



The Regional Municipality of Durham

COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

November 5, 2021

Information Reports

- 2021-INFO-115** Commissioner of Finance – re: Economic Update – Inflationary Pressures, Supply Chain Distributions, and Labour Shortages
- 2021-INFO-116** Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health – re: Mandatory On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program
- 2021-INFO-117** Commissioner of Corporate Services – Re: 2022 Municipal Election

Early Release Reports

There are no Early Release Reports

Staff Correspondence

There is no Staff Correspondence

Durham Municipalities Correspondence

1. **City of Oshawa** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on September 27, 2021, requesting that the province implement Legislation Related to Excessive Vehicle Noise
2. **City of Oshawa** –re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on September 27, 2021, regarding the Proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa’s Downtown Area Action Plan

Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions

1. **Township of North Frontenac** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on October 22, 2021, regarding Alternative Voting methods for the 2022 Municipal Election
2. **City of Kitchener** - re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on October 18, 2021, regarding Renovictions

3. **City of Kitchener** - re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on October 18, 2021, regarding Vaccine Passport Program

Miscellaneous Correspondence

There is no Miscellaneous Correspondence

Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

1. Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) minutes – **October 21, 2021**

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at clerks@durham.ca, if you wish to pull an item from this CIP and include on the next regular agenda of the appropriate Standing Committee. Items will be added to the agenda if the Regional Clerk is advised by Wednesday noon the week prior to the meeting, otherwise the item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the applicable Committee.

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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Finance
Report: #2021-INFO-115
Date: November 5, 2021

Subject:

Economic Update – Inflationary Pressures, Supply Chain Disruptions, and Labour Shortages

Recommendation:

Receive for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The Regional Finance Department monitors economic conditions on an ongoing basis and prepares periodic summary reports to Regional Council. The continued economic restrictions being imposed in certain jurisdictions, combined with the easing of restrictions in others, are leading to global supply chain disruptions, labour and material shortages, and significant inflationary pressures. The following provides a summary of these emerging market forces, as well as their corresponding impact on the local economy and Regional service delivery.

2. Previous Reports and Decisions

2.1 This report provides an update to Report #2021-INFO-65 – Economic Update – Year-to-Date Performance of the Canadian Economy.

3. Canadian Economy

3.1 After three consecutive quarters of economic growth, Canadian real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) declined 0.3 per cent in the second quarter of 2021. The decline was largely the result of a 3.3 per cent decline in residential structure investment and a 4.0 per cent decline in exports. Despite the decline, Canadian GDP remains 0.01 per cent above pre-pandemic levels.

3.2 Household expenditures were relatively flat over the second quarter, rising 0.1 per cent over the first quarter of 2021. As more sectors of the economy began to

reopen, consumers shifted spending from goods to services. Goods expenditures by households fell 1.8 per cent during the second quarter, while service expenditures increased 1.8 per cent. The greatest increases in household spending came in recreation and culture services, up 5.4 per cent, and food and beverage services, up 4.3 per cent.

- 3.3 Consumer spending remained flat over the second quarter despite a 1.5 per cent increase in the compensation paid to employees. The increase in compensation, along with a 4.7 per cent increase in government transfers, led to an estimated 2.2 per cent rise in disposable income. Rising disposable income, without a rise in spending, means consumers continue to save a large portion of their earnings. The household savings rate, or net savings as a percentage of disposable income, was 14.2 per cent in the second quarter. This represents the fifth straight quarter of double-digit savings rates.
- 3.4 Although disposable incomes and savings rates are rising, consumers are also accumulating more debt. Over the second quarter of 2021, households accumulated a record \$63.8 billion in credit market debt, which includes consumer credit (e.g. credit cards), non-mortgage loans, and mortgage loans. Although mortgage debt accounted for nearly 90 per cent of the increase, non-mortgage debt rose \$6.6 billion, which was more than double the \$2.7 billion accumulated over the first quarter.
- 3.5 The total amount of household credit market debt outstanding at the end of the second quarter was approximately \$2.53 trillion, representing a 2.5 per cent increase over the first quarter (\$2.47 trillion). As disposable income grew by only 2.2 per cent, the proportion of household credit market debt to disposable income rose from 172.6 per cent in the first quarter of 2021 to 173.1 per cent in the second quarter.
- 3.6 Business investment was down 0.5 per cent over the second quarter of 2021, despite a 5.7 per cent increase in machinery and equipment investment. Much of the weakness stems from the ongoing semiconductor shortage and supply chain disruptions, which resulted in decreased investment in computer equipment (-8.2 per cent), passenger cars (-28.8 per cent), and trucks, buses, and other heavy motor vehicles (-34.2 per cent).
- 3.7 Although the Canadian economy experienced a 0.3 per cent contraction in real GDP growth, the economy experienced a 1.9 per cent increase in nominal GDP growth. Nominal GDP estimates the value of domestically produced goods and services in current dollar terms, which includes inflationary increases. Real GDP estimates the value of domestically produced goods in constant dollar terms (currently 2012 dollars) and is a better measure of production volume. The rise in nominal GDP was the result of increasing input costs, particularly in construction materials and energy.

4. Commodity and Raw Material Price Levels

- 4.1 Rising input costs are the result of increasing prices for commodities that are used as primary inputs in the production process. The Bank of Canada produces a monthly Commodity Price Index that tracks the price of 26 commodities produced in Canada and sold in world markets. Some of the major components of the index include oil, natural gas, lumber, zinc, aluminum, and copper.
- 4.2 The Commodity Price Index has risen sharply throughout the pandemic, with price levels in September 2021 up 50.9 per cent from February 2020. During March and April of 2020, the Commodity Price Index plunged 38.6 per cent as economic activity was brought to a halt by the initial pandemic related lockdowns. Since the initial lockdowns, economic activity has resumed and the demand for raw materials has escalated. As of September 2021, the Commodity Price Index is up 145.7 per cent from April 2020.
- 4.3 According to the Commodity Price Index, energy related commodities (coal, oil, natural gas) have seen the largest price increase since the start of the pandemic (+68.7 per cent). Agricultural commodities have experienced the second highest price increases (+46.3 per cent), followed by fisheries (+36 per cent), metals (+26.1 per cent), and forestry (+18.4 per cent).
- 4.4 The rising cost of commodities is significantly increasing the price that Canadian manufacturers pay for raw materials used in the production process. The Statistics Canada Raw Materials Price Index, which tracks the prices of raw materials purchased by manufacturers operating in Canada, rose 31.7 per cent between February 2020 and September 2021. All product categories experienced double digit price level gains over this period, including crude energy (+40.3 per cent), metals (+27.3 per cent), and forestry products, such as lumber (+24.0 per cent).
- 4.5 The rising cost of raw materials has increased the selling price of products manufactured in Canada. As of September 2021, the Statistics Canada Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), which measures the prices of products manufactured in Canada, had risen 15.8 per cent from February 2020 and 19.4 per cent from April 2020.
- 4.6 All major product categories within the IPPI have seen price growth since the start of the pandemic. The major product categories with the largest price level increases are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: IPPI Price Level by Product Category

| Product Category | IPPI Price Level | | % Change |
|--|------------------|---------|----------|
| | Feb-20 | Sept-21 | |
| Primary ferrous metal products | 102.9 | 168.4 | 63.7% |
| Primary non-ferrous metal products | 100.2 | 133.1 | 32.8% |
| Lumber and other wood products | 105.0 | 137.7 | 31.1% |
| Fabricated metal products and construction materials | 99.3 | 127.3 | 28.2% |
| Chemicals and chemical products | 99.7 | 122.4 | 22.8% |
| Packaging materials and containers | 99.9 | 120.6 | 20.7% |

* January 2020 = 100

Source: Statistics Canada, Industrial Product Price Index, September 2021

- 4.7 Many of the products within the product categories that are experiencing large price level increases are products that are key inputs into the capital construction process. Table 2 provides a list of some of the individual products experiencing the largest price level increases over the course of the pandemic.

Table 2: IPPI Price Level by Product

| Product | IPPI Price Level | | % Change |
|---|------------------|---------|----------|
| | Feb-20 | Sept-21 | |
| Plastic resins | 95.8 | 161.5 | 68.6% |
| Natural gas liquids and related products | 84.9 | 186.3 | 119.4% |
| Asphalt (except natural) and asphalt products | 101.1 | 117.4 | 16.1% |
| Unwrought iron, steel and ferro-alloys | 106.8 | 134.1 | 25.6% |
| Unwrought aluminum and aluminum alloys | 98.1 | 152.1 | 55.0% |
| Unwrought copper and copper alloys | 95.4 | 149.0 | 56.2% |
| Metal building and construction materials | 98.7 | 143.4 | 45.3% |
| Electrical components | 99.5 | 124.8 | 25.4% |
| Plastic packaging materials | 99.1 | 137.9 | 39.2% |

* January 2020 = 100

Source: Statistics Canada, Industrial Product Price Index, September 2021

- 4.8 Producer prices are also rising internationally, including in China and the United States, which represent two key Canadian trading partners. In China, the Producer Price Index (PPI) rose 9.5 per cent year-over-year in August, followed by another 10.7 per cent year-over-year increase in September. The September reading is the highest Chinese PPI value since November 1995. In the United States, the PPI rose 8.3 per cent year-over-year in August and 8.6 per cent in September. Since April 2021, the U.S PPI has averaged a monthly year-over-year increase of over 7.5 per cent.
- 4.9 International supply chain disruptions are also contributing to the rise in producer prices. The pandemic has caused temporary closures to production factories and

has led to the closure of key global shipping ports. For example, Covid outbreaks in China forced two shipping ports to temporarily close over the summer, including the world's third largest container port in Ningbo-Zhoushan. The temporary closure caused backlogs at other Chinese ports. China is the world's largest exporter of goods, accounting for nearly 15 per cent of all global goods exports.

- 4.10 One of the key production inputs impacted by global supply chain disruptions is semiconductor chips. These chips are used in many electronic devices, including in the electrical components of automobiles. The automobile industry has been one of the industries most impacted by the shortage as automobiles can use between 1,500 and 3,000 chips per vehicle. This has greatly impacted the supply of new automobiles and significantly increased the price of used vehicles.
- 4.11 Shipping delays are not only impacting the physical delivery of goods but are also significantly increasing the price of delivery. The World Container Index, developed by London-based research consultancy Drewry Shipping, tracks the cost of shipping a 40-foot container across eight major international routes. As of the week of October 21, 2021, the composite index was approximately \$9,865 per 40-foot container. This represents a 281 per cent increase over the same week in 2020 and is now 290 per cent above its five-year average (\$2,530).
- 4.12 Statistics Canada tracks the prices provided by long and short distance delivery companies to Canadian-based businesses through the Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index. The price level for courier services, which includes deliveries within and between Canadian cities and provinces/territories, as well as some international deliveries, has risen 10.9 per cent between December 2020 and September 2021. The price level for messenger services, which includes price changes for within-city deliveries, rose 5.5 per cent.

5. Consumer Price Levels

- 5.1 In addition to raw materials and commodities, consumer goods and services are also experiencing significant price increases. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Canada rose 4.4 per cent year-over-year in September 2021, marking the fastest rate of inflation since February 2003. The September increase follows a 4.1 per cent year-over-year rise in August, and a 3.7 per cent year-over-year increase in July 2021. The price level of tangible consumer goods increased 6.1 per cent year-over-year in September 2021, which is the fastest pace since 1984.
- 5.2 In Ontario, CPI inflation also rose 4.4 per cent in September, following year-over-year increases of 3.5 per cent and 4.0 per cent in July and August respectively. Both Canada and Ontario have experienced monthly inflation rates above the Bank of Canada 2 per cent target since March of 2021, with rates exceeding the 3 per cent upper bound of the Bank of Canada target range (1-3 per cent) since April 2021.
- 5.3 Nearly all categories within the Ontario CPI experienced price increases in September, with the only exception being alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis

products (-0.23 per cent). The largest contributors to inflation were gasoline (+34.5 per cent), energy (+20.7 per cent) and transportation (+9.0 per cent). Food prices have also been rising steadily, with prices rising 3.7 per cent in September 2021 and averaging a monthly growth rate of nearly 2 per cent since March.

- 5.4 Higher gasoline prices are being fueled by the rising price of oil. Global oil prices have nearly doubled in 2021, with the price per barrel of West Texas Intermediate rising 73 per cent from \$48.52 on December 31, 2020 to \$83.87 as of October 20, 2021. Oil prices have risen nearly 35 per cent since the end of August.
- 5.5 The rising cost of housing is also contributing to the inflationary pressures seen in the shelter component of CPI. The Homeowners Replacement Cost (HRC) Index, within the shelter component, accounts for the rising cost of housing by tracking the price of new homes. In Ontario, the HRC index rose 14.1 per cent in September, marking the fifth straight month of double-digit gains.
- 5.6 As inflation continues to rise across the country, consumers are beginning to adapt their inflation expectations. According to the Bank of Canada Survey of Consumer Expectations for the third quarter of 2021, the median expectation for inflation over the next 12 months is approximately 3.7 per cent. Over the next two to five years, the median expectation among consumers is that inflation will be just above 3 per cent, exceeding the Bank of Canada 2 per cent target. Consumers anticipate inflation to rise faster than wages over the next 12 months as the median expectation for wage growth was 2 per cent.

6. Bank of Canada Business Outlook Survey

- 6.1 The recent rise in inflation also has businesses concerned about a prolonged period of elevated prices. According to the latest Bank of Canada Business Outlook Survey for the third quarter of 2021, which includes interviews with business leaders from 100 firms across Canada, a record 87 per cent of firms expect the annual rate of inflation to exceed the Bank of Canada 2 per cent target over the next two years. This includes a record 45 per cent of firms that expect the annual inflation rate to exceed 3 per cent over the next two years.
- 6.2 One of the most common reasons cited for rising inflation expectations was disruptions to supply chains. Firms mentioned difficulties in obtaining raw materials and goods for sale because of shipping delays and various supply chain issues. These challenges led approximately 65 per cent of firms to estimate having at least some degree of difficulty meeting an unexpected rise in demand. Firms also expect these challenges to continue into the second half of 2022.
- 6.3 Labour shortages were also listed as a major impediment to production as 81 per cent of firms listed labour shortages as the most pressing capacity issue. Approximately 36 per cent of firms also said labour shortages were restricting their current ability to meet demand, which is up from 23 per cent in the second quarter in 2021.

6.4 Intense labour shortages are raising business expectations for wage increases. According to the survey, a record net 50 per cent of firms expect to have to increase wages over the next year. This comes as a record net 67 per cent of firms say they will need to increase employment at their firm over the next year.

7. Labour Market – Job Vacancies and Wages

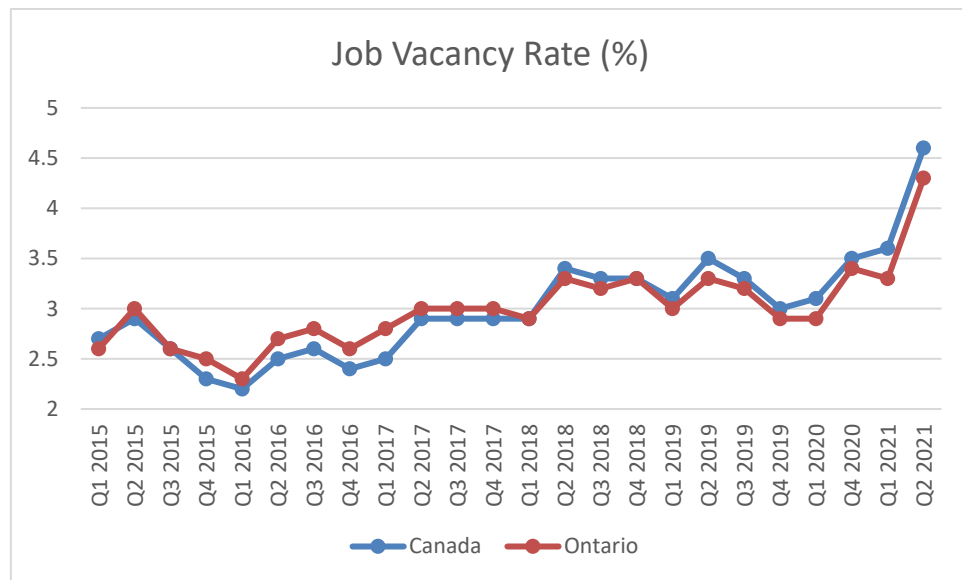
7.1 Recent labour market data from Statistics Canada supports the labour concerns expressed by businesses in the Bank of Canada Business Outlook Survey. According to the most recent quarterly Job Vacancy Survey, the Canadian job vacancy rate, which represents vacant positions as a proportion of all positions (vacant and occupied), for the second quarter of 2021 was 4.6 per cent.

7.2 The 4.6 per cent job vacancy rate is the highest recorded quarterly rate since the series began in 2015. In comparison, the average quarterly job vacancy rate from the first quarter of 2015 to the fourth quarter of 2019 was 2.9 per cent. The second quarter of 2021 also recorded a record 731,905 job vacancies, which was a 32 per cent increase over the first quarter of 2021.

7.3 In Ontario, the job vacancy rate for the second quarter of 2021 was 4.3 per cent, which is also the highest recorded rate since the series began in 2015. The average quarterly job vacancy rate for Ontario, between the first quarter of 2015 and the fourth quarter of 2019, was also 2.9 per cent. The number of job vacancies in the second quarter was a record 264,530, representing a 35 per cent increase over the first quarter of 2021.

7.4 It is important to note that the first quarter of 2021 included strict lockdowns that may have impacted the number of job vacancies. However, the number of job vacancies in Ontario for the second quarter of 2021 still reflects a 22 per cent increase over the second highest number of job vacancies recorded in the series (Q4 2018).

7.5 Chart 1 displays the evolution of the job vacancy rate from Q1 2015 to Q2 2021 for Canada and Ontario. Note that data for Q2 and Q3 of 2020 is unavailable as Statistics Canada suspended this survey during the early part of the pandemic.

Chart 1: Job Vacancy Rates – Canada and Ontario

Source: Statistics Canada, Job Vacancy Survey, Q2 2021

- 7.6 Although job vacancies and vacancy rates differ across industrial sectors, nearly all sectors are currently sitting well above their long run average. Table 3 compares historical average (2015-2019) quarterly job vacancies and vacancy rates, by industrial sector, with the vacancies and vacancy rates in Q2 2021 for Ontario.

Table 3: Job Vacancies and Vacancy Rates in Ontario

| Industry Sector | Quarterly Average 2015-2019 | | Q2 2021 | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | Vacancies | Vacancy Rate (%) | Vacancies | Vacancy Rate (%) |
| Total, all industries | 181,261 | 2.9 | 264,530 | 4.3 |
| Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting | 4,452 | 7.4 | 6,060 | 9.2 |
| Mining, quarrying, oil and gas extraction | 547 | 2.0 | 1,040 | 3.7 |
| Utilities | 579 | 1.2 | 1,070 | 2.1 |
| Construction | 10,555 | 3.0 | 20,895 | 5.6 |
| Manufacturing | 16,231 | 2.3 | 23,605 | 3.5 |
| Wholesale Trade | 8,563 | 2.5 | 12,295 | 3.5 |
| Retail Trade | 22,739 | 3.0 | 29,410 | 4.1 |
| Transportation and Warehousing | 8,277 | 3.0 | 9,615 | 3.3 |
| Information and Culture | 4,846 | 3.2 | 6,525 | 4.1 |
| Finance and Insurance | 10,527 | 3.1 | 11,635 | 3.2 |
| Real Estate, Rental and Leasing | 2,834 | 2.3 | 2,745 | 2.7 |
| Professional, Scientific, Technical Services | 13,478 | 3.3 | 19,720 | 4.3 |
| Admin, Waste Management, Remediation | 17,631 | 4.7 | 22,045 | 5.9 |
| Education | 5,022 | 1.0 | 7,335 | 1.4 |
| Health and Social Assistance | 18,919 | 2.6 | 37,925 | 4.9 |
| Arts, Entertainment, Recreation | 5,367 | 4.6 | 7,820 | 10.7 |
| Accommodation and Food Service | 20,350 | 4.1 | 28,895 | 8.3 |
| Public Administration | 2,867 | 1.4 | 6,690 | 3.5 |

Source: Statistics Canada, Job Vacancy Survey, Q2 2021

- 7.7 One contributing factor to the increase in labour shortages is the reduced level of immigration experienced throughout the pandemic. According to Statistics Canada, Ontario saw a significant immigration decline in 2020, with just under 83,000 immigrants settling in Ontario. This compares to over 153,000 in 2019 and over 137,000 in 2018. However, immigration levels are on pace to normalize in 2021 as Ontario has already settled over 73,000 immigrants over the first two quarters of the year.
- 7.8 As labour shortages intensify, wage growth will likely accelerate as businesses compete to attract workers. Average weekly wages (across all industries) have already been increasing throughout the pandemic. In Ontario, the average monthly year-over-year growth rate in weekly wages was 5.15 per cent from February 2020 to September 2021. This has significantly eclipsed the average monthly growth rate of CPI inflation, which was 1.61 per cent over the same period.
- 7.9 Throughout the pandemic, the Federal Government has instituted several income

support programs to help employers and employees most impacted by public health restrictions. These programs may be a contributing factor to the ongoing labour shortage as many of the programs include restrictions on employment to maintain eligibility. The majority of support programs have now expired; however, the Federal Government announced the establishment of two new targeted wage and rent subsidy programs (the Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program and the Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program) for businesses continuing to see significant revenue loss as a result of the pandemic.

- 7.10 The Federal Government also announced the establishment of the Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit, which could provide \$300 a week to eligible workers should they be unable to work due to a local lockdown anytime between October 24, 2021 and May 7, 2022.

8. Canadian Survey on Business Conditions – Oshawa CMA

- 8.1 Many of the issues pertaining to inflation and labour shortages identified in the Bank of Canada Business Outlook Survey are also impacting the local business community. Statistics Canada began conducting a quarterly survey on business conditions after the onset of the pandemic. The survey is intended to gather information on business conditions in Canada, as well as information on future expectations. Surveys are also conducted in the 20 largest cities in Canada, which includes the Oshawa Census Metropolitan Area (CMA). Approximately 250 businesses are surveyed for the Oshawa CMA survey.
- 8.2 According to the survey for the Oshawa CMA, labour shortages, supply chain issues, and input costs are all obstacles facing the business community. Table 4 outlines some potential obstacles faced by businesses and the percentage of businesses that identified the corresponding obstacle as a concern over the three months following the survey.

Table 4: Business Obstacles – Oshawa CMA

| Obstacle | Q1 2021 | Q2 2021 | Q3 2021 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Shortage of labour | 19.1% | 15.9% | 22.8% |
| Recruiting and retaining skilled employees | 20.3% | 21.5% | 28.9% |
| Supply chain challenges | 29.0% | 29.4% | 30.6% |
| Rising costs of inputs | 23.2% | 31.6% | 35.5% |
| Insufficient demand for goods or services | 42.7% | 24.1% | 18.6% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Survey on Business Conditions, Oshawa CMA

- 8.3 The survey suggests that insufficient product demand is becoming less of an issue as the economy continues to reopen. Rising input costs are becoming an increasing issue for businesses, while labour and supply chain issues continue to persist.
- 8.4 Certain obstacles will be more prevalent in certain industries. Although some

survey data is provided at the industrial sector level, industry level data availability is inconsistent. In the Q2 2021 survey, 38.7 per cent of the healthcare sector identified labour shortages as a major obstacle, while construction (44.2 per cent) and wholesale trade (52.5 per cent) listed input costs as a major obstacle. In the Q3 survey, 80.7 per cent of the Admin, Waste Management, and Remediation Services industry listed labour shortages as a major obstacle, while 84.8 per cent of the same industry respondents listed retaining skilled employees as a major obstacle.

- 8.5 Obtaining qualified workers continues to be a significant issue for local businesses. Table 5 identifies the percentage of firms that said finding, retaining, or recruiting qualified workers would either be very challenging or somewhat challenging over the three months following the survey. Note that this question was removed from the Q3 2021 survey.

Table 5: Challenges Obtaining Qualified Workers – Oshawa CMA

| Challenge | Q1 2021 | Q2 2021 | Q3 2021 |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Finding qualified workers | 43.4% | 45.2% | N/A |
| Recruiting qualified workers | 40.3% | 45.0% | N/A |
| Retaining qualified workers | 33.7% | 43.7% | N/A |

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Survey on Business Conditions, Oshawa CMA

- 8.6 Survey respondents were also asked how they expect a series of business conditions to change over the three months following the survey. Table 6 provides the responses on job vacancies and the selling prices for their goods and services. Note that the responses may not add to 100 per cent as respondents also had the option of selecting “not applicable”.

Table 6: Expectations over the Next Three Months – Oshawa CMA

| | Job Vacancies | | | Price of Goods Sold | | |
|---------|---------------|---------------|----------|---------------------|---------------|----------|
| | Increase | Stay the Same | Decrease | Increase | Stay the Same | Decrease |
| Q1 2021 | 7.3% | 45.6% | 18.4% | 8.1% | 57.1% | 13.8% |
| Q2 2021 | 3.1% | 57.9% | 2.2% | 23.1% | 56.9% | 13.8% |
| Q3 2021 | 5.9% | 57.7% | 5.4% | 23.8% | 68.7% | 7.1% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Survey on Business Conditions, Oshawa CMA

- 8.7 The results seem to suggest that job vacancies are not expected to improve in the near term as most respondents expect the status quo. The results also suggest that selling prices are likely to stay the same; however, the surveys for Q2 and Q3 showed a significant increase in the number of respondents that anticipate price increases.

9. Housing and Real Estate

- 9.1 Although labour shortages are occurring across the country and are not unique to

Durham Region, concerns around housing affordability could potentially worsen the situation locally. According to the Toronto Region Real Estate Board (TRREB), the average selling price of a home in Durham Region was \$968,136 in September 2021. This represents a 32 per cent increase over September 2020, and a 47 per cent increase over February 2020 (pre-pandemic).

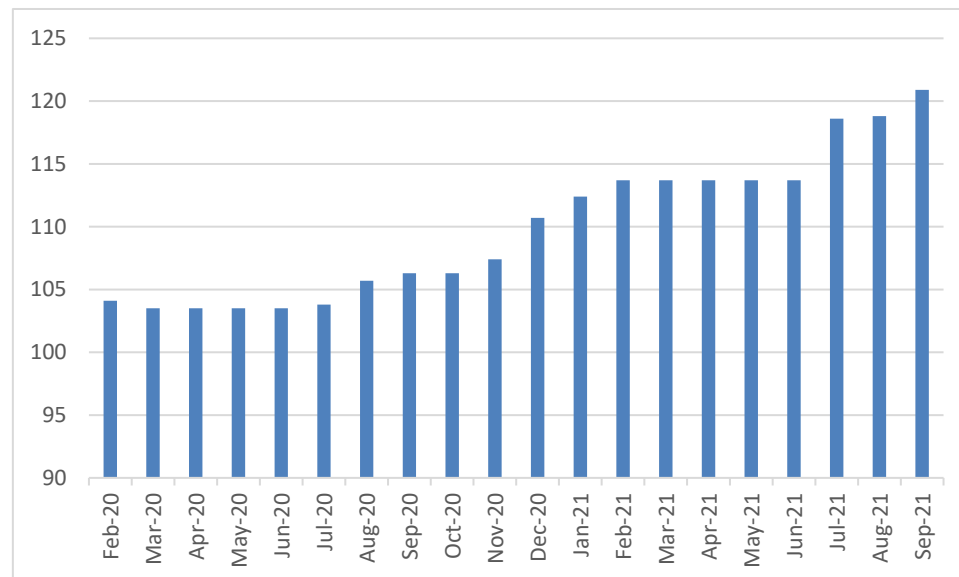
- 9.2 Table 7 compares the average selling price of a home across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Although Durham Region remains the most affordable on a nominal basis, relative affordability is beginning to erode.

Table 7: Average Selling Price of Home in the GTA

| | | | | Relative Affordability | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|--------|
| | Feb-20 | Sep-20 | Sep-21 | Feb-20 | Sep-21 |
| Durham | \$ 657,788 | \$ 734,038 | \$ 968,136 | - | - |
| York | \$ 1,015,558 | \$ 1,066,380 | \$ 1,359,009 | 64.8% | 71.2% |
| Peel | \$ 861,536 | \$ 904,963 | \$ 1,087,321 | 76.4% | 89.0% |
| Halton | \$ 977,617 | \$ 1,087,859 | \$ 1,247,856 | 67.3% | 77.6% |
| Toronto | \$ 989,218 | \$ 1,022,051 | \$ 1,090,196 | 66.5% | 88.8% |

Source: Toronto Region Real Estate Board

- 9.3 The “Relative Affordability” columns in Table 7 provide the average selling price of a home in Durham Region as a percentage of the average selling price in the other municipalities. The table shows that the housing price gap between Durham and the other comparable municipalities is beginning to close. The biggest decline in relative affordability comes against the City of Toronto.
- 9.4 The price of new homes is also accelerating in Durham Region. According to the Statistics Canada New Housing Price Index, which tracks the price levels of new homes across Canada, the price level of new homes in the Oshawa CMA rose 1.8 per cent month-over-month in September. The index for the Oshawa CMA is now up over 16 per cent compared to February 2020. In July 2021, Statistics Canada reported that the Oshawa CMA experienced the highest monthly increase in the New Housing Price Index (+4.3 per cent) of all the Census Metropolitan Area’s surveyed across Canada. Chart 2 compares the monthly New Housing Price Index price levels for the Oshawa CMA since February 2020.

Chart 2: New House Price Index, Oshawa CMA

Note: December 2016 = 100

Source: Statistics Canada, New Housing Price Index

9.5 The New House Price index accounts for both the price of homes and the price of land. The index for houses only was up 2.7 per cent month-over month in September 2021, whereas the index for land was up 1.0 per cent. Compared to February 2020, the house only index is up 21.3 per cent and the land index is up 7.7 per cent.

10. Impacts to Regional Service Delivery – Supply Chains and Raw Materials

- 10.1 The rising cost of raw materials, along with ongoing supply chain issues are beginning to impact Regional service delivery. Shortages in materials and equipment parts are resulting in increasing project schedule delays and rising costs across every service area within the Works Department. While this trend has already hit many operational business lines, staff are beginning to see early signs of this trend impacting capital projects, particularly with respect to crew and material availability, as well as unit prices.
- 10.2 Based on recent tendered contracts, additional delivery time is required for capital projects involving materials and equipment for water supply and sanitary sewerage. Suppliers are unable to guarantee the delivery of material and equipment, therefore contractors require additional time for construction completion. Increased pricing has also been experienced for some of the Region's recent projects.
- 10.3 Lead time for materials and equipment required for ongoing construction projects has been impacted by supply chain delays, particularly for electrical and

mechanical supplies. Supply chain disruptions are also resulting in price increases for items such as furniture and interior finishings.

- 10.4 Over the summer, the Region's Blue Box and Green Bin supplier informed the Region that it could not fulfill the remainder of its contract due to soaring plastic resin prices. Staff successfully negotiated with the supplier to commit to fulfilling the contract, however the Region's stock of containers is near depletion. Future tendered contracts are expected to come in at significantly higher prices.
- 10.5 The ongoing global shortage of semiconductor chips is impacting sensor operability in the Region's trucks and snow ploughs. The Region is proactively considering workarounds to prevent the equipment from becoming inoperable until the sensors or programming from manufacturers are obtained. These revised protocols have resulted in operational delays.
- 10.6 Within Social Services, construction delays, worker absences, and supply chain disruptions are negatively impacting the development and maintenance of affordable housing units. These delays can directly reduce the Region's ability to meet the At Home in Durham commitments, previously approved by Council, of increasing the supply of affordable rental housing by 1,000 units, increasing the supply of medium to high density housing, and making significant progress in the regeneration of community housing. Further delays and interruptions could also create a backlog of repairs to social housing stock, which would create a future liability to further address state of good repair items.

11. Impacts to Regional Service Delivery – Labour Shortages

- 11.1 Certain service areas within the Region have been impacted by labour shortages throughout the pandemic. The Waste Management division initially experienced minor impacts that were addressed by extending the length of collection days and collection hours. However, intensifying labour shortages among contractors are now impacting the completion of waste collection routes, with occasional delays requiring collections to be completed the following day.
- 11.2 Ongoing labour shortages pose a challenge to contractors as they explore alternative options, such as hiring less experienced workers and/or utilizing accelerated training programs, as a means for addressing the issue. These changes have, on some occasions, resulted in incidents of reduced service quality and negative contractor interaction with residents. It is the understanding of Regional staff that addressing labour shortages through subcontracting has not proven to be a viable option as nearly all contractors are experiencing similar staffing issues. Potential suspensions or terminations in contractor crews due to mandatory vaccination policies is also another risk that staff are closely monitoring.
- 11.3 As a specific example, the Regional Works Department has had significant difficulty obtaining qualified engineering talent as a result of the overall labour shortage within the industry. Increased infrastructure spending across all sectors

is contributing to this labour shortage. The shortage is expected to continue, and escalate, over the coming years if senior levels of government continue to invest further stimulus funding into provincial and municipal infrastructure projects.

- 11.4 Other factors, such as the rising cost of real estate in the Region and prolonged government support programs, are also causing difficulty in obtaining labour resources.
- 11.5 Recruiting challenges overall for the Region are mainly based on prospective employees either self-selecting out of regular employer-employee relationships in favour of consulting work (e.g. engineering, family counselling) or a surge in demand (e.g. long term care, public health nursing, disability management) for specific skillsets, which heightens competing employer recruitment processes.
- 11.6 The Region typically recruits through their own internal processes but relied on contracting services to staff vaccine clinics during the pandemic given the volume of hires, the lack of availability of hiring managers (who were engaged with clinic set up) and the need for a seven day a week support system to operationalize the clinics. Overall, keeping the talent pool supply in these high demand areas in mind, the Region experienced a successful business relationship with its contractors (temporary agencies).
- 11.7 The Region remains competitive in terms of its overall compensation package and diligently monitors bargaining trends, participates in biannual compensation surveys, and monitors the CPI rate of inflation to ensure we are competitive within the labour market.
- 11.8 Recent successful applicants have commented that the Region's commitment to a hybrid teleworking model is an attractive benefit post-pandemic and may provide the Region with a competitive edge in its recruitment strategy.

12. Financial and Budgetary Impacts

- 12.1 The rising cost of raw materials is projected to impact future capital and operating contracts, which may result in significant cost increases approaching 10 to 20 per cent. This projection reflects the potential need for contractors to increase wages and improve benefits and training to attract and retain necessary human resources. Labour shortages could also potentially impact project timelines, causing further budgetary pressures.
- 12.2 Tenders currently reflect the market premiums related to supply chain demands, along with the already robust construction market activity. According to the Statistics Canada Building Construction Price Index for the Toronto CMA, the cost of constructing a non-residential building increased by 4.2 per cent between the second and third quarter of 2021. Since 2019, the cost of certain mechanical equipment has more than doubled as a result of the rising cost of steel.
- 12.3 Additionally, the rising cost of real estate is resulting in higher project costs where

land acquisition is required. Beyond the immediate cost impacts on active projects, staff are also identifying and critically examining medium to longer term projects in capital programs (e.g. planned road widenings in the 10-year program) where project feasibility could be threatened due to anticipated further significant escalation in property costs. Once identified, a proactive property acquisition strategy may be required to provide certainty to these projects.

- 12.4 As pandemic support programs from senior levels of government begin to expire, residents may need to turn to other sources of supports if they continue to have difficulty securing employment. This could potentially lead to increased Ontario Works caseloads, as well as pressures within other areas of Social Services.

13. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 13.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Economic Prosperity: To build a strong and resilient economy that maximizes opportunities for business and employment growth, innovation and partnership.

14. Conclusions

- 14.1 Pandemic outbreaks in certain parts of the world are leading to localized restrictions that impact production and reduce the supply of certain goods. The easing of economic restrictions in other parts of the world is leading to increased demand for goods and services. These competing forces are driving an economic imbalance that is leading to product and labour shortages, soaring prices, and supply chain backlogs.
- 14.2 These global issues are impacting the Canadian economy nationally, provincially, and locally. These economic forces are preventing the Canadian economy from returning to its pre-pandemic production levels and are delaying the economic recovery. It is difficult to estimate how long these economic challenges will persist as it will likely depend on the future trajectory of the pandemic.
- 14.3 Although ongoing Regional infrastructure projects may experience delays as a result of these emerging market forces, the Region will continue, as it has throughout the pandemic, to adapt and ensure continued service delivery.
- 14.4 The Regional Finance Department will continue to monitor economic indicators, including price pressures, closely and may need to adapt the 2022 budget to account for emerging inflationary pressures, labour shortages and supply chain issues.
- 14.5 This report has been reviewed by staff of the Works Department, Corporate Services, Social Services, and Durham Region Transit who concur with the conclusions.

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed By

Nancy Taylor, BBA, CPA, CA
Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 3111



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health
Report: #2021-INFO-116
Date: November 5, 2021

Subject:

Mandatory On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspection Program

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide an update on the Mandatory On-Site Sewage Maintenance Inspection Program Agreement between the Region of Durham and the Townships of Brock, Scugog, and Uxbridge.

2. Background

2.1 Under the *Ontario Building Code* (OBC), municipalities, and in some cases Boards of Health or conservation authorities are required to inspect private on-site sewage systems.

2.2 Locally, Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) oversees the sewage system maintenance inspection program (SSMIP) for the Townships of Brock, Scugog, and Uxbridge. Roles and responsibilities are formalized within contracts between each township and DRHD.

3. Agreement Highlights

3.1 DRHD and the Townships of Brock, Scugog, and Uxbridge updated their SSMIP agreements on April 1, August 3, and October 1, 2021 respectively.

3.2 Inspections of properties within wellhead protection areas are due to be completed in 2021. The agreements between DRHD and the three townships outline each party's duties related to administering the SSMIP.

- 3.3 In all three SSMIP agreements, DRHD agreed to perform the following duties:
- a. Inspect applicable properties and review related documents to ensure private sewage systems are compliant with the OBC and the SSMIP.
 - b. Identify and document malfunctioning sewage systems, issue orders, provide compliance counselling, and attend enforcement proceedings.
 - c. Maintain documents, records, and materials, and prepare annual reports showing inspection results.
 - d. Perform other administrative duties related to the SSMIP.

4. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 4.1 This work aligns with the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 1: Environmental Sustainability - 1.3 protect, preserve, and restore the natural environment, including greenspaces, waterways, parks, trails, and farmlands.
 - b. Goal 2: Community Vitality - 2.2 enhance community safety and well-being.
 - c. Goal 5: Service Excellence - 5.1 optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 As per the [Delegation of Authority By-law #29-2020](#), DRHD's Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health has the authority to negotiate and execute septic system agreements with area municipalities. The SSMIP agreements have been signed by the municipalities and the Region's Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

R.J. Kyle, BSc, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC, FACPM
Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2126



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Corporate Services
Report: #2021-INFO-117
Date: November 5, 2021

Subject:

2022 Municipal Election

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide general information regarding the 2022 Municipal Election, information on changes since the 2018 election and the impact these changes will have on the 2022 Municipal Election for the Office of Regional Chair including:
- a. The start date for the new term of Council
 - b. Nomination Day
 - c. Electronic Submission of Forms
 - d. Changes to Third Party Advertiser Campaign Rules

2. Background

- 2.1 The Regional Clerk is responsible for the administration of the Regional responsibilities related to the election for the Office of Regional Chair. With amendments made to the Municipal Elections Act (MEA), the election landscape has changed slightly since the 2018 Municipal Election.
- 2.2 The Clerks of the area municipalities are responsible for conducting the election within their respective municipalities and for reporting the vote for the Office of Regional Chair to the Regional Clerk. We work closely with our counterparts at the area municipalities on election related matters.
- 2.3 The Regional Clerk is responsible for preparing the final summary of the votes for the Office of Regional Chair from the information received from the lower-tier Clerks and announcing the result of the vote for the Office of Regional Chair.
- 2.4 A Communication Plan is being developed by the Corporate Communications Office in consultation with the Regional Clerk to better educate and generally provide information to the public and potential candidates about the upcoming election.

3. Changes to Important Dates

- 3.1 The MEA was amended in 2017 to allow for the 2022 Term of Council to begin on November 15, 2022. For the 2018 municipal election, the start of the Term of Council was December 1, 2018.
- 3.2 Nomination day, which is the last day that Nominations will be accepted, has moved to August 19, 2022 (for the 2018 election it was July 27). The start of the nomination period is the first Monday in May, which falls on May 2, for the 2022 election. This is the same as in the 2018 election. Voting Day will be October 24, 2022, which is also similar to the previous election.

3.3 Important dates for the 2022 Municipal Election are as follows:

| Date: | Description: |
|-----------------------------|---|
| May 2, 2022 | <p>First day for filing nominations.</p> <p>First day to file a registration as a Third Party Advertiser (with the local area municipality).</p> <p>Campaign period commences upon filing of nomination.</p> |
| August 19, 2022 (by 2 p.m.) | <p>Nomination Day (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.).</p> <p>Withdrawal of Nominations before 2 p.m.</p> |
| August 22, 2022 | <p>Regional Clerk to send the names of the candidates for the Office of Regional Chair to the Clerks of the area municipalities.</p> <p>Acclamation to office declared if there is only one certified candidate for the Office of Regional Chair.</p> |
| October 21, 2022 | Last day to accept registrations for Third Party Advertisers (with the local municipalities) |
| October 24, 2022 | Voting Day |

4. Electronic Submission of Forms

- 4.1 Nomination papers for individual candidates and Third Party Advertisers may now be submitted electronically in accordance with amendments made to the MEA. At this time, the Regional Clerk is planning to accept nomination forms electronically as well as payment of the nomination filing fees. Candidates will be advised that they may not start campaigning until the Clerk has reviewed the nomination papers and advised the candidate that they are in order.
- 4.2 Candidates will still need to have the nomination endorsed by at least 25 persons who are eligible to vote in an election, whether they are submitting electronically or in-person. Endorsement signatures must be original and may be retained by the candidate if submitting electronically, for example a scanned copy would be sent to the Clerk.

5. Third Party Advertisers

- 5.1 Changes were made to the rules around Third Party Advertisers. The area municipal Clerks are responsible for accepting nominations for third party advertisers so there is limited impact on the Region, however if someone who was previously registered as a third party advertiser files a nomination with the Region to run for Regional Chair, then their nomination for third party advertiser is deemed to be withdrawn in accordance with Section 88.6 (16) of the Municipal Elections Act. The Regional Clerk will work with the area municipal Clerks in this regard.

6. Other Items of Note

- 6.1 The Regional Clerks office will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to accept nominations (previously it was 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and nominations will be accepted by appointment only. Appointments may be in-person or via Microsoft Teams.
- 6.2 Since the 2018 election, the Region of Durham has given authority for temporary sign enforcement to the area municipalities through By-law 52-2020. Area municipalities may now enforce their temporary sign by-laws on Regional Roads. This will make it easier for candidates as they will only be required to adhere to one temporary sign by-law in each municipality.
- 6.3 A reminder that Council may enter into a Restricted Acts or “Lame Duck” scenario during two periods: From Nomination Day to Voting Day, and from Voting Day to the End of the Term. This would occur if it could be determined with certainty that less than three-quarters of the members will be returning. There are certain restrictions imposed on Councils who are in Lame Duck including the hiring or dismissal of officers or employees, the disposition of property over \$50,000, and expenditures over \$50,000. The Region has accounted for these actions in the delegation of authority by-law and budget management policy, as well as through other delegations that have been given to senior staff.

7. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 7.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 5: Service Excellence. Objective: To provide exceptional value to Durham taxpayers through responsive, effective and fiscally sustainable service delivery.
 - 5.3 Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results.

8. Conclusion

- 8.1 Amendments made to the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 will impact candidates, and Clerks. For candidates, it is best if they familiarize themselves with the new regulations. The Region will endeavor to provide as much information as possible to assist candidates for the Office of Regional Chair in this regard.
- 8.2 For additional information, contact: Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services, at 905-668-7711, extension 2100

Prepared by: Leigh Fleury, Legislative Officer and Deputy Clerk Pro Tem, at 905-668-7711, extension 2020.

Respectfully submitted,


Original signed by

Don Beaton, BCom, M.P.A.
Commissioner of Corporate Services

File A-2100

October 28, 2021

DELIVERED BY E-MAIL
(minister.mto@ontario.ca)Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Minister
Ministry of Transportation

| | |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | November 01, 2021 9:36 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Re: Request that the Province Implement Legislation Related to Excessive Vehicle Noise

At its meeting of September 27, 2021 Oshawa City Council adopted the following resolution of the Corporate Services Committee:

“Whereas the City has undertaken an extensive review of excessive vehicle noise (CORP-20-26) in 2020 and engine brake noise from heavy vehicles (CORP-21-04) in 2021; and,

Whereas, as a result of the reviews, the City has enhanced Noise By-law 112-82 by establishing Tiered and Escalating Administrative Monetary Penalties and requested enhanced enforcement of deficient muffler systems as part of the Province’s commercial vehicle inspection program; and,

Whereas excessive noise resulting from the operation of moving vehicles falls under the jurisdiction of the Highway Traffic Act, 1990 which is enforced by Durham Regional Police Services, the Ministry of Transportation and the Ontario Provincial Police; and,

Whereas Durham Regional Police Service has undertaken proactive enforcement on excessively loud vehicles;

Therefore be it resolved that Oshawa City Council request the Province implement legislation to address excessive noise from vehicle noisemaker muffler systems and provide funding for police services in Ontario to be equipped with approved decibel monitor devices to aid in effective enforcement efforts; and,

That this Resolution be sent to All Durham Region MPPs, Region of Durham, All Durham Region Municipalities, Durham Region Police Services, Ontario Provincial Police, and the Oshawa Active Transportation Advisory Committee.”

If you require further assistance concerning the above matter, please contact Tracy Adams, Commissioner, Corporate Services Department at the address listed above or by telephone at 905-436-3311.



Mary Medeiros
City Clerk

/fb


- c. Regional Municipality of Durham
- Durham Region Municipalities
- Durham Region Members of Provincial Parliament
- Durham Regional Police Services
- Ontario Provincial Police
- Oshawa Active Transportation Advisory Committee



October 20, 2021

DELIVERED BY E-MAIL
(ralph.walton@durham.ca)

Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
Region of Durham

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | November 04, 2021 8:34 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Re: Proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa’s Downtown Area Action Plan

Oshawa City Council at its meeting held September 27, 2021, adopted the following recommendation concerning the above-referenced matter:

- “1. That the proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa’s Downtown Area Action Plan, as outlined in Attachment 2 to Report CNCL-21-72, dated September 22, 2021, be endorsed; and,
2. That a copy of this report and Council resolution be provided to the Region of Durham Council, Region of Durham Social Services Department, Region of Durham Health Department, Region of Durham Planning & Economic Development Department, Lakeridge Health and Durham Regional Police Service Board and Chief of Police; and,
3. That the Regional Chief Administrative Officer and Commissioner, Social Services be invited to a future Council meeting to overview the Regional initiatives to address the issues in downtown Oshawa; and,
4. That the Chief of Durham Regional Police Service be invited to a future Council meeting to overview Durham Regional Police Service initiatives to address the issues in downtown Oshawa.”

Mary Medeiros
City Clerk

/jl

Attachment – Report CNCL-21-72

- c: Region of Durham Council
- Region of Durham Social Services Department
- Region of Durham Health Department
- Region of Durham Planning & Economic Development Department
- Durham Regional Police Board
- Durham Region Chief of Police
- Lakeridge Health

To: Council in Committee of the Whole

From: Paul Ralph, Chief Administrative Officer
Office of the C.A.O.

Report Number: CNCL-21-72

Date of Report: September 22, 2021

Date of Meeting: September 27, 2021

Subject: Proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in
Oshawa's Downtown Area Action Plan

File: 03-05

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa's Downtown Area Action Plan as well as provide City Council with information on some of the work being undertaken related to this matter.

Attachment 1 is the Community Safety in Oshawa's downtown area community engagement results.

Attachment 2 is the proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa's Downtown Area Action Plan resulting from the Community Safety in Oshawa's downtown area community engagement initiative as well as input from the Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security and Well-Being.

Attachment 3 is a copy of the joint statement from the Regional Chair John Henry and Mayor Dan Carter.

Attachment 4 is a copy of the letter sent to Chief Paul Martin, Durham Regional Police Service from Mayor Dan Carter.

Attachment 5 is a copy of the Regional Council Direction as introduced by Mayor Dan Carter and seconded by Regional and City Councillor Bob Chapman.

Attachment 6 is a copy of the letter sent to Dr. Robert Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health at The Regional Municipality of Durham from Mayor Dan Carter.

Attachment 7 is a copy of the letter sent by Regional Chair John Henry to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Erin O'Toole, Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, and Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the New Democratic Party.

Attachment 8 is a copy of the letter sent by Regional Chair John Henry and Mayor Dan Carter to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General.

Attachment 9 is a copy of the letter sent to all Mayors in the Durham Region from Mayor Dan Carter.

Attachment 10 is a copy of the Action items for downtown Oshawa email sent by the Chief Administrative Officer of Durham Region to Durham Region members of Council.

2.0 Recommendation

It is recommended to City Council:

1. That the proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa's Downtown Area Action Plan, as outlined in Attachment 2 to Report CNCL-21-72, dated September 22, 2021, be endorsed; and,
2. That a copy of this report and Council resolution be provided to the Region of Durham Council, Region of Durham Social Services Department, Region of Durham Health Department, Region of Durham Planning & Economic Development Department, Lakeridge Health and Durham Regional Police Service Board and Chief of Police;
3. That the Regional Chief Administrative Officer and Commissioner, Social Services be invited to a future Council meeting to overview the Regional initiatives to address the issues in downtown Oshawa; and,
4. That the Chief of Durham Regional Police Service be invited to a future Council meeting to overview Durham Regional Police Service initiatives to address the issues in downtown Oshawa.

3.0 Executive Summary

Not applicable.

4.0 Input From Other Sources

- Corporate Leadership Team
- Economic Development Services
- Durham Regional Police Service (D.R.P.S.)
- Facilities Management Services
- Municipal Law Enforcement and Licensing Services
- Region of Durham
- Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security and Well-Being

5.0 Analysis

5.1 Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has created significant challenges for our residents and businesses. These challenges include among other matters, the impact on our individual health, the impact on our healthcare system, the closure and lockdown of and restrictions on our businesses and services as well as the closure of our schools. The unsheltered population has been impacted as well due to the number of services they rely on have been either closed or restricted.

Many community stakeholders work together to address the complex issues for those who are unsheltered, many of which have mental health and addiction challenges. In addition, community stakeholders are trying to address issues that members of the public including seniors, families and businesses are experiencing as a result of unlawful behaviour by others (e.g. vandalism, open illegal drug use in public and loitering). These issues and challenges being experienced in Oshawa are prevalent across Canada.

The following outlines at a high-level various stakeholders and their respective responsibilities as it relates to the issues occurring in downtown Oshawa:

- Region of Durham:
 - Health Department includes paramedics, PCOP (Primary Care Outreach Program), harm reduction, opioids and overdose prevention, Project X-Change and healthy living
 - Social Services Department includes Community Hubs and support, Outreach Housing, Income and Employment
 - Planning and Economic Development includes: economic development and tourism
- Durham Regional Police Service:
 - Law enforcement for criminal activity, Durham Connect, Mental Health Support Unit
- Lakeridge Health – Oshawa/ Pinewood Addiction Services:
 - Acute care for high needs, assessments, addictions, mental health
- Social Services Organizations/ Community Providers:
 - Food, clothing, medical care (physical, mental), housing connections, counselling, addictions support, needles pick up, etc.
- City of Oshawa:
 - Enforcement of by-laws, waste collection, economic development, parks and trail maintenance

5.2 Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security and Well-Being

In January 2021, the **Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security and Well-Being** was formed to bring together community stakeholders to identify and propose opportunities to address community safety, security and well-being issues facing the City of Oshawa. Chaired by Deputy Mayor and Regional and City Councillor Bob Chapman, the Task Force works collaboratively and provides suggestions to assist Oshawa City Council and staff in developing solutions. Since community safety, security and well-being is a large and complex issue that requires significant effort, the Task Force is addressing priorities in multiple phases.

Phase 1 is focusing on the downtown and surrounding area bounded by Ritson Road on the east, Park Road on the west, Olive Avenue / Gibb Street on the south and Adelaide Avenue on the north. Additional phases will be identified as necessary and may focus on other areas of the city.

Some of the initiatives that the Task Force have been involved with include:

- Provided input and supported the 'If you see it report it' communications;
- Provided input on **CS-21-61** Portable Stage and Picnic Tables in the Victoria Street Plaza to support the Troubadour Series that took place in August;
- Supported **DS-21-90 Signs of Life Mural Project** that provided four murals painted directly on the shipping containers located at 99 Simcoe Street South and one mural painted on the south façade of the building at 155 Simcoe Street South;
- Provided input on the Parks By-law and Highway Vending By-law amendments;
- Recommended **DS-21-52 Amendment to Downtown Urban Growth Centre Community Improvement Plan** to allow Security and Safety Features to Promote Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Principles;
- Provided input on the **RMG capital greenspace items** to address security concerns;
- Provided input on the downtown business information packages that were hand delivered in May/June;
- Supported three downtown Oshawa community clean-up events (August 14 and September 18 with a future event scheduled on October 16);
- Provided input and supported the community engagement on community safety in Oshawa's downtown and surrounding area.

5.3 Community Engagement Results

During a six-week period (from May to June 28, 2021), the City called on community members to share their feedback on community safety in Oshawa's downtown and surrounding area.

The feedback form was available on the City's online engagement platform, Connect Oshawa and available on paper by contacting Service Oshawa.

The public consultation was promoted to the community and stakeholders through various mediums, including media materials, social media, as well as print and digital promotional material. In addition, the Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security and Well-Being assisted in the dissemination and promotion of the community engagement initiative.

5.3.1 Response

In total: 959 completed the feedback form (955 online; 4 submitted paper forms):

- Responses were received from all age groups ranging from 18 – 75+ with the majority of responses coming from those aged 25-34 (25%), 35-44 (25%) and 45-64 (20%).
- Responses were received from all wards, with the majority of respondents indicating their household/business/property was located in Ward 4 (44%).
- The majority of respondents learned about the opportunity via social media with a significant portion indicating they were notified by e-mail/e-newsletter.

Attachment 1 is a copy of the community engagement results and Attachment 2 is the proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa's Downtown Area Action Plan, which outlines 37 items and has been recommended by the Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security and Well-Being for endorsement by Council.

5.3.2 Findings

Key findings from the feedback form are noted below.

- 90% of respondents indicated they were either Oshawa residents and/or business/property owners.
- Respondents reported that they have visited the downtown Oshawa area in the past 12 months for leisure, work or business at the following levels of frequency (note: that a number of businesses in the downtown were closed to due to COVID-19 restrictions):
 - 26% - a few times
 - 26% - daily
 - 24% - weekly
 - 13% - monthly
 - 11% - have not visited
- The majority of respondents indicated that they feel the downtown Oshawa area is either unsafe (40%) or very unsafe (18%). This is compared to 24% who indicated safe or very safe. Additionally, 18% of respondents indicated they were undecided.
- When asked to specify why respondents chose either unsafe or very unsafe, the most common response was personal experience.

- The majority of respondents (53%) indicated that they feel crime in the downtown area of Oshawa has increased over the last three years.
- The top three areas of concern selected by respondents were: illegal drugs, disorderly conduct and loitering.

5.4 Proposed Action Plan

The proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa's Downtown Area Action Plan (Attachment 2) recommends 37 action items. The proposed action items have been sorted under five categories: Social Services, Property Owner Support, Health and Safety, Enforcement, and Revitalization / Image. The proposed Action Plan also provides an estimated timeframe in which the work on the action item will begin, identifies who is leading the action item and who is providing support.

It should be noted that the proposed Action Plan is not static and will need to be continually updated as new information is obtained, as circumstances change and as best practices are learned.

5.5 Downtown Initiatives

Mayor Dan Carter, members of City Council and City staff have been speaking and meeting with businesses, residents, social service agencies, and faith-based organizations regarding health and safety concerns in the downtown, as well as the opioid and housing crisis.

As a result of ongoing concerns from Oshawa downtown property owners regarding unlawful activities in the downtown, homelessness, mental health and addictions, as well as the economic development impact directly related to these complex issues, a joint statement from the Regional Chair John Henry and Mayor Dan Carter was made regarding downtown Oshawa. Refer to Attachment 3 for a copy of the statement.

In addition, Mayor Dan Carter, members of City Council and City staff have met and continues to meet individually with property owners to provide support and advocate on their behalf to D.R.P.S. and the Region of Durham.

5.5.1 Property Owners

Some of the actions undertaken by property owners include:

- Proactively reporting criminal activity to D.R.P.S.;
- Installing and registering security cameras with D.R.P.S.;
- Registering for the Downtown Clean Up Program; and,
- Providing authorization under the Trespass to Property Act to D.R.P.S.

In addition, over 50 downtown businesses have joined together and created the Downtown Oshawa Business Alliance to advocate and find solutions by government to address the community health, safety and well-being issues in downtown Oshawa.

5.5.2 Region of Durham

The initiatives that are being advanced by the Region are outlined in the Action items for downtown Oshawa email sent by the Chief Administrative Officer of Durham Region to Durham Region members of Council as per Attachment 10. For more information on the Region of Durham's support, visit the Region of Durham's website at [Downtown Oshawa Support - Region of Durham](#).

5.5.2.1 Senior Staff Task Force

The Regional Municipality of Durham, which is responsible for social services, community housing, public health and police services, established a senior staff Task Force comprising of representatives from Durham Region Social Services, Durham Region Health Department, Durham Regional Police Service, Lakeridge Health, and the City of Oshawa. The Region is chairing/ leading the senior staff Task Force given their areas of jurisdiction.

The senior staff Task Force was established to address concerns from downtown property owners and recognizing that more action is needed to address a growing unsheltered population, increased opioid misuse resulting in death and increased unlawful behaviour. The senior staff Task Force met throughout the summer and continues to meet regularly to address the issues in downtown Oshawa so that everyone feels safe and supported.

Specifically, the senior staff Task Force is reviewing the concentrated support services offered by the Region and community partners, identifying gaps and duplication of services and taking steps to help all involved.

5.5.3 City Initiatives

The City has undertaken numerous actions, some of which include but are not limited to the following.

5.5.3.1 Health and Safety

- In October 2019, Mayor Dan Carter introduced a motion at the Durham Region Health & Social Services Committee, seconded by Regional and City Councillor Bob Chapman advocating for the Provincial and Federal governments to address the opioid crisis in Canada. Refer to Attachment 5 for a copy of the Regional Council direction.
- In June 2021, Mayor Dan Carter, Regional and City Councillor Bob Chapman and City staff met with the Medicine Hat Community Housing Society as they have achieved zero homelessness since work started in 2011. Key points that were discussed are that it is important to understand: a) relationships between service providers and the people receiving services; b) collaboration between service providers is key; and, c) the importance of having a policy for service providers to implement with individuals receiving services as they need to understand that there are expectations that need to be followed.

- On July 30, 2021, Mayor Dan Carter wrote to Dr. Robert Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health at the Region of Durham, advocating that the Health Department and the Province of Ontario modify the harm reduction program due to the health and safety concerns experienced by our community (e.g. used discarded needles found in parks and trails and on downtown private properties). The letter also requested that it be an exchange program as well as investigate changing the types of syringes distributed (e.g. retractable needles) and changing the colour so if discarded, they would be easily identified. Refer to Attachment 6 for a copy of the letter.
- On August 16, 2021, Regional Chair John Henry issued letters to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Erin O'Toole, Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, and Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the New Democratic Party requesting that they visit our downtown as well as recommended three immediate actions: 1) toughen penalties and sentencing for gun and drug-related offences; 2) declare the opioid crisis a national health crisis and significantly increase funding and supports to effectively manage the crisis; and, 3) support municipalities with a post-pandemic community building fund. Refer to Attachment 7 for a copy of the letter.
- On August 20, 2021, Regional Chair John Henry and Mayor Dan Carter issued letters to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health and the Deputy Premier, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General requesting that they visit our downtown as well as recommended two immediate actions: 1) consider alternatives for repeat offenders; and, 2) allocate funding and support to Durham to address root causes of homelessness and address the opioid crisis. Refer to Attachment 8 for a copy of the letter.

5.5.3.2 Enforcement

- On August 23, 2019, a letter was sent to Chief Paul Martin, Durham Regional Police Service from Mayor Dan Carter advising that the safety and health of our community is priority and that unlawful behaviour will not be tolerated and to advocate for their continued commitment to enforcement to eliminate unlawful behaviour. Refer to Attachment 4 for a copy of the letter.
- In September 2020, Mayor Dan Carter met with the Durham Region Police Service Board to advocate for sufficient police funding, increased foot patrols, police presence 24/7 year-round, and continued investment in CCTV cameras.
- In December 2020, a staff Downtown Steering Team comprised of Corporate Security, Municipal Law Enforcement and D.R.P.S. was established and meets bi-weekly to collaboratively address some of the issues occurring in the downtown.
- The Parks By-law was amended to require a permit by individuals/ organizations who are handing out food within the City's parks, greenspaces, boulevards, sidewalks.
- The Highway Vending By-law was amended to prohibit the distribution of items from a vehicle within the road allowance, unless authorized by a permit.

- The City has increased patrol and reallocated staffing of Municipal Law Enforcement to identify and address Property Standards issues and enforce Trespass By-law, Nuisance By-law, Waste By-law, Parks By-law, Highway Vending By-law as well as Traffic and Parking By-law.
- The City's new Corporate Security provider has been assisting in addressing behaviour that is contrary to the City's by-laws. The City's Corporate Security Manager has provided C.P.T.E.D. (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) information to downtown property owners as well as installed 12 security cameras in the downtown to assist D.R.P.S. and Municipal Law Enforcement in addressing unlawful behaviour.
- On September 21, 2021, Mayor Dan Carter met with the Durham Region Police Service Board to advocate:
 - for sufficient police funding for increased foot patrols and police presence 24/7 year-round in the downtown;
 - for the return of the DRAVIS funding and unit to the downtown;
 - that proactive action on open illegal drug sale, use and distribution in the downtown occur;
 - that the mental health unit work with the downtown social service agencies to assist individuals experiencing mental health issues in order for them to be connected to appropriate services; and,
 - that there be increased overnight patrols in the downtown core where the city is experiencing increased criminal activity.

5.5.3.3 Property Owner Support

- The City has increased patrol and reallocation of Parks staff to proactively patrol and clean up the trails and parks including landscape maintenance, removal of garbage and drug paraphernalia as well as address graffiti.
- In April 2021, Mayor Carter and Regional and City Councillor Bob Chapman and City staff hosted a virtual meeting with members of the Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce to provide information on the Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security and Well-Being, community safety and security, when and how to report incidents to either D.R.P.S. or to the City as well as have the opportunity to ask questions.
- In May 2021, over 150 individual face-to-face meetings were completed with downtown business owners that included representation from D.R.P.S., Municipal Law Enforcement and Corporate Security. Information packages were provided that included an introductory letter that gave an update:
 - on the "If you see it, report it!" campaign that encourages the reporting of safety and nuisance concerns in the community to Service Oshawa and D.R.P.S.
 - and a window decal, posters and bookmark was also included to help communicate the campaign

- The letter also advised:
 - that there has been an increase of D.R.P.S. foot patrols dedicated to the downtown
 - how to register their property's CCTV cameras with D.R.P.S. to aid in the event of criminal activity
 - that there has been an increase of Municipal Law Enforcement Officers patrolling parks and trails in the downtown
 - to report used, discarded needles to Service Oshawa
 - to contact John Howard Society for training on how to handle used needles
 - about the formation the Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force and the Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security and Well-Being.
- There has been an increased level of service for sidewalk and road cleaning, it is now taking place every other day Monday to Friday instead of once a week.
- There has been an increased level of service for garbage clean up and reallocation of Operations staff in the downtown to clean up every day on both private and public property the discarded garbage and drug paraphernalia prior to the opening of businesses and organizations. This clean up includes the front of properties and some alleyways. Property owners have been requested to contact Service Oshawa to register for the Downtown Clean Up Program which is expected to continue until winter control operations require staff to redirect their resources elsewhere. To date, over 25 property owners have signed up for the program.
- On August 24, 2021, Mayor Dan Carter issued letters to all the Durham Region mayors for assistance in addressing the health and safety challenges that are being faced in downtown Oshawa. Refer to Attachment 9 for a copy of the letter.
- In September 2021, Mayor Carter and representation from Economic Development Services, Corporate Security, Facilities Management Services, Municipal Law Enforcement and Durham Region Social Services visited the downtown properties located within the new "Plan20Thirty Downtown Action Plan" geographic boundaries. Information letters were hand delivered that provided an update on initiatives and programs to support Oshawa's downtown property owners including the ability to register for the Downtown Clean Up Program as well as advising them on the virtual Downtown Oshawa Stakeholder Virtual Town Hall which will be taking place on Thursday, September 23, 2021.
- There have been two downtown Oshawa community clean-up events (August 14 and September 18) with a future event scheduled on October 16. To date, 50 volunteers participated in these clean-up events.

5.5.3.4 Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force

- In April 2020, Mayor Dan Carter announced the formation of the Mayor's Economic Recovery Task Force to make recommendations to help businesses, during and after the pandemic, including ways to advocate for support from other levels of government.
- Chaired by Regional and City Councillor Tito-Dante Marimpietri, Chair of Oshawa's Development Services Committee, members of the Task Force includes Mayor Dan Carter and representation from many sectors including the development industry, financial sector, employment support sector, post-secondary institutions, business support organizations and real estate, among others.
- The Task Force has worked throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to identify short and long-term priorities to support businesses and advance ongoing recovery efforts through programming and initiatives. Items that support the downtown include:
 - the expedited outdoor patio program and temporary on street pick up zones for takeout and delivery services for businesses;
 - work with various stakeholders to establish creative solutions and ideas for businesses;
 - the Oshawa Loves Local and Buy Local campaign; and,
 - waiving of parking fees.

5.6. Council Direction to Hold a Meeting

At its meeting of June 21, 2021, City Council directed the following regarding issues surrounding properties on Simcoe Street South as outlined in Correspondence CNCL-21-58:

"That Oshawa Enforcement Division organize a meeting of Durham Region Social Services, Durham Regional Police, to hear delegations from affected businesses, residents and concerned citizens for the purpose of solving issues faced by business, residents and concerned citizens."

On September 23, 2021, a Downtown Oshawa Stakeholder Virtual Town Hall will be held online (through Microsoft Teams Live Event) starting at 6:30 p.m. The virtual Town Hall is to be hosted by the Region with presentations made by Durham Region Social Services, Lakeridge Health, D.R.P.S. and the City of Oshawa and is to be moderated by Oshawa's Director, Economic Development.

A number of downtown Oshawa stakeholders were notified through various communication methods including targeted emails from Durham Region and the City of Oshawa, posting on the City's calendar listing and door-to-door distribution of letters within the geographic area approved by Council for the new "Plan20Thirty Downtown Action Plan". In addition, both Regional and City Councils were advised.

Downtown Oshawa Stakeholders were advised that they could participate in the meeting and ask questions, submit questions in advance to be addressed during the meeting or

simply listen to the meeting. The meeting will be recorded for posting on the Region and City websites along with the PowerPoint presentations.

6.0 Financial Implications

The initiatives that have already been advanced are being addressed through existing approved budgets and some are eligible costs for the COVID funding provided by the Province. In addition, the Region agreed to cost share on certain items. The other financial implications of the various items that need to be investigated further in the proposed Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa's Downtown Area Action Plan will be addressed through future budget submissions as part of the City's regular budget planning process or separate reports as appropriate.

7.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

The recommendations in this report respond to the Oshawa Strategic Plan Goals of Accountable Leadership, Economic Prosperity & Financial Stewardship, Social Equity and Cultural Vitality.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Ralph". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and "R".

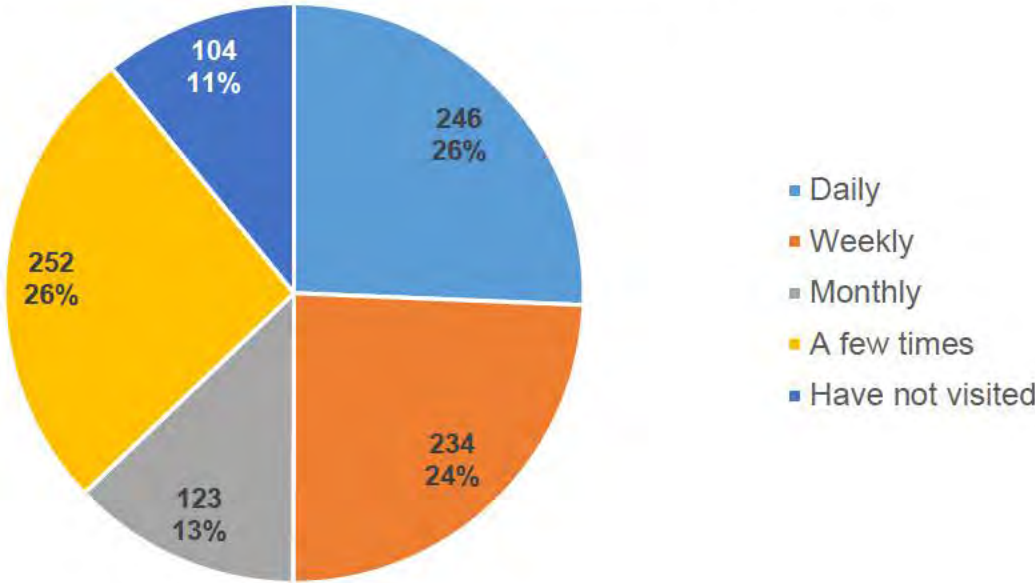
Paul Ralph, Chief Administrative Officer,
Office of the C.A.O.

Attachments

Feedback Form Results

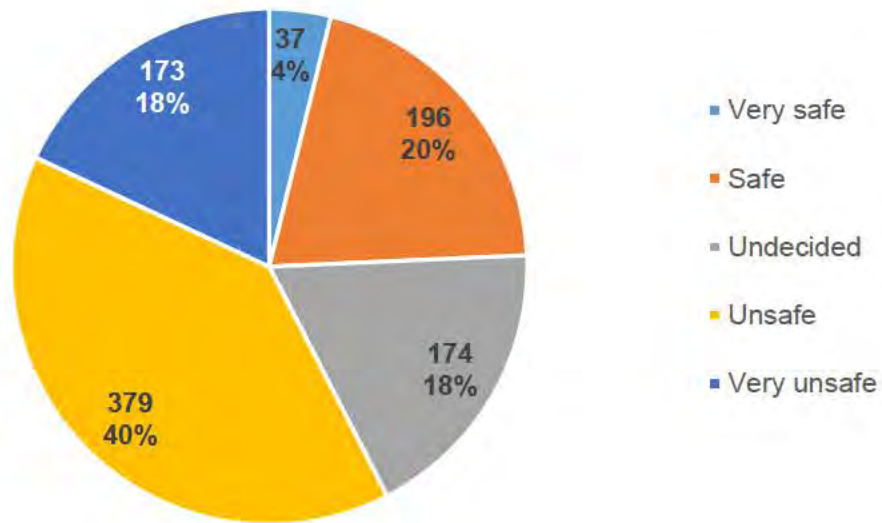
Community Safety in Oshawa's downtown area

In the past 12 months, on average how often did you visit the downtown area of Oshawa for leisure, work or business?



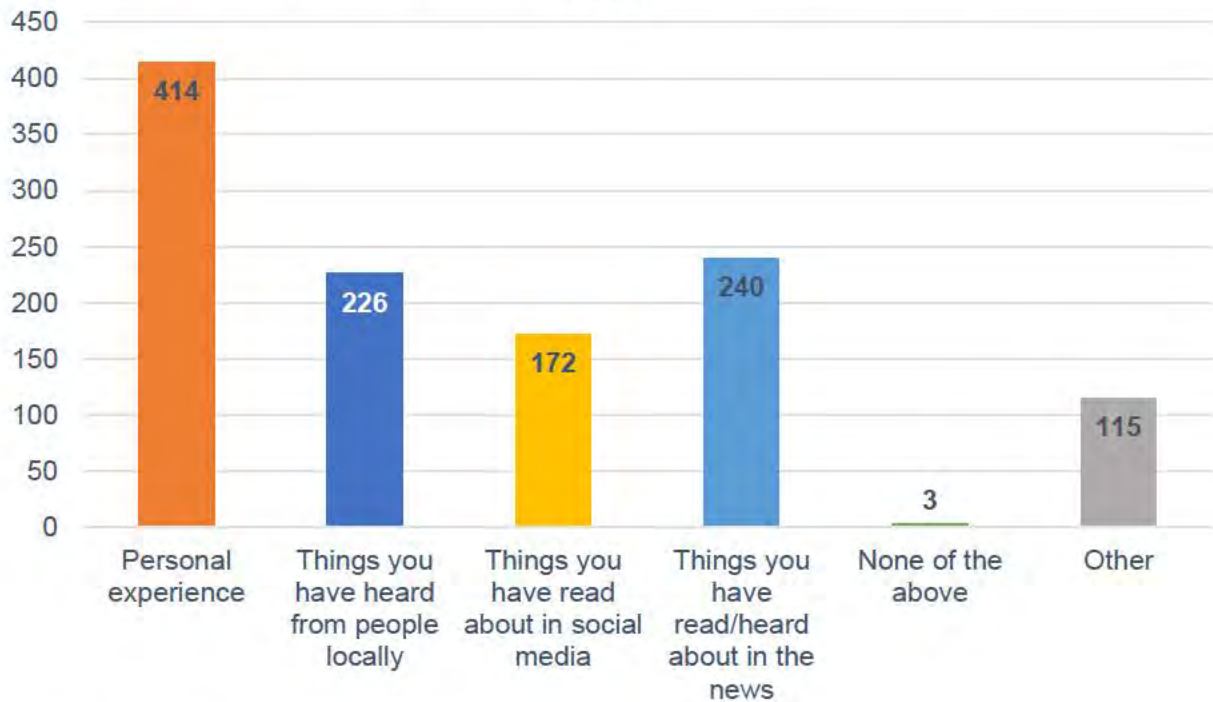
Mandatory question: 959 responses

Overall, how safe or unsafe do you feel the downtown area of Oshawa is?



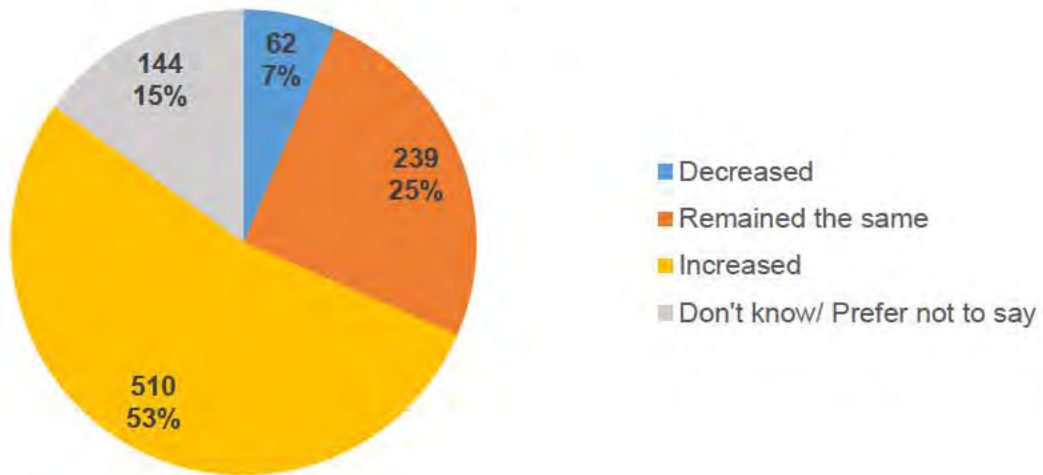
Mandatory question: 959 responses

If you answered "Very unsafe" or "Unsafe", please specify why you feel that the downtown area is not safe. Check all that apply.



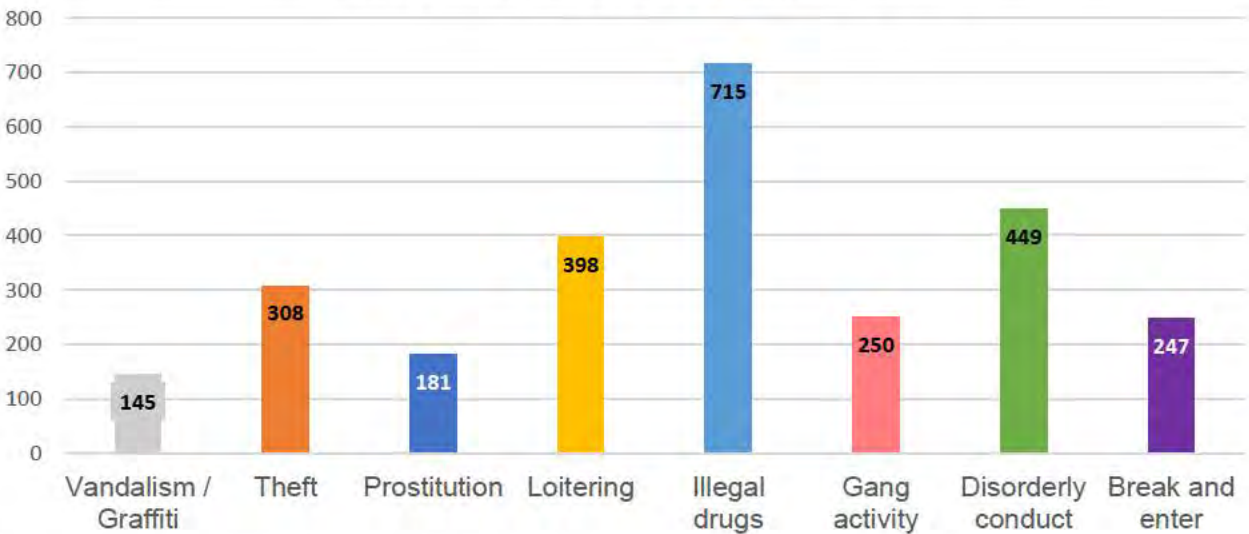
Optional question: 552 responses, 407 skipped

Over the last three years, do you think crime in the downtown area of Oshawa has...



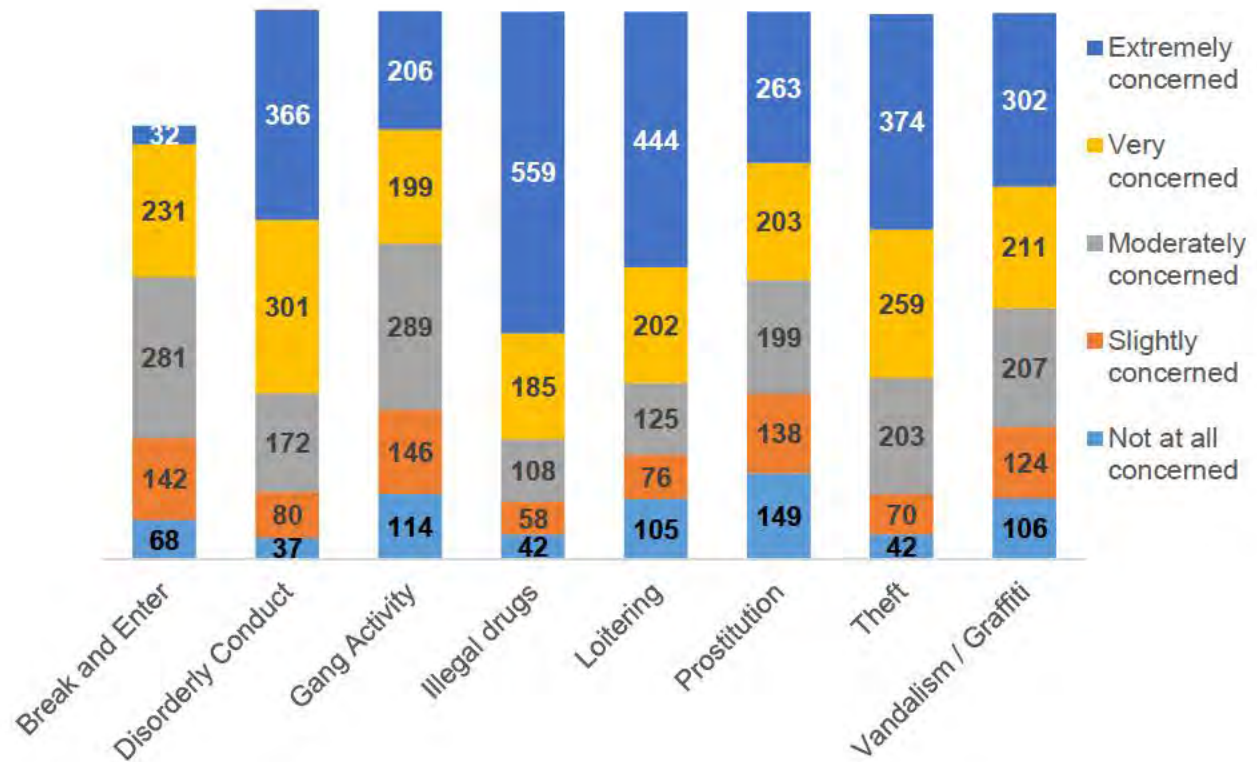
Optional question: 955 responses, 4 skipped

Please select from the following and choose your three main issues of concern in the downtown area.



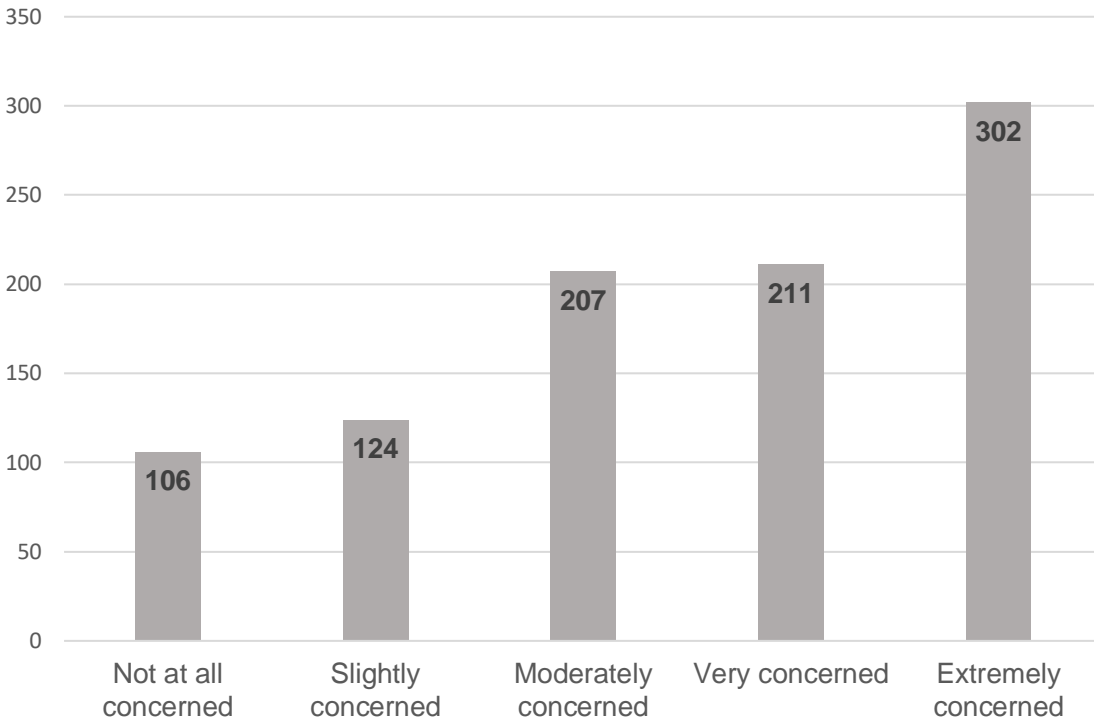
Optional question: 930 responses, 29 skipped

How concerned are you about the following in the downtown area of Oshawa?

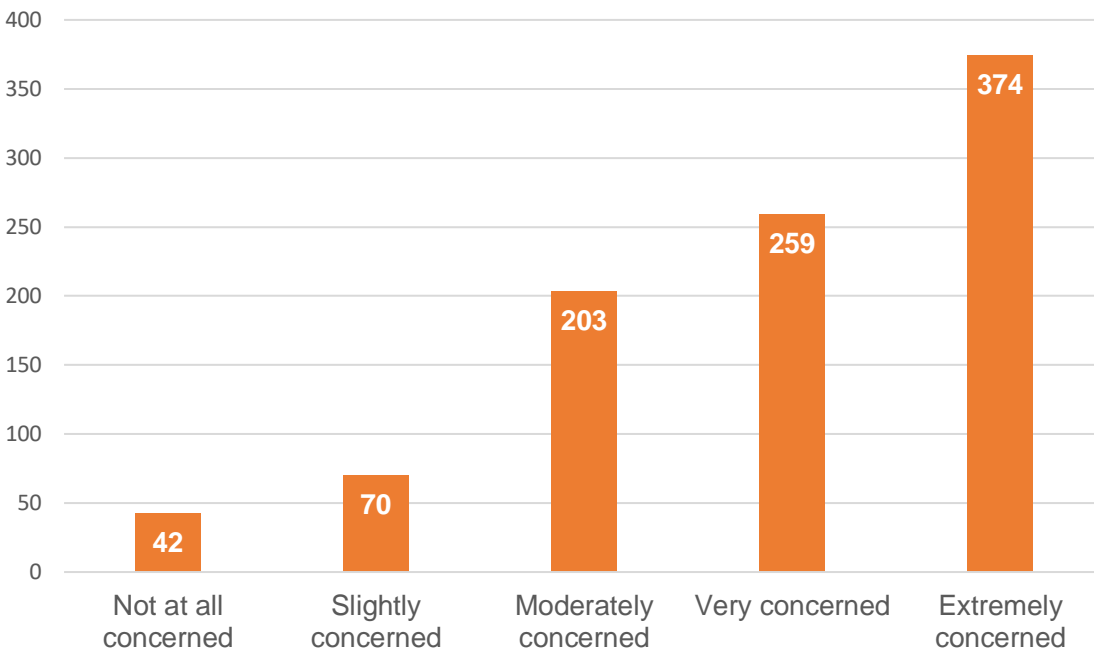


Optional question: 957 responses, 2 skipped

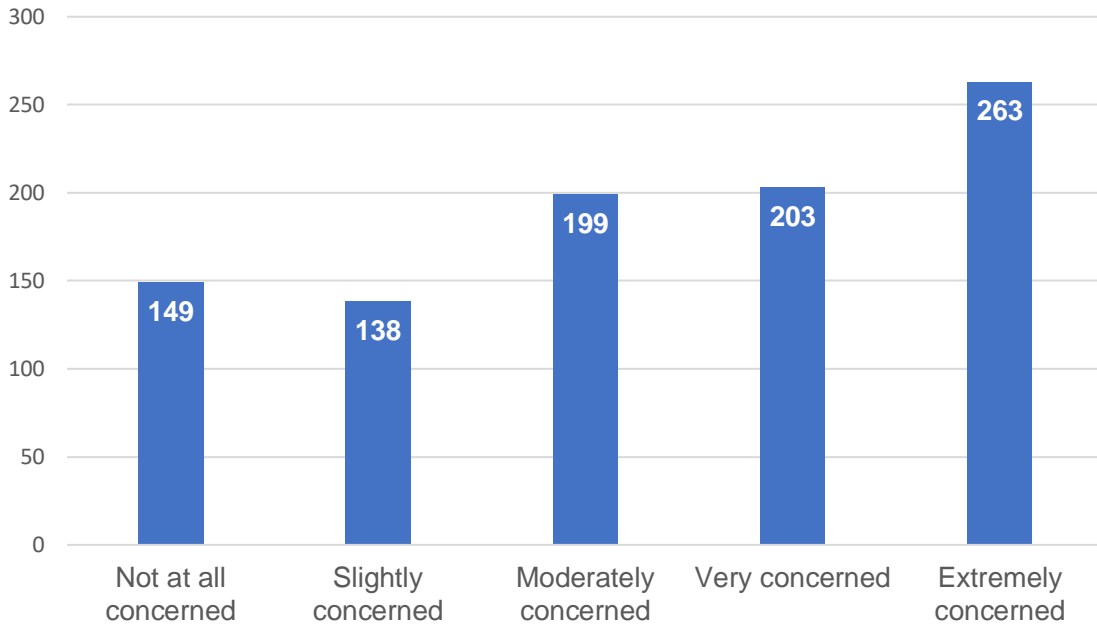
Vandalism / Graffiti



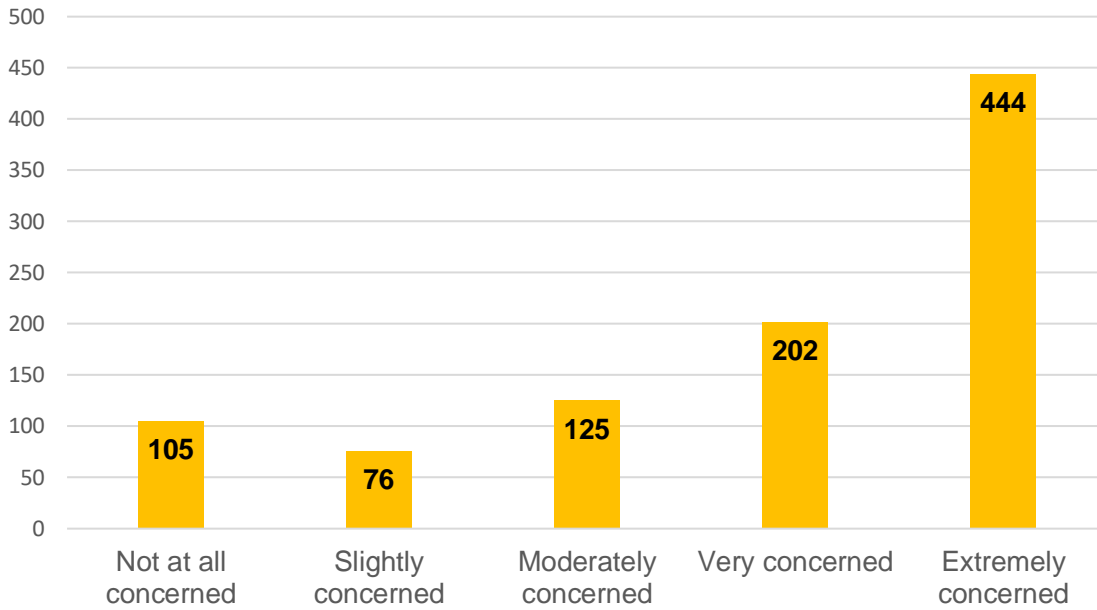
Theft



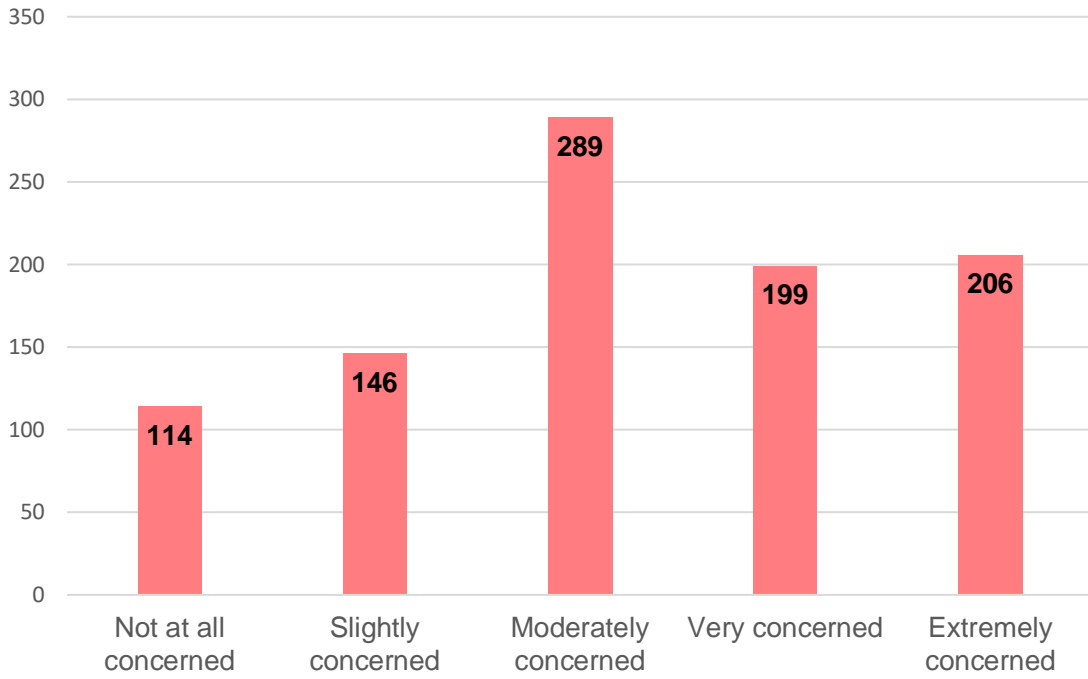
Prostitution



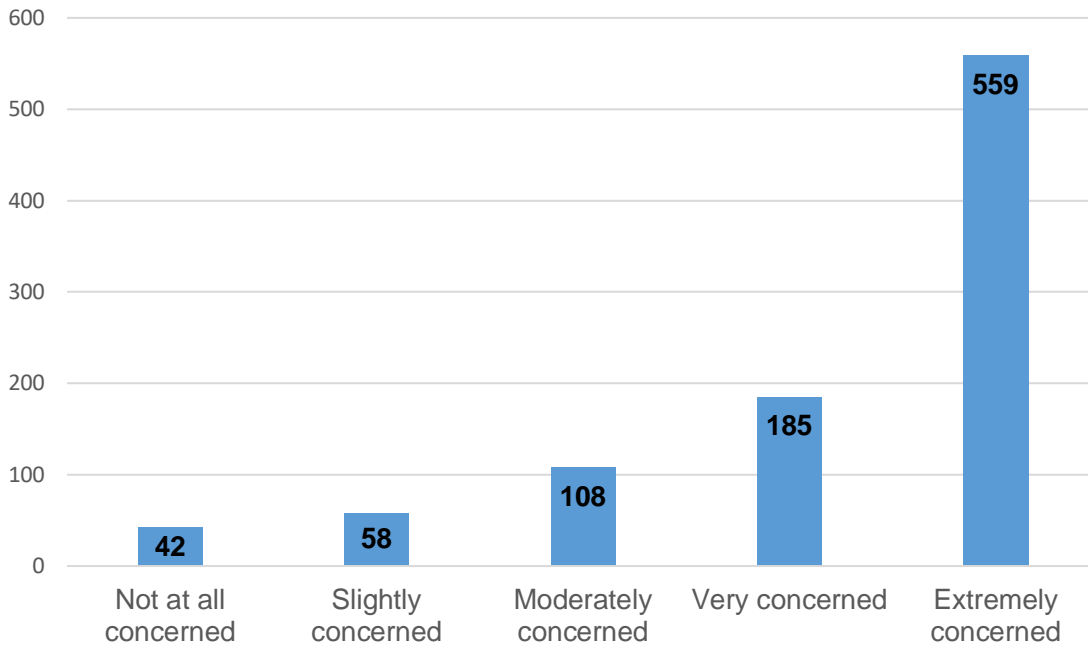
Loitering



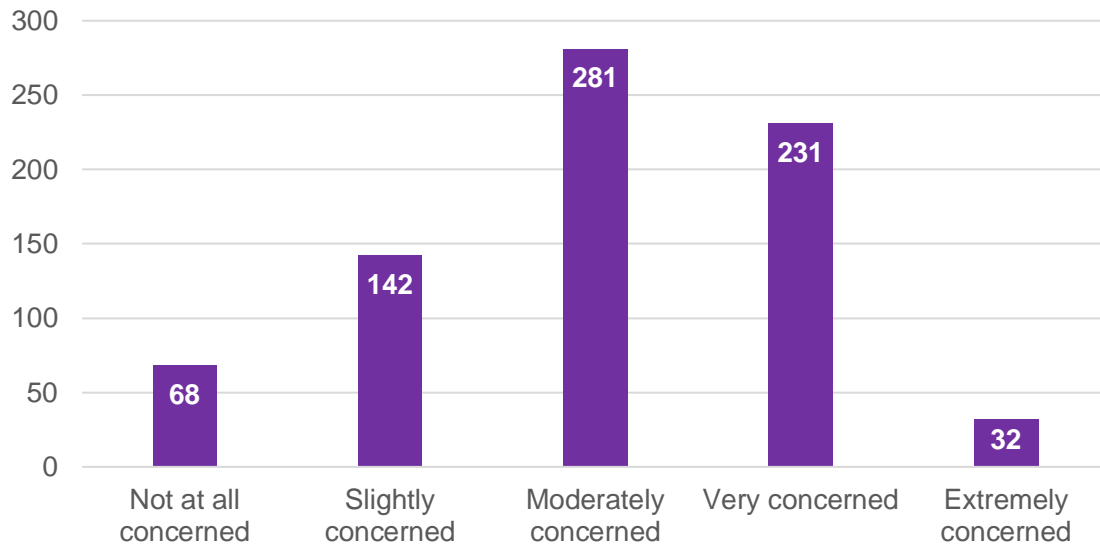
Gang Activity



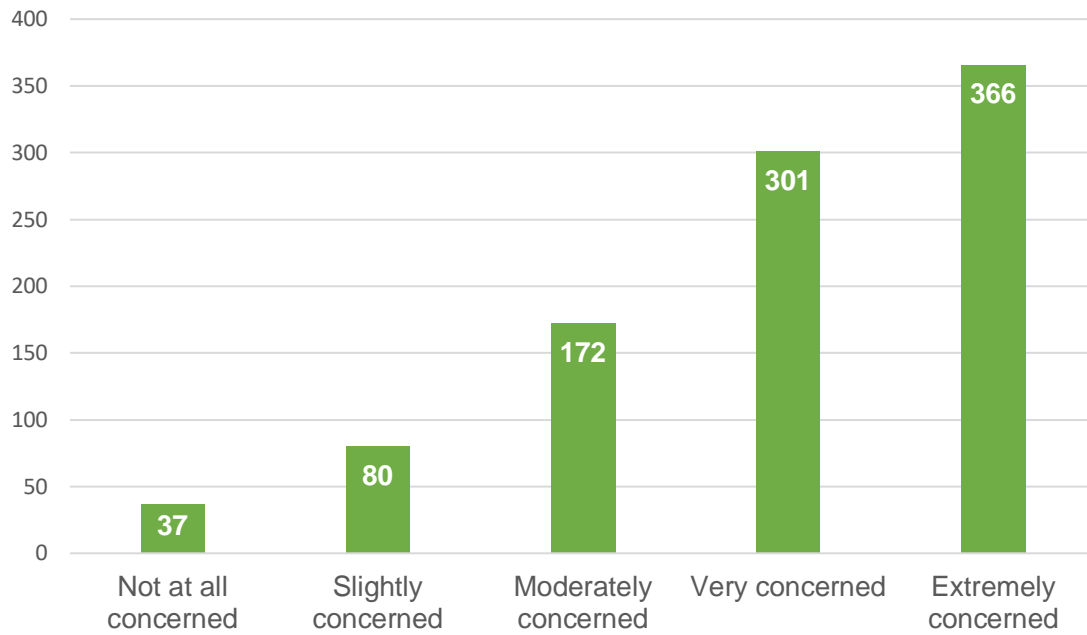
Illegal drugs



Break and Enter

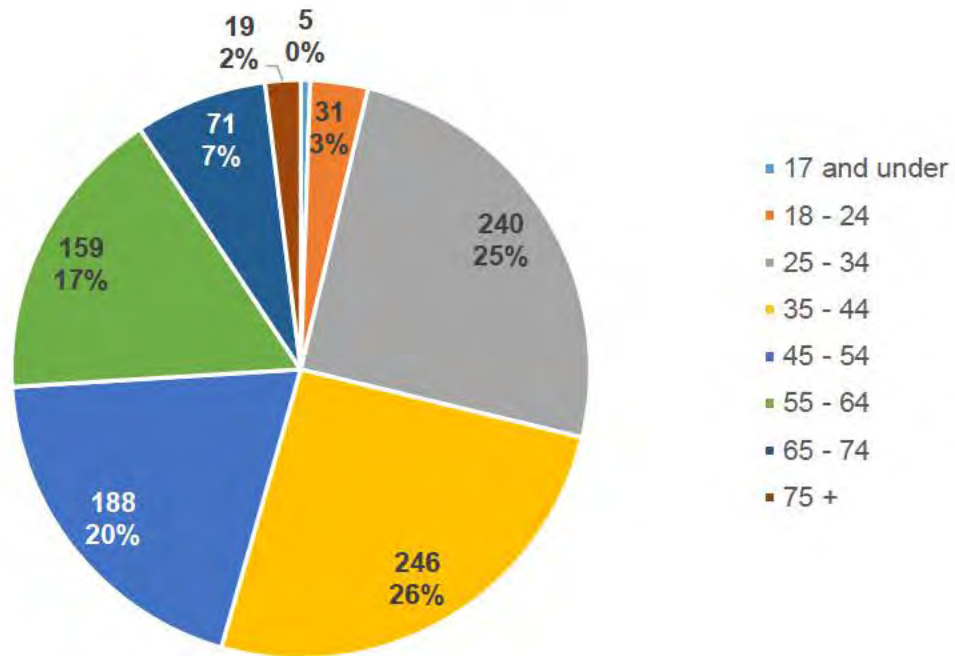


Disorderly Conduct



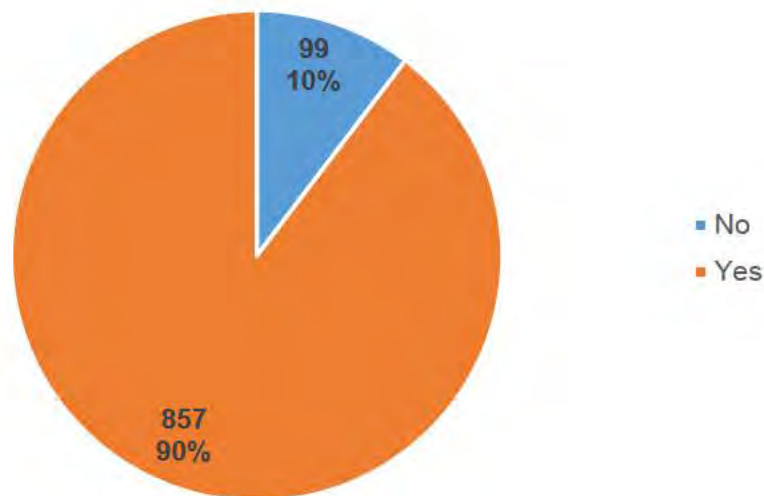
Demographics

How old are you?



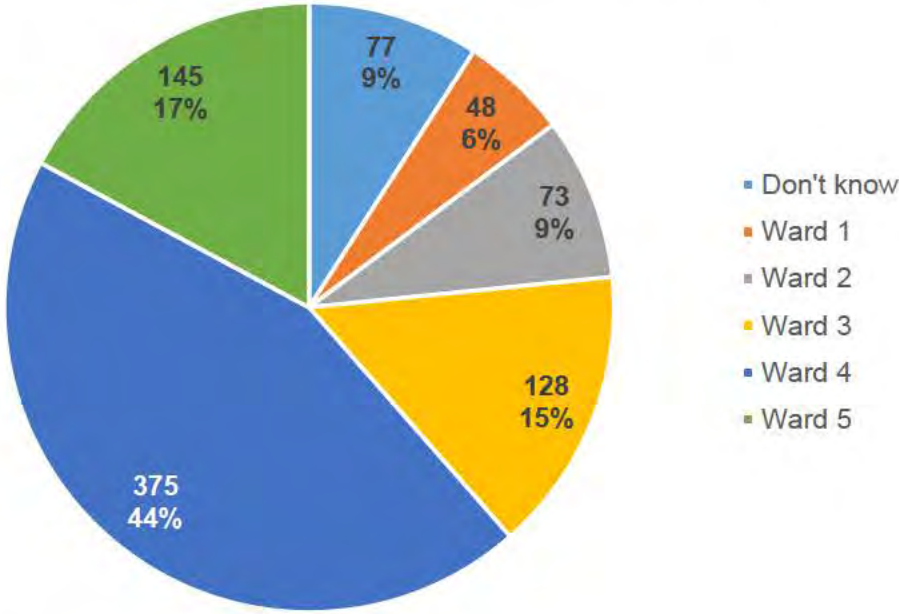
Mandatory question: 959 responses

Are you an Oshawa resident, and / or Oshawa business/property owner?



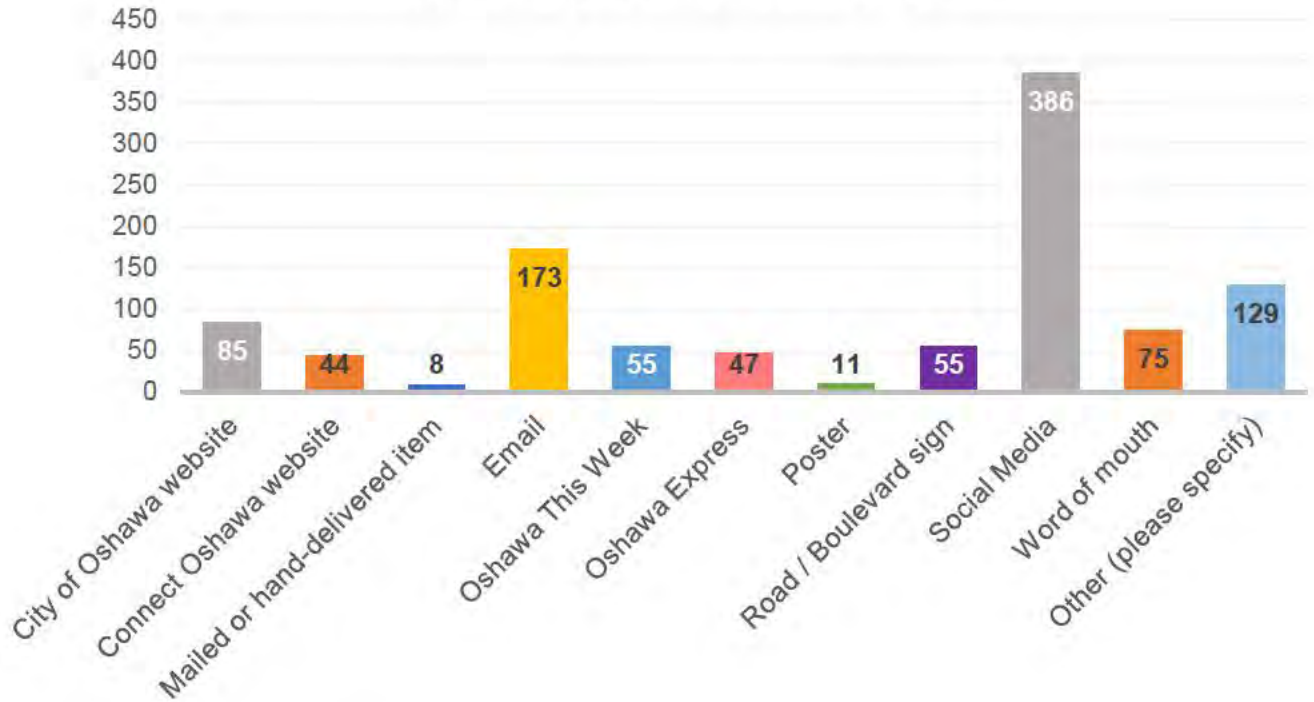
Optional question: 956 responses, 3 skipped

If you answered "Yes" , what ward do you live in/is your business/property located in? Select all that apply.



Optional question: 846 responses, 113 skipped

How did you learn about this community engagement opportunity? Select all that apply.



Optional question: 959 responses

Community Safety, Security and Well-Being in Oshawa's Downtown Area Action Plan

Social Services

| # | Item | Timeframe | Lead | Support |
|---|--|-----------|--------------------------|---|
| 1 | Investigate the support service model to ensure the model is coordinated and effective – and that services are available equitably across the Region of Durham. | Q4 2021 | Region | City/ Community Partners/ GAP Committee |
| 2 | Review support services offered by the Region and community partners to identify service gaps and duplication of services and ensure activities support the Region's goal of ending homelessness by 2024. | Q4 2021 | Region | Community Partners |
| 3 | Investigate a registration and/or regulation of community partners to ensure that they are providing services that supports the Region's goal of ending homelessness. | Q4 2021 | Region | Community Partners |
| 4 | Develop a Community Values and Conduct Agreement for recipients of support services. | Q3 2021 | Region | GAP Committee/ Community Partners |
| 5 | Expand the street outreach team, in addition to the PCOP team, to connect with unsheltered individuals struggling with mental health and addictions with the goal of placing them in supportive housing. | Q3 2021 | Region/ Lakeridge Health | Community Partners |
| 6 | Create a day program with supports due to the increased number of unsheltered individuals struggling with mental health and addictions living on the streets, with a goal of placing them in supportive housing. | Q1 2022 | Region/ Lakeridge Health | Community Partners |
| 7 | Advocate for support from upper levels of government to address the needs (addiction, opioids, mental health, poverty and housing) with continued and increased investment in Direct Service Provision. | On-going | Region | Mayor's Office |
| 8 | Advance a zoning review of social services establishments along the gateways to the downtown. | Q1 2022 | Planning Services | |

Property Owner Support

| # | Item | Timeframe | Lead | Support |
|----|---|-----------|-------------------------------|--|
| 9 | Investigate the establishment of Property Value Protection to address increased operating costs (e.g. CPTED items), decreased revenue and loss of rental income resulting from the increased number of social service organizations and individuals with addiction and mental health issues and associated negative impact to the community (e.g. unlawful and criminal behaviour). | Q4 2021 | Finance Services | Region |
| 10 | Investigate the establishment of a Vandalism Cleanup Support Grant Program for businesses within the downtown boundaries that have been directly affected by such matters as vandalism and graffiti. | Q4 2021 | Finance Services | Oshawa Chamber of Commerce/ Downtown Businesses |
| 11 | Attract new and support existing businesses through financial incentives and business outreach (e.g. CIP incentives). | On-going | Development Services | Planning Services/ Region/ Downtown Businesses |
| 12 | Develop "Plan20Thirty Downtown Action Plan" for Council's endorsement. | Q4 2021 | Economic Development Services | All |

Health and Safety

| # | Item | Timeframe | Lead | Support |
|----|---|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 13 | Advocate to the Region and Province the modification of the Project X-Change needle exchange program due to the thousands of discarded used needles found in Oshawa parks, trails and on downtown businesses and residential properties which is a public health and safety issue for all. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify the colour so that discarded needles are more easily found • Distribute retractable needles That neither the Region or City provide any financial support to any agency dispersing needles unless they institute a firm one for one needle exchange policy. | Q3 2021 | Mayor's Office | Region |
| 14 | Investigate the creation of a Downtown Staff Response Team to provide support to the residents and businesses to address issues as such as discarded waste, used needles, by-law issues after regular business hours. | Q4 2021 | Operation Services | Corporate Services |

| # | Item | Timeframe | Lead | Support |
|----|---|-----------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 15 | Increase waste collection service levels to patrol/ pick up garbage, human waste and used needles daily from August until November 30 on public and private properties. | Q3 2021 | Operation Services | Region to cost share |
| 16 | Request that the Region investigate the provision, maintenance and staffing of a portable sanitation services/washrooms and hand washing stations located in the downtown to address the urination and defecation on public and private property (e.g. trailer versus porta-potty). | Q3 2021 | Region | |
| 17 | Advance the discussions regarding relocation of the downtown methadone clinic with the owner. | Q4 2021 | Development Services | |
| 18 | Increase the daily maintenance in the downtown by providing increased sidewalk and road cleaning and trail patrol to address used needles, garbage, and graffiti. | Q3 2021 | Operation Services | |
| 19 | Investigate the possibility of increasing the illumination of lights in downtown and on trails to enhance public safety. | Q4 2021 | Corporate Services | Community Services/ OPUC |

Enforcement

| # | Item | Timeframe | Lead | Support |
|----|--|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| 20 | Meet with D.R.P.S. Police Board, as a follow up to the Mayor's September 2020 meeting, requesting that they request that the Province return the DRAVIS funding to address drug related crimes in the downtown and support their vision of the safest community for people to live, work and play. | Q3 2021 | Mayor's Office/ D.R.P.S. Police Board | |
| 21 | Request that the D.R.P.S. 2022 budget includes a dedicated, consistent presence in the downtown as public safety is of the utmost importance and to support their vision of the safest community for people to live, work and play. | Q3 2021 | Mayor's Office/ D.R.P.S. Police Board | Region |
| 22 | Request that D.R.P.S. has an increased response for all criminal behaviour. | Q3 2021 | Mayor's Office/ D.R.P.S. Police Board | Downtown Stakeholders |
| 23 | Investigate a higher-level response from D.R.P.S. for those experiencing mental health and addiction issues (e.g. D.R.P.S. Mental Health Unit). | Q3 2021 | D.R.P.S. Police Board | Lakeridge Health |
| 24 | Request proactive patrolling by D.R.P.S. Mental Health Unit in downtown to assist individuals experiencing mental health and addiction issues will be connected to appropriate services. | Q3 2021 | Mayor's Office/ D.R.P.S. Police Board | Lakeridge Health |

| # | Item | Timeframe | Lead | Support |
|----------|--|------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 25 | Investigate the development of a property beautification by-law that would address property standards and lot maintenance, and have a shorter service level timeline. | 2022 | Municipal Law Enforcement | Legal Services |
| 26 | Report on the inclusion of tiered and escalating Administrative Monetary Penalties in the Lot Maintenance By-law 127-2007, Boulevard By-law 136-2006, and Waste Collection By-law 113-2008 to address repeat offences. | Q4 2021 | Municipal Law Enforcement | Legal Services/ I.T. Services |
| 27 | Investigate the establishment of a vacant buildings registry to track vacant buildings as they can affect the character of a neighbourhood and can have a negative effect on property values, and detract from future investments. | 2022 | Municipal Law Enforcement | Legal Services |
| 28 | Increase Municipal Law Enforcement staffing on weekends dedicated to the downtown to provide a consistent presence in the downtown to enforce municipal by-laws including properties with property standards and lot maintenance infractions. | Q2 2021 | Municipal Law Enforcement | |
| 29 | Increase Corporate Security foot patrol to ensure a consistent presence in the downtown. | Q2 2021 | Facilities Management Services | |
| 30 | Conduct proactive enforcement of lodging homes to ensure compliance with by-law. | Q4 2021 | Municipal Law Enforcement/ Fire Services | Region |
| 31 | Investigate establishing a new by-law that retail stores must submit a management plan for retrieval and return of abandoned shopping carts found outside their property boundaries to address the number of discarded shopping carts found throughout the city. | Q4 2021 | Municipal Law Enforcement | Legal Services |

Revitalization/ Image

| # | Item | Timeframe | Lead | Support |
|----------|--|------------------|------------------------|---|
| 32 | Investigate the distribution of bags (including a tag that provides information on social services supports) to reduce the use of shopping carts beyond retail establishments. | 2022 | Oshawa C.A.O.'s Office | Region/ Community Partners |
| 33 | Investigate the establishment of additional lockers. | 2022 | Oshawa C.A.O.'s Office | Region/ Community Partners/ Downtown Stakeholders |

| # | Item | Timeframe | Lead | Support |
|----|---|-----------|---|-------------------------------|
| 34 | Investigate the use of the Municipal Accommodation Tax to provide funding to enhance the downtown streetscape and maintenance to support tourism. | Q4 2021 | Finance Services | |
| 35 | Investigate increasing the revitalization of the downtown landscape, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place flower planters along the southern gateway • More murals • Widening of sidewalks • Replacement of furniture | 2022 | Community Services/ Engineering Services | Downtown Stakeholders |
| 36 | Investigate the number of public special events and activities to be held in the downtown to support the revitalization of the downtown. | Q3 2021 | Community Services | Economic Development Services |
| 37 | Revitalize downtown Oshawa image through a Downtown Oshawa web section, Instagram account and Twitter profile. Promote downtown public events and enhancements, including other business events on these channels. Promote downtown Oshawa as a positive, vibrant, and inclusive place. | Q1 2022 | Economic Development Services | Region/ Downtown Stakeholders |



The Regional Municipality of Durham

News Release

August 23, 2021

Joint statement from Regional Chair John Henry and Oshawa Mayor Dan Carter on downtown Oshawa

Whitby, Ontario – The following statement is being issued on behalf of John Henry, Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer, and Oshawa Mayor Dan Carter:

“Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, many cities and towns have witnessed an increase of mental health challenges, addictions and housing needs among residents, while local businesses also face additional unprecedented challenges. In Durham Region, these issues are particularly prevalent in the City of Oshawa.

We have acknowledged concerns from residents, Oshawa downtown businesses, organizations and visitors regarding concerning activities in the downtown, homelessness, mental health and addictions, as well as economic development concerns directly related to these complex issues, and that more action is needed. The Regional Municipality of Durham—which is responsible for social services, community housing, public health and police services—is partnering with the City of Oshawa to address these complex social issues.

We are working diligently to ensure all residents feel safe and supported and have convened a senior staff Task Force to address the immediate issues happening in downtown Oshawa. This Task Force consists of representatives from Durham Region Social Services, Durham Region Health Department, Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS), Lakeridge Health and the City of Oshawa.

The Task Force is currently reviewing the concentrated support services offered by the Region and community partners; identifying gaps and duplication of services and taking steps to help all involved. As a first step, we are creating a Community Code of Conduct for recipients of support services and developing a Street Outreach and Encampment Strategy for Durham Region.

Other immediate actions include:

- Prioritizing street, park and private property clean up.
- Working closely with Lakeridge Health on addiction and treatment services through a street outreach team.
- Developing an updated local opioid response plan, including reviewing needle distribution.

durham.ca



If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact 905-441-2644.

- Continuing DRPS proactive presence.
- Proactive enforcement of property standards by-laws.
- Working with community agencies to reinforce our commitment to being a housing-focused community by expanding housing first initiatives.
- Supporting the City of Oshawa's work with businesses and residents.
- Regular updates on our collective actions taken to end chronic homelessness in Durham by 2024.
- Reviewing support services offered by the Region and community partners to identify service gaps.

The City and the Region have been addressing these unique challenges, including allocating funding, resources and staffing. The City and the Region have met and continue to meet individually with residents and businesses to provide support and advocate on their behalf regarding their health and safety concerns.

Planning is underway at the City to develop a [revitalization strategy for downtown Oshawa](#) and to continue expanding public art and civic pride initiatives. The Region plans to open the [Oshawa Micro-Homes Pilot Project](#) and complete its [Community Safety and Well-Being Plan](#) to address priority risk factors with strategies and measurable outcomes.

In addition, the Mayor's Task Force on Community Safety, Security and Well-Being was formed to identify and propose opportunities to address community safety, security and well-being issues facing the City of Oshawa.

These initiatives will build on the work that the Region is already doing to support people experiencing homelessness. This year, we have helped create more than 100 new housing opportunities for our By-Name List and are on track to exceed that amount in the coming year. In addition, the Primary Care Outreach Program (PCOP) provides ongoing medical help and mental health counselling to more than 440 clients across the region annually.

The Region works alongside municipalities, the province and the federal government to ensure that Durham Region continues to grow, and our residents and businesses continue to thrive. As such, the Region and the City are engaging provincial and federal representatives to help advocate for additional support because these complex issues cannot be addressed by municipalities alone—we need strong partners.

The Region and the City have called on all federal party leaders and Durham Region candidates this federal election; the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Bill Blair; the Premier; and provincial representatives to tour downtown Oshawa. The purpose of the tour is to gain a better understanding of the complexity of homelessness, mental health and addiction and the impact on our community. The Region and the City of Oshawa have offered to co-ordinate the tours in September and work together on constructive solutions, as this cannot be solved without support and direction from our federal and provincial partners.

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If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact 905-441-2644.

We are a Region that stands with all of our communities when faced with challenges. We will ensure our communities are healthy, safe and happy for all.”

– 30 –

Media inquiries:

The Regional Municipality of Durham:

Corporate Communications

905-441-2644 or CorporateCommunications@durham.ca

City of Oshawa:

Corporate Communications

905-436-5686 or communications@oshawa.ca

Quick Facts

- [The Regional Municipality of Durham's Social Services Department](#) has six divisions committed to delivering professional and high-quality services. Many residents will need one or more of these services at some point in their life. Our department's principles of care, excellence, learning and leadership are the foundation of our programs and services.
- Durham's [Homelessness Support & Coordinated Access System](#) is a collective of organizations and support services that work together to help address and eliminate barriers to access safe and affordable housing. The Coordinated Access System helps people experiencing homelessness to access services based on their individualized needs; the alternative is helping on a first-come, first-served basis, which means those able to better navigate the support system get help first, not necessarily those who need it most.
- The Region's By-Name List is a list of people, by name, who are experiencing homelessness in Durham. This list provides access to real-time data to help better address peoples' needs and track milestones on the journey to ending homelessness. The By-Name List was created as part of the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness's Built for Zero Canada campaign, which is a nation-wide effort to end chronic homelessness.
- Shelters in Durham region are housing-focused, which means they are focused on helping people move from homelessness to housing as quickly as possibly by supporting people with their housing plans.
- Durham Region's [Master Housing Strategy](#) aims to improve affordability and access to housing, while highlighting priorities in [At Home in Durham, the Durham Housing Plan 2014-2024](#). Priorities include affordable rent, greater housing choice, strong and vibrant neighbourhoods and ending chronic homelessness.

durham.ca

If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact 905-441-2644.

- Durham Region helped create more than 100 new housing opportunities in 2021 for our By-Name List by expanding successful models and adding new Housing-First Teams across Durham, developing new spaces from capital projects targeted to support Durham's Coordinated Access System, and launching the Landlord Engagement pilot to increase partnerships and support for landlords renting to clients from Durham's By-Name List.
- From January to May 2021, the Region's services and supports helped 577 people with eviction prevention and helped 556 people find housing.
- Durham Region received \$10.3 million in funding through the Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI) – Cities Stream to create an estimated 41 new affordable homes for individuals and families. These housing units will support Canadians who are in uncertain housing situations, experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, or living in temporary shelters because of the pandemic.



OSHAWA
ONTARIO, CANADA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF OSHAWA
50 CENTRE STREET SOUTH
OSHAWA, ONTARIO
L1H 3Z7
TELEPHONE (905) 436-5611
FAX (905) 436-5642
E-MAIL: mayor@oshawa.ca

MAYOR DAN CARTER

Friday, August 23, 2019

Chief Paul Martin
Durham Regional Police Service
P.O. Box 911
605 Rossland Rd. E
Whitby, ON L1N 0B8

Dear Chief Martin:

I would like to thank you for meeting with me this morning to discuss very important issues concerning our community. This letter confirms the key items that we discussed as well as clarifies my expectations with respect to addressing unlawful behaviour in our great city.

As you know, Oshawa like many other cities across Canada is facing a health crisis being caused by issues related to poverty, mental health, addictions and unsheltered individuals in our community. This has resulted in an increase in unsheltered people in our community, many of who are living in rough conditions and are struggling with complex addiction and mental health issues.

The City of Oshawa has been impacted by this national crisis more than any other community across the Region. The latest Point-in-Time Count estimates that there are approximately 291 unsheltered individuals in Durham Region, with Oshawa being home to 77% of those individuals. They are living in our city parks, trails and green spaces, as well as on private property without consent.

While the City is taking steps to help connect individuals in need in our community with services and shelter, we must also address the growing number of negative impacts of individuals on City land and private property without consent, including the negative impacts of theft and other resultant impacts on neighbouring residents and their properties.

Chief Martin, it is important that I confirm my position on this subject matter, as the Head of Council and the Mayor of the City of Oshawa. The safety and health of our community is one of our top priorities and we cannot tolerate any unlawful behaviour. The City and DRPS continue to receive complaints about property thefts and vandalism, discarded used needles, littering, public urination and defecation and belligerent behaviour throughout our community. These calls are not only growing in frequency and number, but these behaviours are also becoming more aggressive, to the point that our City staff are being threatened and in many cases need to work “shoulder-to-shoulder” with your officers in the field.

This is a serious community safety issue that requires diligence. We ask for the continued commitment to enforcement and addressing this unlawful behaviour and we welcome any ideas or concepts that may be able to help us address this issue.

As we continue to advocate at all levels of government for a solution to this national health crisis, I would like to make it clear that at no time do we support or accept individuals breaking the laws or by-laws in our community. The safety of all our community members is of the utmost importance. I ask that you share this communication with all 850 members of Durham Regional Police Services to ensure that they know my position and they have my support.

We thank you and your team for the work that you do in our city, specifically recognize the outstanding professionalism, skill and leadership displayed by John Parkinson, Tom Melnick and Dave Saliba at 17 division. The working relationship we have shared with the three leaders has been very positive and collaborative. We look forward to a continued, collaborative working relationship as we move forward.

Sincerely,



Dan Carter
Mayor of the City of Oshawa

Copy:

Kevin Ashe, Durham Regional Police Services Board
Colin Goodwin, Durham Regional Police Association President
Oshawa City Council
Paul Ralph, City Manager
Regional Chairman and Chief Executive Officer John Henry
Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, President of the Treasury Board
Hon. Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance
Mr. Lorne Coe, MPP for Whitby

Ms. Lindsey Park, MPP for Durham
Ms. Jennifer French, MPP for Oshawa
Mr. Mark Holland, MP for Ajax
Mr. Erin O'Toole, MP for Durham
Dr. Colin Carrie, MP for Oshawa
Ms. Jennifer O'Connell, MP for Pickering, Uxbridge
Ms. Celina Caesar-Chavannes, MP for Whitby
Media

Regional Council Direction

WHEREAS the opioid overdose emergency is affecting communities across Ontario, including Durham Region; and

WHEREAS the prevalence of addiction and the incidence of emergency department visits and deaths associated with opioid use disorder have increased in recent years; and

WHEREAS addiction to prescription and illegal opioids is negatively affecting individuals, families and entire communities; and

WHEREAS on September 12, 2019, the Government of Ontario announced its plan to establish the Mental Health and Addictions Division (MHAD) under the leadership of Karen Glass, Assistant Deputy Ministry; and

WHEREAS the MHAD will lead the development and implementation of Ontario's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy; and

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario will be consulting key stakeholders and the public on modernizing public health and land ambulance services; and

WHEREAS public health programs and services demonstrate superior value for money and return on investment; and

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has identified a need for federal and provincial strategies that are comprehensive, coordinated and address the root causes of the opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS FCM has recommended an intergovernmental action plan that aligns federal, provincial/territorial and local strategies, responds to specific needs of indigenous communities and rapidly expand all aspects of the collective response; and

WHEREAS FCM has echoed the recommendations of the Mayor's Task Force on the Opioid Crisis; and

WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) has identified the following recommendations for a provincial response to addressing the opioid overdose emergency in Ontario:

- i. That the Province publicly affirms the seriousness of the opioid overdose emergency and commit to take all necessary measures to save lives and prevent harm, including the provision of long-term funding for existing programs as well as new funding streams, where necessary.
- ii. That the Province undertakes an 'all of government' effort to develop a comprehensive provincial drug strategy that addresses the opioid overdose emergency, based on a public health approach that addresses the social determinants of health, and that takes a non-discriminatory approach to overdose prevention and harm reduction. This strategy should cascade down to guide local

- drug strategy development and implementation with accompanying resources so that municipalities in Ontario have comprehensive, multi-faceted, funded drug strategies in place led by dedicated local coordinators. Further, progress toward implementation should be measured with performance indicators and be evaluated for outcomes achieved.
- iii. That the Province examines, and its ministries provide, a coordinated 'all of government' response with adequate funding to address the root causes of addiction, including housing related factors, poverty, unemployment, mental illness, and trauma.
 - iv. That the Ministry of Health provides more funding to support, enhance and expand evidence-based consumption, treatment and rehabilitation services, addiction prevention and education, and harm reduction measures in all areas of Ontario.
 - v. That the Ministry of Health targets funding for addiction and mental health services that would assist in treating people with mental illness to reduce and/or eliminate self-medication and would provide services to help people overcome their addiction.
 - vi. That the Ministry of the Solicitor General provides enhanced funding to enforce laws surrounding illicit drug supply, production, and distribution.
 - vii. That the Province enhances funding for diversion programs, mobile crisis intervention teams, and further promote harm reduction approaches among police services.
 - viii. That the Ministry of Health examines community paramedicine as a viable option to provide treatment and referral services.
 - ix. That the Ministry of Health funds a public education campaign, including on social media, to complement the efforts of individual communities.
 - x. That the provincial coordinator work with the Ministry of Education to add a health promoting youth-resiliency program to the school curriculum that includes coping skills to get through obstacles in life, e.g. social competence, conflict resolution, healthy relationships, and informed decision-making.
 - xi. That the Ministry of Health fully funds (100%) Naloxone for all municipal first responders (paramedics, police, and fire services) and provide training in its use.
 - xii. That the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services work together with municipal human service system managers to better link social service and health supports including to help people overcome addiction and address mental health.
 - xiii. That the Ministry of Health works toward a goal of establishing and maintaining 30,000 supportive housing units in the province.
 - xiv. That the Province advocates to the federal government for appropriate and supportive measures that will support effective provincial and local responses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Health & Social Services Committee recommends to Regional Council:

- A) That the Government of Canada and Ontario recognize, acknowledge and declare a national health epidemic in respect to the opioid overdose emergency across Canada;
- B) That AMO's recommendations with respect to Ontario's opioid overdose emergency be endorsed;
- C) That the Government of Ontario be urged to continue funding the important work of public health units to help address the current opioid crisis;

- D) That the Government of Canada and Ontario be advised that the opioid emergency is not limited to major urban centres and that federal and provincial representatives work directly with the Region of Durham, to develop and fund a full-suite of prevention and addiction services, affordable social and supportive housing to address the crisis in our communities; and,
- E) That the Prime Minister of Canada; Ministers of Health and Children, Families and Social Development, and Minister Responsible for the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Durham's MPs, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, Premier of Ontario, Deputy Premier & Minister of Health, Ministers of Children, Community and Social Services, Finance, and Municipal Affairs and Housing, Durham's MPPs, Chief Medical Officer of Health, AMO, alPHa, FCM, all local municipalities, and all Ontario boards of health be so advised.



OSHAWA
ONTARIO, CANADA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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MAYOR DAN CARTER

July 30, 2021

Dr. Robert Kyle
Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health at The Regional Municipality of
Durham
605 Rossland Road East
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3

Dr. Robert Kyle,

I am writing to address a health concern that continues to grow within the city of Oshawa as we deal with the complexities of our homeless population. We are seeing an increase in those who are suffering, both with addiction and mental health.

Working with our Regional social services department and the city, we have tried to find ways of addressing the complexities of today's unsheltered population, including housing, Ontario Works, ODSP, transit, healthcare and addiction and mental health supports.

I understand that the harm reduction program implemented by the Province of Ontario provides funding and resources through our regional health department to agencies within Oshawa and Durham Region. My understanding was the harm reduction program was to be an exchange program. Unfortunately, Oshawa has estimated through its service agencies that there could be as many as 600,000 harm reduction kits distributed in the city.

We also understand, based on data, that approximately 20% of the needles are not returned either to the yellow kiosks the city has in the community or the drop boxes provided by our agency partners, creating a health hazard for our community. City staff, and residents, continually find discarded syringes on the streets, in the parks, on our trails and on private property.

I ask at this time that our health department works with the Province of Ontario on the harm reduction strategy to find better ways of managing this program through an exchange program. As well investigate changing the type of syringes distributed, including retractable needles and changing the colour so if discarded can be identified.

We understand the complexities of today's mental health and addiction issues that we are facing not only here in Oshawa but across the region of Durham, Ontario and throughout Canada. The latest statistics indicate that we will have the highest rate of deaths related to opiate overdoses in Canada in 2021.

I am asking the province to take appropriate steps to address the distribution of harm reduction kits and allocate the required resources to address the complexities associated with the opiate crisis.

As I indicated earlier, I believe that the harm reduction kits play a role in cutting down the spread of disease. But we must find a way of protecting all individuals.

I look forward to continuing the dialogue, and I thank you for your attention. On behalf of the city of Oshawa, we look forward to finding a solution together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a small flourish at the end.

Cc: Minister of Health Christine Elliott
Associate Minister of Health and Addictions Michael Tibollo
MPP Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy
MPP Lorne Coe
MPP Jennifer French
MPP Lindsey Park
MPP Hon. Rod Phillips
MPP Hon. David Piccini
MPP Laurie Scott
MP Colin Carrie
MP Hon. Mark Holland
MP Jennifer O'Connell
MP Hon. Erin O'Toole
MP Ryan Turnbull

Sent Via Email



**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Office of the Regional
Chair

605 Rossland Rd. E.
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PO Box 623
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
Canada

905-668-7711
1-800-372-1102
john.henry@durham.ca
durham.ca

John Henry
Regional Chair and CEO

August 16, 2021

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Justin.Trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Erin O'Toole
Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada
Leader of Official Opposition
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Erin.OToole@parl.gc.ca

Jagmeet Singh
Leader of the New Democratic Party
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Jagmeet.Singh@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister and Party Leaders:

RE: Support for communities to address homelessness and illegal activity

On behalf of the Region of Durham and in partnership with the City of Oshawa, I am writing to request your immediate support for challenges facing our communities.

Since the start of the pandemic, across the region we have struggled to address a growing unsheltered population, increased opioid misuse resulting in death, and increased criminal behaviour.

Specifically, in the downtown Oshawa core, businesses are relocating because employees and customers are afraid to visit their locations. Municipal funds are being diverted to pay to clean up excrement and garbage, discarded needles and drug paraphernalia on a daily basis. Police presence has been increased to respond to property damage, drug distribution and gun crime. In short, it's devastating.

If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 extension 2001.

In Durham, we've convened a task force to build and deliver on an action plan to address the immediate issues. We are coordinating social services, investing in supportive housing with wrap around services, running a regionally-funded primary care outreach program for the unsheltered and working with the healthcare sector to provide addictions treatment. But the problems continue to grow.

Municipalities are not equipped to deal with these issues on our own.

We know these problems are not specific to Durham Region and that national coordination and increased support is needed for housing, mental health and addictions, as well as tougher sentences for repeat criminals.

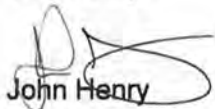
We ask you to visit our communities to see first-hand the destructive effects that drugs, crime and homelessness are having on our residents and downtown business owners.

To support Durham communities, where these challenges are escalating, we recommend the following immediate actions:

- 1) **Toughen penalties and sentencing for gun and drug-related offences.** Over 30% of arrests made by Durham Regional Police Service are repeat offenders who need to be incarcerated longer to keep our streets safe.
- 2) **Declare the opioid crisis a national health crisis and significantly increase funding and supports to effectively manage the crisis.** In 2019, the number of opioid related deaths was four times the number in 2013. In 2020, it was even higher and we're on track for a new record again in 2021.
- 3) **Support municipalities with a post-pandemic community building fund** that would allow communities to invest in projects to help address their specific housing, mental health and addictions or law enforcement needs.

Our community resources are being overwhelmed by hundreds of unsheltered residents experiencing long-term, chronic issues. We need you to see the severity of these issues for yourself so we can work with the federal government on constructive solutions. We look forward to co-ordinating a meeting with you in September.

Yours truly,



John Henry
Regional Chair and CEO

c: Durham Regional Council
Durham Region MPs

Sent Via Email



**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Office of the Regional
Chair

605 Rossland Rd. E.
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Canada

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1-800-372-1102
john.henry@durham.ca
durham.ca

John Henry
Regional Chair and CEO

August 20, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1
Premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Christine Elliott
Minister of Health
College Park, 5th floor
777 Bay St. Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Christine.Elliott@ontario.ca

The Honourable Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park, 17th floor
777 Bay St. Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Minister.mah@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Downey
Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Building, 11th floor
720 Bay St, Toronto, ON M7A 2S9
Attorneygeneral@ontario.ca

Dear Premier and Ministers

**RE: Support for communities to address homelessness and
illegal activity**

On behalf of the Region of Durham and in partnership with the City of Oshawa, I am writing to request your immediate support for challenges facing our communities.

Since the start of the pandemic, across the region we have struggled to address a growing unsheltered population, increased opioid misuse resulting in death, and increased criminal behaviour.

Specifically, in the downtown Oshawa core, businesses are advocating for change because employees and customers are

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afraid to visit their locations. Municipal funds are being diverted to pay to clean up excrement and garbage, discarded needles and drug paraphernalia on a daily basis. Police presence has been increased to respond to property damage, drug distribution and gun crime. In short, it's devastating.

In Durham, we've convened a task force to build and deliver on an action plan to address the immediate issues. We are coordinating social services, investing in supportive housing with wrap around services, running a regionally-funded primary care outreach program for the unsheltered and working with the healthcare sector to provide addictions treatment. But the problems continue to grow.

Municipalities are not equipped to deal with these issues on our own.

We ask you to visit our communities to see first-hand the damaging effects that drugs, crime, and homelessness are having on our residents and downtown business owners.

We know these problems are not specific to Durham, but they are escalating here. To support our communities, we recommend the following immediate actions:

1. **Consider alternatives for repeat offenders** who are not deterred by fines and cause property damage, use illegal drugs, trespass, and are aggressive towards residents and business owners.
2. **Allocate funding and supports to Durham to address root causes of homelessness and address the opioid crisis** including supportive housing with wraparound services, mental health, and addictions services, and community paramedicine programs.

Our community resources are being overwhelmed by hundreds of unsheltered residents experiencing long-term, chronic issues. We need you to see the severity of these issues for yourself so we can work with the Province on constructive solutions. We look forward to co-ordinating a meeting with you in September.

Yours truly,



John Henry
Regional Chair and CEO



Dan Carter
Mayor, City of Oshawa

c: Durham Regional Council
Durham Region MPPs

If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2009.



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ONTARIO, CANADA

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E-MAIL: mayor@oshawa.ca

MAYOR DAN CARTER

August 24, 2021

Dear Mayor,

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you, your staff and your communities for coming together to deal with the challenges of COVID-19 with incredible commitment and innovation.

Throughout this period, we have seen a renewed sense of community. We have come together to help friends and neighbours weather the crisis and have learned that we are stronger working together when tragedy occurs in our communities.

In the City of Oshawa, we find ourselves in an emergency situation that has to do with the complex issues of individuals who are suffering from addiction, mental health, and being unsheltered. During the early part of the pandemic, the City of Oshawa worked with the Region of Durham and our social agencies to provide services for those individuals seeking assistance as many of the community supports were temporarily closed.

However, we are at a point where we no longer have the capacity to care for the complex issues of the unsheltered population, which numbers over 200. I'm writing today to ask for your assistance in addressing the health and safety challenges that we are facing in downtown Oshawa.

We have seen increased criminality on our streets and the downtown core that we have never seen before. We are asking for your support and help to advocate for additional police resources to address the criminality including the establishment of a special task force unit with specialized personnel.

I need you to help us ensure that we have the extra resources necessary from our social services and health departments to provide both on and off hour street presence to meet the needs of the unsheltered individuals and to actively work on reducing the concentration of services in Oshawa.

I need you to help advocate for Lakeridge Health to expand their inpatient program for people seeking addiction help and to be able to have the pathways available to support individuals with complex mental health issues.

I need you to advocate to our housing divisions to continue to look at innovative ways of creating housing so that all of our communities can meet the needs of those that are unsheltered, living, rough, or cannot find affordable housing.

I am asking each of you for your support and ideas to address these unprecedented challenges. I look forward to those conversations on how we can work together to find solutions for Durham Region and its municipalities.



Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 15:52

The following is sent on behalf of Elaine Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer:

Members of Council,

Downtown Oshawa businesses are advocating for additional Regional support to ensure our streets are safe and welcoming, and that our vulnerable residents have the care they need.

The Region is taking a holistic approach to addressing these complex challenges and has convened a task force that includes the City of Oshawa, Lakeridge Health and Durham Regional Police Service. Staff are liaising and coordinating with community agencies that provide support services to identify and reduce duplication.

Collectively, the task force has created a list of immediate action items that has been appended to this email for your information. It also includes the list of ongoing regional supports and programs already in place. This information will be provided to Durham Region MPPs as a follow-up to their visit to the downtown Oshawa area early in September.

This week, the task force is hosting a virtual town hall to hear directly from businesses and to share information about the initiatives in place to address the complex health and safety issues in downtown Oshawa. If you would like to listen to the presentations and hear from businesses, the link to join is here: www.durham.ca/OshawaTownHall.

The invitations to the downtown Oshawa business community have been managed by the City of Oshawa Economic Development team. For more information, you can visit the [City of Oshawa Calendar](#). Should you have any questions, please contact Elaine Baxter-Trahair at elaine.baxter-trahair@durham.ca.



Clerks | Corporate Services – Legislative Services
The Regional Municipality of Durham

Clerks@durham.ca | 905-668-7711 | durham.ca



Appendix: Downtown Oshawa Task Force New and Ongoing Action Items

New Action Items led by the Task Force

| | |
|--|---|
| Convened a Task Force to address a growing unsheltered population, increased opioid misuse resulting in death, and increased criminal behaviour | Led by Region CAO (Social Services, Health, DRPS Lakeridge, Oshawa) |
| Convened community agencies and directing move from low-barrier service to housing first or members only model. Providing training through OrgCode** | Durham Region Social Services |
| Engaged OrgCode to ensure coordinated system planning is grounded in data and set us up for success | Durham Region Social Services |
| Created Durham Outreach Strategy and shared with community partners | Durham Region Social Services |
| Utilizing community code of conduct that the GAP and DACH committees are creating | Durham Region Social Services |
| Hosting business forum to address business concerns about unsheltered population | Task Force |
| Resuming Public Health services in downtown | Durham Region Health |
| Increased police presence (8 officers) to deter behaviour in 2 phases: education and enforcement | DRPS |
| Increased municipal funding for street clean-up | Region and City |
| Event planning and increased economic development activities to increase visitors to downtown | Region and City |
| Providing additional mental health staff for street outreach | Lakeridge |
| Strengthening by-law enforcement | City of Oshawa |

**OrgCode: a leader in homelessness research and advocacy in North America.

Ongoing Initiatives

- **Primary Care Outreach Program (PCOP)** – Region-funded. Paramedic and Social Worker provide acute medical care, crisis counselling and service navigation
 - One team of two met with clients 3,284 times in 2020
 - 200 new clients to the program
- **Project X-Change** - Delivered by John Howard Society, funded by the Region. Offers sterile needles, alcohol swabs, sterile water, and items for safer drug use
- **Community Support Program** – Innovative, client-focused case management to provide support for people on the By-Name list to ensure housing is obtained
- **On Point Needle Program** – Under supervision, paid participants receive safety kits and training to assist with needle and drug paraphernalia clean up. Funded by the Region’s Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative funding
- **Housing First programming** - Operate Durham Access to Social Housing (DASH) program and act as the Service System Manager for Housing
 - Fund housing projects with community agencies (e.g., Muslim Welfare Association and Cornerstone)
- **Oshawa Microhome Pilot** – 10 microhomes will provide temporary transitional housing with supports. Will be available in fall 2021
- **Ontario Works** – Provides support for clients to access social assistance (participate at Back Door Mission and located at 200 John St)
- **DRPS** – Deployed 8 additional officers to downtown area who have become familiar with clients. Moving from education to enforcement. Last year, over 9000 hours in downtown Oshawa
- **Mental Health Support Unit** – Council approved the hiring of 3 additional mental health nurses to accompany DRPS and support mental health crisis calls
- **Poverty Reduction Programs** – Administration of various programs including Canada Learning Bond, Tax Filing, Eviction Prevention, etc
- **Naloxone Kit Distribution** – Support the distribution of kits – our partners provide education and training to businesses owners/organizations to use them
- **Community Safety and Well-being Plan** – Significant community engagement – identification of 7 priority risk factors, with strategies and measurable outcomes

Coordinated Committees and Working Groups

- **Funder’s Table** – Community of Practice ensures funding allocations to not-for-profits is coordinated and informed by local data.

If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 extension 2001.

- **Durham Advisory Committee on Homelessness (DACH)**– includes community agencies and provides advice to Regional Council on homelessness issues
- **Health, Homelessness and Housing Committee** - established because of the pandemic to bring together health, homelessness and housing sectors to support homeless residents
- **GAP Committee** – community partners who work together to fill the gaps in services to prevent and end homelessness in Durham Region
- **Community Leaders Group *new** – formed by the SS Commissioner, with DRPS, City of Oshawa and Lakeridge. Focused on engaging local community agencies on current issues and prioritize housing first initiatives
- **Street Outreach Team Network *new** – includes SS, Carea, Back Door Mission, Durham Mental Health, Cornerstone, DRPS and other outreach service agencies. Focused on newly developed Street Outreach Strategy, Encampment Strategy & Case Conferencing efforts for Housing First priority clients

Community-led Initiatives

- Lakeridge Health leads the ongoing renewal of the Opioid Response Strategy and Action Plan in Durham. The strategy is supported by Public Health
- Back Door Mission – central hub location to provide wraparound services; additional hub services in Durham Region are established in Ajax, Brock and local libraries.

If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 extension 2001.

The Corporation of the Township of North Frontenac

By-law #59-21

Being a By-law of the Corporation of the Township of North Frontenac to authorize the use of Alternative Voting methods for the 2022 Municipal Election

Whereas Section 42(1) (b) of the Municipal Elections Act, S.O. 1996, c. 32, as amended provides that a municipal council may pass a by-law authorizing electors to use an alternative voting method that does not require electors to attend at a voting place in order to vote;

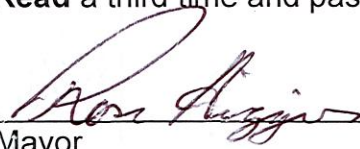
And Whereas Section 42(2) of the Municipal Elections Act, S.O. 1996, c. 32, as amended requires a By-law under Section 42(1) be passed by May 1, 2022 to be effective for the municipal election to be held in 2022;

Now Therefore the Council for the Corporation of the Township of North Frontenac enacts as follows:


- Internet/Telephone Voting is authorized to be used as an alternative voting method for the municipal election to be held in 2022.

Read a first and second time this 22nd day of October, 2021


Read a third time and passed this 22nd day of October, 2021



Mayor



Clerk


| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | November 01, 2021 9:34 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |



CHRISTINE TARLING
 Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk
 Corporate Services Department
 Kitchener City Hall, 2nd Floor
 200 King Street West, P.O. Box 1118
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 Phone: 519.741.2200 x 7809 Fax: 519.741.2705
christine.tarling@kitchener.ca
 TTY: 519-741-2385

November 1, 2021

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

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|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | November 02, 2021 9:50 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Dear Premier Ford:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on October 18, 2021, passed the following resolution regarding “Renovictions”:

“WHEREAS safe and adequate housing is recognized as a fundamental human right by the Federal Government, whose effect as a major social determinant of health and wellbeing goes well beyond a basic requirement for shelter; and,

WHEREAS Kitchener’s housing situation has dramatically shifted since 2016, a Housing Needs Assessment demonstrating the average price for a house increased by 104% between 2009 to 2019, with the greatest increase since 2016, and rents increased by an average of 41%; and,

WHEREAS the City is experiencing a gap in the provision of housing, in particular the need for 450 units of supportive housing, over 5,000 units of community housing and 9,300 units of affordable rental housing to address the gaps in the existing supply; and,

WHEREAS the City of Kitchener has adopted “Housing for All – The City of Kitchener’s Housing Strategy” demonstrating a commitment to realizing the right to housing locally and addressing the housing crisis within the municipality; and,

WHEREAS landlords and investors are adding to the strain on the housing supply through the unscrupulous act of “Renovictions” by claiming they are completing major renovations and evicting and displacing existing tenants, and subsequently raising rents which affects those generally identified as lower income earners and their ability to find safe, adequate and affordable housing; and,

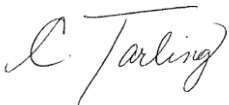
WHEREAS citizens and communities are hurt by these practices which can and does directly impact the housing and homelessness crisis, as well as inflict damage and trauma (both financially and mentally) particularly on our most vulnerable citizens;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener lobby the Province of Ontario to take additional and meaningful steps to address the ever-increasing problem of “Renovictions”;

THEREFORE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener urge all levels of government to collaborate in data sharing and collection related to renovations, specifically the impacts of renovations on tenancy;

THAT IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that a copy of this motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Premier of Ontario, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and housing, the Region of Waterloo and other Municipalities in Ontario for their consideration and possible endorsement.”

Yours truly,



C. Tarling
Director of Legislated Services
& City Clerk


- c: Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Monika Turner, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
William Short, Regional Clerk, Region of Waterloo
Ontario Municipalities



CHRISTINE TARLING
 Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk
 Corporate Services Department
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Dear Premier Ford:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on October 18, 2021, passed the following resolution regarding the vaccine passport program:

"WHEREAS the Covid-19 pandemic has been both a health crisis and an economic crisis; and,

WHEREAS lockdown and physical distancing measures have caused significant hardship to businesses, particularly those dependent on in-person delivery or experience (ex: retail, restaurant, hospitality, personal service, etc.); and,

WHEREAS vaccinations have proven to be an effective means of keeping Ontarians safe and can enable businesses to safely remain open without compromising the health of their customers and employees; and,

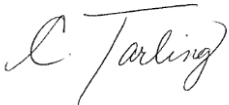
WHEREAS the Province of Ontario and the Regional Municipality of Waterloo are the primary authorities governing public health in the city of Kitchener;

WHEREAS the Economic Development Advisory Committee expressed concerns about financial supports for businesses and the City's ability to support, maintain and grow the economy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener thank the Province of Ontario for developing the vaccine passport program, but urge the Province to provide financial supports for businesses to cover capital and human resource costs necessary to execute the program; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; and, all other Ontario municipalities."

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "C. Tarling".

C. Tarling
Director of Legislated Services
& City Clerk

c: Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Monika Turner, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 21, 2021

A regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, October 21, 2021 in Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:03 PM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: G. Carpentier, Scugog, Chair
S. Clearwater, Whitby
J. Cuthbertson, Clarington, Second Vice-Chair
C. Doody-Hamilton, Member at Large
B. Foxton, Uxbridge
G. Layton, Oshawa
K. Lui, Member at Large, First Vice-Chair
D. Nguyen, Youth Member
S. Panchal, Youth Member
A. Panday, Post-Secondary Member
S. Yamada, Regional Councillor, Town of Whitby attended the meeting at 7:10 PM

***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: O. Chaudhry, Pickering
R. Dickinson, Brock
K. Murray, Member at Large
B. Shipp, Member at Large
D. Stathopoulos, Member at Large
M. Thompson, Ajax

Staff

Present: S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
A. Luqman, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by C. Doody-Hamilton, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,
That the agenda for the October 21, 2021 DEAC meeting, as presented, be approved.

CARRIED

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by K. Lui, Seconded by C. Doody-Hamilton,
That the minutes of the regular DEAC meeting held on Thursday,
September 23, 2021, be adopted.
CARRIED

5. Presentations

A) Sustainability in the City of Pickering, Chantal Whitaker, Sustainability Supervisor and Melanie Edmond, Sustainability Coordinator, City of Pickering

Chantal Whitaker, Sustainability Supervisor and Melanie Edmond, Sustainability Coordinator provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding sustainability in the City of Pickering.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Join us on the Journey to Become One of the Most Sustainable Cities in Canada
- Community and Corporate Initiatives
- Enhancing the Natural Environment
- Helping our Pollinators
- Engaging our Community
- Reducing Waste
- Becoming More Energy Efficient
- Supporting Access to Local Food
- Looking Towards the Future

C. Whitaker responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether the City of Pickering has considered partnering with Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and HydroOne to plant butterfly habitats in the hydro right of ways; where the electric vehicle (EV) charging stations are located in the City of Pickering; whether the City of Pickering has considered including mandates that all new multi-residential developments have protection on shiny surfaces to ensure bird friendly buildings; the timing and width of roadside mowing to better accommodate and protect the wildlife; the costs and details of the dog waste collection program; details of the City of Pickering's EV strategy; details of the Valley Plentiful Community Garden program; and where the funding comes from for the tree planting program.

Discussion ensued regarding the transition to battery powered equipment by Works Department staff in the City of Pickering. It was noted that the

Township of Scugog is considering this transition but is encountering roadblocks with how long batteries last, etc. C. Whitaker advised that Rob Gagnon, Supervisor, Parks and Property at the City of Pickering would welcome conversations with Township of Scugog staff and advised she can share his contact information with A. Luqman.

6. Items for Discussion/Input

A) Introduction of New Post-Secondary Student Member

A. Luqman introduced the new post-secondary student member, Anish Panday. She stated that he is a 4th year Ryerson University student studying Urban and Regional planning and has a keen interest in sustainable communities.

A. Panday introduced himself and stated he looks forward to being apart of DEAC.

B) Update from DEAC Environmental Awards Subcommittee

A. Luqman advised that during the DEAC awards ceremony there were a number of technical issues and glitches throughout the night but that it went well overall. She advised that the public service announcement (PSA) has been shared through the Region's social media channels and that the link to the event has been posted to the Region's YouTube page.

G. Layton noted that Regional Chair Henry offered to personally deliver all of the DEAC environmental awards to the recipients.

C) Update from DEAC Webinar Series Subcommittee

A. Luqman advised that a total of four webinars were scheduled for the Fall and that three have already occurred. She advised that the remaining webinar will be held November 2, 2021 and will focus on energy conservation around the home with guest speakers from Elexicon and I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability.

C. Doody-Hamilton highlighted that Rochelle Byrne, Executive Director/Founder, A Greener Future, mentioned that there were opportunities for high school students to collect volunteer hours, and suggested that S. Panchal share that information with his environmental club at his high school.

7. For Information

A) Commissioner's Report #2021-P-22 – Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) Post-Secondary Student Membership Appointment

A copy of Report #2021-P-22 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

B) New IESO Report: Decarbonization and Ontario's Electricity System:
Assessing the Impacts of Phasing out Natural Gas Generation by 2030

A copy of the new IESO Report: Decarbonization and Ontario's Electricity System: Assessing the Impacts of Phasing out Natural Gas Generation by 2030 was received.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the phasing out of natural gas by 2030; the lack of mention in the IESO Report as to when the phase out of the Pickering Nuclear Power Plant would occur; and, what the results of the closure of the Pickering Nuclear Power Plant would have on the electrical grid.

C) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-94 – Envision Durham – Growth
Management Study – Release of Housing Intensification Study Technical
Report

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-94 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

D) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-96 – Class Environmental Assessment
for the York Durham Sewage System Twinning of Primary Trunk Sanitary
Sewer in the City of Pickering

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-96 of the Commissioner of Works was received.

E) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-97 – Envision Durham – Growth
Management Study – Release of Employment Strategy Technical Report

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-97 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

F) Commissioner's Report #2021-INFO-100 – Envision Durham – Growth
Management Study – Release of Community Area Urban Land Needs
Analysis Technical Report

A copy of Report #2021-INFO-100 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development was received.

Detailed discussion ensued regarding the designated greenfield areas (DGA); how designated brownfield areas would factor into the number of developable DGA lands; whether there is a plan for preserving the greenspace areas; and, whether there is overlap between the greenfield and brownfield areas.

A. Luqman advised that Report #2021-INFO-100 is a technical report in support of the land needs assessment as part of the Envision Durham

Municipal Comprehensive Review, and that the density targets are noted in Provincial legislation. She suggested that any comments that Committee members have be submitted to envisiondurham@durham.ca.

In response to a question from Committee regarding if there is a map that would show whether there is overlap between the designated greenfield areas and the brownfield areas, A. Luqman advised that she would email the Committee members a link to the Region's Official Plan.

G) Harwood Avenue Improvements Study – Feedback by October 29, 2021

A copy of the Harwood Avenue Improvements Study was received.

H) Town of Whitby ISeeChange – Climate Adaptation Plan Community Input Platform

A copy of the Town of Whitby's ISeeChange – Climate Adaptation Plan Community Input Platform was received.

Moved by S. Clearwater, Seconded by J. Cuthbertson,
That Information Items 7 A) to 7 H) inclusive, be received for information.

CARRIED

8. Other Business

A) Proposed Scugog Tree By-Law

G. Carpentier advised that the Scugog Environmental Advisory Committee (SEAC) has asked the Township of Scugog to develop a Township of Scugog Tree By-Law that would encompass areas not covered under the Regional Tree By-Law. He stated that the current challenge is separating the rural needs from the municipal needs. He further stated that the by-law has not been presented to Council yet, and that a councillor does sit on the SEAC.

B) Durham Food Policy Council De-Brief

G. Carpentier advised that he recently attended a Durham Food Policy Council focus group session. He advised that the Durham Food Policy Council has a number of research and public participation opportunities, including the Food System Environmental Scan and the Food System Report Card. A. Luqman advised that she would send out the details of the participation opportunities to the Committee after the meeting.

9. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, November 18, 2021 starting at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

10. Adjournment

Moved by C. Doody-Hamilton, Seconded by B. Foxton,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

G. Carpentier, Chair, Durham
Environmental Advisory Committee

S. Glover, Committee Clerk