

**Office of the Regional Chair and CEO  
The Regional Municipality of Durham**



# **Statement**

## **from the Regional Chair**

7 April 2015

### **Final Construction on Highway 407 East**

**Whitby, Ontario** – Regional Chair Roger Anderson and Minister of Transportation Stephen Del Duca made an announcement in Oshawa on Tuesday, April 7 regarding the contract to build phase 2 of the highway from Harmony Road in Oshawa.

The final phase of construction for Highway 407 East will open up access to thousands of acres of land zoned commercial and industrial along the 407 that can be developed once the highway is in place.

“On behalf of the Region of Durham, the mayors of Durham and Regional Council, I want to say thank you to Minister Del Duca and the Ontario government. They’ve helped to make this vision a reality and they’re keeping their word,” Mr. Anderson said, adding that Durham is relieved to see the Province fulfilling its commitment to deliver the east extension without further delay.

For decades, the 407 east has been the missing link in Durham Region’s highway network. In the short term, construction of Phase 2 of the highway will bring hundreds of jobs to the Region. When it is completed to Highway 35/115 in Clarington, motorists, transit vehicles, and trucks moving goods to market, will finally have a long-needed alternative to the 401. The speed and connectivity created by the highway and its links will be an incredible catalyst for new business and investment across Durham and beyond.

Construction is expected to begin in fall 2015 from Harmony Road to Taunton Road/Highway 418 and is scheduled for completion in December 2017. The remainder will open in 2020. Construction on extending the 407 from Brock Road in Pickering to Harmony is underway and should be completed by the end of 2015.

Highway 407 is a separate entity, publicly owned and operated by the Province, connected to the existing 407 ETR. “I hope that this is also the beginning of a conversation among partners about the costs of using the 407 east and its links to the 401,” Anderson stated. “We are eager to work with the Province to ensure that tolls are affordable, and that Durham residents are treated equitably compared to our neighbours in Toronto, York and Peel with respect to access to the high-speed links,” he added.



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