

- Bloor Street East at Harmony Road South;
- Bloor Street East at Farewell Street; and
- Bloor Street East at Ritson Road South

Whereas a review has determined the appropriateness of initiating a pilot program to enhance road and pedestrian safety by installing educational safety-focused signage and initiating an enforcement project to generate awareness that under the Safe Streets Act, 1999, S.O. 1999, c.8 it is illegal to solicit a person who is in or on a stopped, standing, or parked vehicle while on a roadway;

Whereas the City of Oshawa is prepared to supply, install, and maintain the signage, ensuring no financial burden to the Region of Durham (“the Region”) for the pilot program;

Whereas the signage would further support enforcement efforts by Oshawa Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Durham Regional Police Service (D.R.P.S.), who have indicated support for enforcement at these locations should the required legal authority and signage be established; and

Whereas Regional Staff has advised that an official request is required to introduce this matter on the Region’s Works Committee agenda, enabling Regional staff to initiate a review of the proposed pilot program including a legal review of enforceability, potential amendments to the Regional Traffic and Parking By-law 44-2006, and consideration of the pilot program as a step toward a future Regional policy;

Therefore, be it resolved:

That Regional Council endorse the pilot program as detailed in this motion “Proposed Pilot Program to Enhance Road and Pedestrian Safety and to Mitigate Unsafe Solicitation”;

That the Region of Durham authorize the installation of safety and anti-solicitation signage at the following identified high-risk Regional Road traffic islands:

- Bloor Street East at Harmony Road South;
- Bloor Street East at Farewell Street;
- Bloor Street East at Ritson Road South; and
- Additional locations for the other local municipalities

That the Region of Durham be requested to consider the proposed pilot program as a step towards developing a consistent Regional policy framework for signage and enforcement related to solicitation, loitering, and unsafe pedestrian activity on Regional Roads.

Motion #188

Moved by Councillor Barton, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,
That the recommendations contained in Item 1 of Report #9 of the Works Committee be adopted.

Carried

Motion #189

Moved by Councillor Barton, Seconded by Councillor Marimpietri,
That the recommendations contained in Items 2 to 4 of Report #9 of the Works Committee be adopted.

Carried

9.5 Report of the Committee of the Whole

1. Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence Action Plan for Durham Region (2025 to 2030)
([2025-COW-39](#))
-

[Carried]

- A) That Regional Council endorse Attachment #1 to Report #2025-COW-39 of the Chief Administrative Officer, as the Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence Action Plan for Durham Region (2025 to 2030); and
- B) That Regional Council support staff advocacy efforts to secure sustained provincial and federal funding to enable implementation of the Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence Action Plan.

2. Draft At Home in Durham 2025-2035 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan
([2025-COW-40](#))
-

[Carried]

That the draft At Home in Durham 2025-2035 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan (Attachment #1 to Report #2025-COW-40 of the Commissioners of Social Services and Community Growth and Economic Development) be approved for submission to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

3. Modified Payment Schedule for the Columbus Landowners Group and the Courtice Landowners Group under the 2012 Regional Official Plan Amendment 128 Minutes of Settlement ([2025-COW-42](#))
-

[Carried]

- A) That the payment obligation of the Columbus Landowners Group (\$3.2 million) under the Regional Official Plan Amendment 128 Minutes of Settlement be extended from November 4, 2025 to the earlier of: (i) first plan of subdivision or condominium plan registration; and (ii) November 4, 2028, with the continued application of interest;
 - B) That the payment obligation of the Courtice Landowners Group (\$1.6 million) under the Regional Official Plan Amendment 128 Minutes of Settlement be extended from November 4, 2025 to the earlier of: (i) first plan of subdivision or condominium plan registration; and (ii) December 31, 2026, with the continued application of interest; and
 - C) That the Regional Solicitor be authorized to execute any necessary agreements.
4. Motion regarding Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) Participation
-

[Carried]

Whereas the Regional Municipality of Durham (Durham Region) intends to improve intergovernmental relations with the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation (MSIFN) and enter into a community-to-community relationship with MSIFN;

Whereas Durham Region commits the participation of the community in the First Nation – Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) from this date of December 17, 2025 until March 2027;

Whereas Durham Regional Council has appointed Councillor Linda Cook, Pickering as their elected official Working Group champion on behalf of Regional Chair and CEO John Henry;

Whereas Durham Region has appointed Sandra Austin, Commissioner of Community Growth & Economic Development and Debbie Ellis, Manager of Indigenous Relations as their staff Working Group champions; and

Whereas Durham Region commits to the following resources in collaboration with MSIFN through a collaborative joint Working Group:

- A) Elected and staff Working Group champions meet monthly with MSIFN Working Group champions as a joint Working Group throughout the CEDI process;
- B) Coordinate a contingency plan for the CEDI Working Group champions should a designated person leave their position prior to March 2027;
- C) Organize and participate in three or four 1-1.5-day joint workshops; ensuring there is representation of the elected officials, senior administration, economic development and community growth staff from each community at each workshop;
- D) Organize ongoing community engagement to keep the community informed about CEDI program participation, partnership with MSIFN and joint community economic development initiatives (may include agenda items at meetings, reports in local media, community announcements, etc.);
- E) Agree to maintain communication with CEDI staff and to assist with coordinating the logistics of community visits, strategic meetings and workshops, as appropriate;
- F) Provide in-kind and financial resources required to hold the meetings (such as mileage to and from venue, in-kind meeting space, and catering expenses above and beyond what can be reimbursed through the CEDI program);
- G) Provide additional staff time and support as required by the joint Working Group;
- H) Actively participate in the planning for and management of the jointly accessed Capacity Building Grant;

Be It Hereby Resolved That Durham Regional Council supports the participation in First Nation-Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) from the date of this Council Resolution until March 2027.

5. Confidential Report of the Commissioners of Finance, Community Growth and Economic Development, and Works – a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization related to a Request for Financial

Assistance under the Regional Revitalization Program by the Township of Uxbridge for the redevelopment of the Lower Brock (2025-COW-41)

[Carried]

That the recommendations contained in Confidential Report #2025-COW-41 of the Commissioners of Finance, Community Growth and Economic Development, and Works, be adopted.

Motion #190

Moved by Councillor Nicholson, Seconded by Councillor Woo,

That the recommendations contained in Items 1 to 5 inclusive of Report #11 of the Committee of the Whole be adopted.

Carried

9.6 Report of the Special Committee of the Whole

1. 2026 Strategic Property Tax Study
(2025-COW-44)

[Carried]

- A) For the 2026 property taxation year, the municipal tax ratios for the following property classes and subclasses for the Regional Municipality of Durham and its local area municipalities be set as follows, consistent with the 2025 ratios and that the requisite by-law be prepared, and approval be granted; and

Multi-Residential	1.866500
New Multi-Residential	1.100000
Landfill	1.100000
Pipelines	1.229400
Farmland	0.200000
Managed Forests	0.250000

Commercial Broad Class

(Including Shopping Centres, Office Buildings, Parking Lots and Commercial Residual)

Occupied	1.450000
Vacant Land	1.450000
Excess Land	1.450000

On Farm 1.450000

Industrial Broad Class

(Including Large Industrial, Industrial Residual and Aggregate Extraction)

Occupied 2.023500

Vacant Land 2.023500

Excess Land 2.023500

On Farm 2.023500

Aggregate Extraction 1.646535

B) That to achieve greater fairness and equity in the Current Value Assessment (CVA) system and property taxation policy, the Province be requested to:

- update the provincial statutory rate applicable to nuclear generating facilities;
- institute an annual mechanism to ensure the future rate updates; and
- redirect proxy property tax payments currently paid by the Region's two nuclear generating facilities to the Ontario Electricity Financial Corporation (OEFC) for the Ontario Hydro stranded debt to the host municipalities and the Region following retirement of the stranded debt.

2. The 2026 Regional Business Plans and Budgets for Property Tax Purposes, including General Purpose, Solid Waste Management, Durham Region Transit and Durham Regional Police Service (2025-COW-45)

[Referred to Staff with Directions]

This matter was considered earlier in the meeting [See Motion#183 and Pages 7 to 17]

3. 2026 Business Plans and Budgets and Nine-Year Capital Forecast for the Consolidated Water Supply and Sanitary Sewerage Systems (2025-COW-46)

[Carried]

A) That the 2026 Business Plans and Budget for the Water Supply System, with a total gross expenditure of \$334.137 million (net user rate supported expenditure of \$156.368 million) and related financing as set out below, be approved:

	2025 Gross Budget (\$ 000's)	2026 Gross Budget (\$ 000's)	Variance Incr/(Decr) (\$ 000's)
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
Operations:			
Watermain Cleaning and Repairs	4,019	3,855	(164)
Valves and Hydrants	3,709	4,624	915
Water Connections	5,386	5,615	229
Water Meters	405	273	(132)
Depot Operations	7,798	8,820	1,022
Water Supply Plants - Plants East	4,090	4,605	515
Water Supply Plants - Plants Central	17,461	18,129	668
Water Supply Plants - Plants North	3,882	4,042	160
Sun Valley Co-Operative Water System	36	40	4
SCADA Systems		(250)	(250)
Engineering and Staff Support	9,898	11,429	1,531
Facilities Management	9,474	9,942	468
Administration	1,268	555	(713)
Headquarters Shared Costs	1,776	1,915	139
Utility Finance	4,454	4,670	216
Share of Regional Corporate Costs	19,331	19,870	539
Subtotal Operations	<u>92,987</u>	<u>98,134</u>	<u>5,147</u>
Capital/Debt Charges:			
TCA Capital	6,241	6,849	608
Construction of Municipal Services	216,447	224,860	8,413
Debt Charges	2,860	4,294	1,434
Subtotal Capital/Debt Charges	<u>225,548</u>	<u>236,003</u>	<u>10,455</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>318,535</u>	<u>334,137</u>	<u>15,602</u>
<u>FINANCING</u>			
Contributions from Reserve Funds:			
Residential Development Charges - Growth Related Capital	82,828	62,001	(20,827)
Residential Development Charges - Debt Charges	622	622	-
Commercial Development Charges - Growth Related Capital	5,067	4,641	(426)
Commercial Development Charges - Debt Charges	19	19	-
Industrial Development Charges - Growth Related Capital	7,310	5,995	(1,315)
Industrial Development Charges - Debt Charges	441	441	-
Institutional Development Charges - Debt Charges	26	26	-
Seaton Development Charges - Debt Charges	56	56	-
Growth Related Water Infrastructure Reserve Fund	-	18,685	18,685
Water Rate Stabilization Reserve Fund	22,459	23,683	1,224
Asset Management Reserve Fund	6,115	7,106	991
Servicing of Employment Lands	1,500	-	(1,500)
Equipment Replacement Reserve	-	116	116
Fees and Service Charges	3,800	3,957	157
Financing From Others:			
Region of York - Construction of Municipal Services	-	125	125
Contribution from Developers	-	2,800	2,800
Provincial Grant	22,755	-	(22,755)
Debenture Proceeds:			
Whitby Water Supply Plant - Upgrades and Rehabilitation Works	18,000	20,000	2,000
Newcastle Zone 2 Water Pumping Station		8,616	8,616
Newcastle Zone 1 Reservoir		18,765	18,765
Financing From Non-User Revenue Sources	<u>170,998</u>	<u>177,654</u>	<u>6,656</u>
User Revenues Financing (includes \$115k in 2026 frontage charges)	<u>147,537</u>	<u>156,483</u>	<u>8,946</u>
TOTAL FINANCING	<u>318,535</u>	<u>334,137</u>	<u>15,602</u>

- B) That the Nine-Year Capital Forecast for 2027 to 2035 inclusive, in the amount of \$2.75 billion, including project debenture financing of \$928.66 million, as detailed in the Water Supply System Capital Budget, be received for information;
- C) That the 2026 Business Plans and Budgets for the Sanitary Sewerage System with a total gross expenditure of \$570.104 million (net user rate supported expenditure of \$152.666 million) and related financing as set out below, be approved:

	2025 Gross Budget (\$ 000's)	2026 Gross Budget (\$ 000's)	Variance Incr/(Decr) (\$ 000's)
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			
Operations:			
Cleaning, Repairs and Maintenance Holes	2,621	2,875	254
Sewer Connections	3,676	4,005	329
Depot Operations	3,995	4,687	692
WPCPs and Pumping Stations	28,840	29,707	867
Duffin Creek WPCP	51,583	53,779	2,196
Regional Environmental Laboratory	3,161	3,752	591
Engineering and Staff Support	9,634	11,076	1,442
Facilities Management	11,359	12,035	676
Administration	1,055	558	(497)
Headquarters Shared Costs	1,603	1,707	104
Utility Finance	4,454	4,670	216
Share of Regional Corporate Costs	23,070	23,874	804
Subtotal Operations	<u>145,051</u>	<u>152,725</u>	<u>7,674</u>
Capital/Debt Charges:			
Duffin Creek WPCP - TCA Capital	3,400	2,870	(530)
Regional Environmental Lab - TCA Capital	315	930	615
TCA Capital	6,850	4,407	(2,443)
Construction of Municipal Services	168,061	388,081	220,020
Debt Charges	17,185	21,091	3,906
Subtotal Capital/Debt Charges	<u>195,811</u>	<u>417,379</u>	<u>221,568</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>340,862</u>	<u>570,104</u>	<u>229,242</u>
<u>FINANCING</u>			
Contributions from Reserve Funds:			
Residential Development Charges - Growth Related Capital	27,889	-	(27,889)
Residential Development Charges - Debt Charges	11,874	7,385	(4,489)
Commercial Development Charges - Growth Related Capital	2,179	2,510	331
Commercial Development Charges - Debt Charges	1,052	1,695	643
Industrial Development Charges - Growth Related Capital	2,883	12,513	9,630
Industrial Development Charges - Debt Charges	566	566	-
Institutional Development Charges - Debt Charges	18	18	-
Seaton Development Charges - Debt Charges	56	56	-
Growth Related Sewer Infrastructure Reserve Fund - Debt Charges	-	7,753	7,753
Growth Related Sewer Infrastructure Reserve Fund - Growth Related Capital	-	10,058	-
Sanitary Sewer Rate Stabilization Reserve Fund	1,836	60,164	58,328
Asset Management Reserve Fund	11,758	23,638	11,880
Servicing of Employment Lands	-	681	681
Capital Project Reserve	5,423	139	(5,284)
Equipment Replacement Reserve	-	116	116
Regional Environmental Lab Equipment Replacement Reserve	265	310	45
Fees and Service Charges	9,108	9,724	616
Financing From Others:			
Region of York - TCA	2,603	2,457	(146)
Region of York - Construction of Municipal Services	25,907	64,585	38,678
Region of York - Operating	39,629	41,478	1,849
Region of York - Environmental Lab Operations	424	499	75
Contribution from Developers	2,250	5,842	3,592
Contribution - Other	500	-	(500)
Debtenture Proceeds:			
Courtice Trunk Sanitary Sewer - Trulls Rd. - Bloor St. to Adelaide Ave.	49,071	-	(49,071)
Courtice Trunk Sanitary Sewer - Adelaide Ave. from Trulls Rd to Townline Rd	-	3,247	3,247
Courtice WPCP - Remediation Work and Performance Improvements	-	49,500	49,500
Water St. Sanitary Sewage Pumping Station - Expansion/Replacement	-	20,900	20,900
Baseline Rd. Sanitary Sewage Pumping Station and Foremain	-	18,656	18,656
Port Darlington Rd. Trunk Sanitary Sewer from Baseline Rd. to Easement	-	25,749	25,749
Corbett Creek WPCP - Works to Rectify Existing Deficiencies	-	13,530	13,530
Baseline Rd. Trunk Sanitary Sewer from Simpson Ave. to Bennett Rd.	-	13,859	13,859
Twinning of Sanitary Sewer from Central Park Blvd. N. & Hillcroft St. to Beatrice St.	-	3,775	3,775
SW Brooklin Trunk Sanitary Sewer on new Collector Rd. fr. Cochrane to E of Hwy 12	-	6,267	6,267
Sanitary Sewer on Stevenson Rd. from Taunton Rd. to Conlin Rd.	-	3,020	3,020
York/Durham Sewage System - Primary Trunk Sanitary Sewer Twinning	-	3,020	3,020
Sanitary Sewer fr Baseline Sanitary Sewage Pumping Station to Prestonvale Rd.	-	3,700	3,700
Financing From Non-User Revenue Sources	<u>195,291</u>	<u>417,410</u>	<u>212,061</u>
User Revenues Financing (includes \$28 in 2026 frontage charges)	<u>145,571</u>	<u>152,694</u>	<u>7,123</u>
TOTAL FINANCING	<u>340,862</u>	<u>570,104</u>	<u>229,242</u>

- D) That the Nine-Year Capital Forecast for 2027 to 2035 inclusive, in the amount of \$2.91 billion, including project debenture financing of \$770.11 million, as detailed in the Sanitary Sewerage System Capital Budget, be received for information;
- E) That capital project approval be granted for expenditures and financing for the 2026 capital projects detailed in the 2026 Capital Project Appendices within the 2026 Consolidated Water Supply and Sanitary Sewerage Systems Business Plans and Budget, where contract awards are compliant with the Region's Budget Management Policy;
- F) That for 2025, any water supply or sanitary sewerage surplus up to the maximum amount of the estimated 2025 water supply or sanitary sewerage development charge shortfall be allocated to the Growth Related Water Infrastructure Reserve Fund and the Growth Related Sewer Infrastructure Reserve Fund; and
- G) That the necessary By-laws with respect to the 2026 Business Plans and Budget for the Consolidated Water Supply and Sanitary Sewerage Systems be presented to Regional Council.

4. Recommended 2026 Water and Sanitary Sewer User Rates
([2025-COW-47](#))

[Carried]

- A) That the 2026 Regional Water User Rates and the 2026 Regional Sanitary Sewer User Rates effective January 1, 2026, as set out in Attachment #1 and Attachment #2 respectively of Report #2025-COW-47 of the Commissioner of Finance, be approved at a combined increase of 5.0 per cent for an average residential customer, or approximately \$5.24 per month;
- B) That the 2026 Raw Water rates for the Whitby raw water customer be increased by 5.4 per cent as set out in Attachment #1 to Report #2025-COW-47, effective January 1, 2026;
- C) That the 2026 water charges for the Sun Valley Heights Homeowners Co-operative Water System be as set out in Attachment #3 to Report #2025-COW-47, effective January 1, 2026;
- D) That the 2026 Regional Water and Sanitary Sewer Systems Miscellaneous Fees and Charges be as set out in Attachment #4 to Report #2025-COW-47, effective January 1, 2026;
- E) That the 2026 fee schedule for laboratory services at the Regional Environmental Laboratory located at the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant be as set out in Attachment #5 to Report #2025-COW-47, effective January 1, 2026; and

- F) That the Regional Solicitor be instructed to prepare the necessary by-laws to implement the foregoing recommendations.

Motion #191

Moved by Councillor Leahy, Seconded by Councillor Shahid,

That the recommendations contained in Items 1,3 and 4 of Report #12 of the Committee of the Whole be adopted.

Carried

10. Departmental Reports & Other Resolutions

10.1 Radio Communications System: Contract Amendment with Metrolinx ([2025-DRT-21](#))

Motion #192

Moved by Councillor Nicholson, Seconded by Councillor Ashe,

- A) That the contract with Metrolinx be amended, to renew for a period of three years effective January 1, 2026, expiring on December 31, 2028, with the option to extend for two additional one year terms, to continue to use Metrolinx's radio communication systems and regular maintenance services at an estimated annual operating cost of up to \$210,000 for the first year (2026), with a total estimated contract cost of \$1.5 million over five years, considering inflation and service costs for future growth vehicles, to be financed from DRT's annual Business Plans and Budget; and
- B) That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to execute the necessary agreements.

Carried

10.2 Council Motion to Review Immediate Conventional Service to Oshawa Subdivision ([2025-DRT-22](#))

Motion #193

Moved by Councillor Nicholson, Seconded by Councillor Ashe,

That further to the resolution adopted by Regional Council regarding additional Transit Services to the Subdivision West of Harmony Road North at Nancy Diamond Boulevard, City of Oshawa, that Durham Regional Transit implement Option 1 of Report #2025-DRT-22 of the General Manager of Transit, which introduces scheduled bus service to the impacted area in April 2026, based on anticipated new bus arrivals in Quarter 1 of 2026.

Carried

10.3 Regional Response to ERO #025-1257 – Proposed Boundaries for the Regional Consolidation of Ontario’s Conservation Authorities
(2025-CG-14)

Motion #194

Moved by Councillor Nicholson, Seconded by Councillor Ashe,

A) That the following be endorsed as the Region of Durham’s comments on [ERO #025-1257](#), proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario’s conservation authorities (CA):

- i) The province should consider how consolidations at a smaller geographic scale than the seven regional CAs proposed could still meet the criteria of reducing administrative burden for municipalities while combining watersheds that are more geographically and contextually similar. Considering shared environmental protection priorities, similar biological, geological and ecological attributes, and simplified administration, the Region recommends that the province consider two regional CAs within Durham, one that serves the urbanized Lake Ontario shoreline and one serving the area north of the Oak Ridges Moraine;
- ii) Each regional CA should be equally equipped with the appropriate resources (i.e., human and financial) and flexibility to respond to the urban context in order to support provincial housing objectives;
- i) The province should ensure that existing Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) remain in force through the consolidation process;
- iv) The Region and its area municipalities require continued, proportionate representation to ensure that local watershed priorities and risks are reflected in decision-making;
- v) The centralization of administration and the establishment of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA), as proposed, may weaken relationships with Indigenous communities through the loss of localized, meaningful engagement and potential erosion of relationship continuity and trust;
- vi) The province should leverage existing processes and resources already established under Conservation Ontario and clarify any future role of Conservation Ontario under the new regional CA framework;
- vii) The Region requests clarification if upper tiers will continue to have a role in funding CAs and supports a review of the existing CA funding model to increase clarity and understand potential financial impacts to municipalities and shifts amongst municipalities resulting from the

proposed consolidation. Any proposed changes should not result in increased costs individual municipalities;

- viii) The province should complete a Financial Impact Analysis, at their expense, to fully understand the overall financial implications of consolidation and the specific financial impact of consolidation on each municipality;
- ix) Municipalities should not be responsible, through the municipal levy, for funding the activities of the OPCA, this should remain a provincial cost;
- x) The OPCA should develop a standardized template for CA budget submissions to reduce administrative burden for municipalities that continue to have multiple CAs within their jurisdiction under the proposed new regional CA framework;
- xi) The ability for regional CAs to access grant funding to deliver local programs and services should not be compromised as a result of consolidation;
- xii) The province should ensure that regional CAs are equipped to respond to localized flood, natural hazard and water quality concerns despite being geographically vast;
- xiii) The province should ensure that OPCA applied standards are flexible to local hydrological and ecological conditions;
- xiv) The province should prioritize the maintenance of regional CA involvement in local partnerships and community-driven environmental and climate projects, as agreed to by municipalities, to avoid weakening the effectiveness of these important initiatives;
- xv) The Region supports the transition toward a more predictable, criteria-based CA permitting system;
- xvi) All current mandatory (Category 1) programs and services should be maintained as part of the proposed changes, with emphasis on maintaining existing service levels and avoiding increased administrative burden to municipalities that already have delivery agreements in place;
- xvii) The province should prioritize staff continuity and local technical capacity throughout the consolidation process;
- xviii) The province should ensure that data systems, monitoring networks, and technical records supporting plans and policies (e.g., Source Protection Plans) remain intact, accessible, and interoperable

throughout the transition, and that existing data-sharing agreements remain in force until successor arrangements are established;

- xix) The province should ensure that Clean Water Act governance boundaries remain stable, and any re-designation of Source Protection Authorities occur only after careful coordination with affected municipalities;
 - xx) Municipal support for Risk Management Official functions and Risk Management Plan implementation should continue to be identified as a mandatory service within any new regional CA mandate;
 - xxi) The province should ensure stable, dedicated funding for Clean Water Act program delivery during and after consolidation to prevent program interruptions;
 - xxii) A phased implementation schedule for consolidation that safeguards ongoing monitoring, reporting, and policy update commitments throughout the transition is recommended; and
- B) That a copy of Report #2025-CG-14 of the Commissioner of Community Growth & Economic Development be forwarded to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Region’s five conservation authority partners, area municipalities, and Williams Treaty First Nations.

10.4 Continuation of the Durham Humanitarian Response Program (DHRP) through the Interim Housing Assistance Program (IHAP) Grant [\(2025-COW-43\)](#)

Motion #195

Moved by Councillor Nicholson, Seconded by Councillor Ashe,

- A) That staff proceed with a capital acquisition of a property in the City of Pickering (Confidential Report #2025-COW-48) and any facility capital improvements to create a purpose-built, dedicated housing facility for interim asylum claimant accommodations and continue delivering the Durham Humanitarian Response Program to provide wraparound settlement services for asylum claimants to facilitate transition to independent living to be financed as detailed in Confidential Report #2025-COW-48; and
- B) That the estimated annual operating costs for this dedicated interim housing facility estimated at \$7,075,000 be financed as follows:

Funding Source	Amount (\$)
Federal Interim Housing Assistance Grant	\$5,306,250
2026 Budget Provision – Property Tax Levy	884,375

2026 Budget Provision – Operating Impact Stabilization Reserve Fund	884,375
Total	\$7,075,000

Carried

- 10.5 Confidential Report of the Commissioner of Works – Pending Acquisition or Disposition of Land for Regional Corporation Purposes as it relates to the Acquisition of Property in the City of Pickering (2025-COW-48)
-

Motion #196

Moved by Councillor Nicholson, Seconded by Councillor Ashe,

That the recommendations contained in Confidential Report #2025-COW-48 of the Commissioner of Works be approved.

Carried

11. Notice of Motions

There were no notice of motions.

12. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to be considered.

13. Announcements

Various announcements were made relating to activities and events within the Region and area municipalities.

14. By-laws

2025-050 Being a by-law to authorize a franchise agreement between the Regional Municipality of Durham and Enbridge Gas Inc.

This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #1 of the 8th Report of the Committee of the Whole presented to Regional Council on November 27, 2024

2025-051 Being a by-law to dedicate as public highway, that portions of Simcoe Street (Regional Road 2) and Ritson Road (Regional Road 16) legally described as Part of Block B, Plan 322; Part of Lot C-18, Sheet 30, Plan 335; Part of Wentworth Street (Regional Road 60), Plan 322 Oshawa (Closed by Bylaw OS43661), in the City of Oshawa, identified as part of PIN 16381-0006 (LT), designated as Parts 2, 3 and 4 on Plan 40R-32032 (the “Lands”).

- This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #2 of the 8th Report of the Finance and Administration Committee presented to Regional Council on December 18, 2024.
- 2025-052 Being a by-law to approve and adopt the 2026 Business Plans and Budgets for Water purposes in the amount of \$334,136,673.
- This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #3 of the 12th Report of the Special Committee of the Whole presented to Regional Council on December 17, 2025.
- 2025-053 Being a by-law to approve and adopt the 2026 Business Plans and Budgets for Sanitary Sewage purposes.
- This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #3 of the 12th Report of the Special Committee of the Whole presented to Regional Council on December 17, 2025.
- 2025-054 Being a by-law to amend the by-law respecting the Water Supply System in the Regional Municipality of Durham and the establishment of water rates and water charges and being By-law No. 89-2003 of The Regional Municipality of Durham.
- This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #4 of the 12th Report of the Special Committee of the Whole presented to Regional Council on December 17, 2025
- 2025-055 Being a by-law to amend the by-law respecting the Water Pollution Control System and the Storm Sewer System in the Regional Municipality of Durham and the establishment of sewer surcharge rates and sewer charges and being By-law No. 90-2003 of The Regional Municipality of Durham.
- This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #4 of the 12th Report of the Special Committee of the Whole presented to Regional Council on December 17, 2025
- 2025-056 Withdrawn.
- 2025-057 Withdrawn
- 2025-058 Withdrawn
- 2025-059 Withdrawn
- 2025-060 Being a by-law to establish municipal tax ratios for 2026, to specify the percentage by which municipal tax rates are to be reduced for prescribed property subclasses, and to establish 2026 lower-tier

municipal payment due dates for supplementary taxes, payments in lieu of taxation, railway and utility lands and universities, colleges and public hospital amounts.

This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #1 of the 12th Report of the Special Committee of the Whole presented to Regional Council on December 17, 2025

2025-061 Withdrawn

2025-062 Withdrawn

2025-063 Withdrawn

2025-064 Withdrawn

2025-065 Being a by-law to register certain Service Agreements entered into pursuant to Part VII.1 of Ontario Regulation 367/11 under the Housing Services Act, 2011. S.O. 2011, c.6 Schedule 1.

This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #7.2 Council Correspondence CC 24 presented to Regional Council on December 17, 2025.

2025-066 Being a by-law to appoint an Acting Deputy Regional Clerk for The Regional Municipality of Durham.

This by-law implements the recommendations contained in Item #7.3 Council Correspondence CC 25 presented to Regional Council on December 17, 2025.

Motion #197

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Barton,
That By-law Numbers 2025-050, 2025-51, 2025-65 and 2025-66 be passed.

Carried

Motion #198

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Barton,
That By-law Number 2025-052 be passed.

Carried on the following Recorded Vote:

Yes: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Ashe
Councillor Barton
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman

Councillor Cook
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Leahy
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Roy
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Neal
Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Shahid

Members

Absent: Councillor Collier
Councillor Lee
Councillor Marimpietri

Declaration
of Interest: None

Motion #199

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Barton,
That By-law Number 2025-053 be passed.

Carried on the following Recorded Vote:

Yes: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Ashe
Councillor Barton
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Cook
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb

Councillor Kerr
Councillor Leahy
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Roy
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Neal
Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Shahid

Members

Absent: Councillor Collier
Councillor Lee
Councillor Marimpietri

Declaration
of Interest: None

Motion #200

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Barton,
That By-law Number 2025-054 be passed.

Carried on the following Recorded Vote:

Yes: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Ashe
Councillor Barton
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Cook
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Leahy
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Roy

Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Brenner
Councillor Neal
Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Shahid

Members

Absent: Councillor Collier
Councillor Lee
Councillor Marimpietri

Declaration
of Interest: None

Motion #201

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Barton,
That By-law Number 2025-055 be passed.

Carried on the following Recorded Vote:

Yes: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Ashe
Councillor Barton
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Cook
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Leahy
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Roy
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Neal
Councillor Nicholson
Councillor Shahid

Members

Absent: Councillor Collier
Councillor Lee
Councillor Marimpietri

Declaration

of Interest: None

Motion #202

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Barton,
That By-law Number 2025-060 be passed.

Carried on the following Recorded Vote:

Yes: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Ashe
Councillor Barton
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Cook
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Leahy
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Roy
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Neal
Councillor Nicholson

Members

Absent: Councillor Collier

Councillor Lee
Councillor Marimpietri

Declaration
of Interest: None

15. Confirming By-law

2025-067 Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of The Regional Municipality of Durham at its meeting on the 17th day of December, 2025.

Motion #203

Moved by Councillor Ashe, Seconded by Councillor Barton,
That By-law Number 2025-067 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Durham at their meeting held on December 17, 2025 be passed.

Carried on the following Recorded Vote:

Yes: Councillor Anderson
Councillor Ashe
Councillor Barton
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Carter
Councillor Chapman
Councillor Cook
Councillor Crawford
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster
Councillor Garrod
Councillor Jubb
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Leahy
Councillor McDougall
Councillor Mulcahy
Councillor Pettingill
Councillor Pickles
Councillor Roy
Councillor Shahid
Councillor Woo
Councillor Wotten
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry

No: Councillor Neal
Councillor Nicholson

Members

Absent: Councillor Collier
Councillor Lee
Councillor Marimpietri

Declaration
of Interest: None

16. Adjournment

Motion #204

Moved by Councillor Mulcahy, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 3:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

John Henry
Regional Chair & CEO

Alexander Harras
Regional Clerk