

Regional Councillor Report

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Regional Council – Jan. 21, 2015

Community Safety Annual Report

Police Chief Paul Martin, Durham Regional Police Services provided Council with the Annual Community Safety Update.

Chief Martin stated;

- Crime rates continue on a downward trend.
- DRPS ranked amongst the best in Canada for solving most serious crimes.
- Rank favourably compared to similar size police services in all crime clearance rates.
- Third lowest net operating cost per capita (\$251) among their seven comparables.
- 2014 vs 2013 motor vehicle property damage is up 2.4%
- Motor Vehicle Fatal is down 29.2% (from 24 to 17)
- 2015 is the sixth budget requesting no new police officers

2015 Property Tax Guideline

Regional Council approved the 2015 property tax guideline with an overall tax increase not to exceed 1.0 percent, after assessment growth. This increase translates to about a \$24.00 impact for the average Regional residential taxpayer, with an average 2015 current value assessment of \$351,000. This increase will provide for anticipated inflationary increases and financing of major capital works while addressing critical needs and maintaining current service levels.

2015 Transportation Servicing and Financing Study

Regional Council approved the road priorities for 2015 to 2024 which includes the widening and realignment of Bayly/Victoria/Bloor Streets as well as road improvements to accommodate the extension of 407 into Oshawa and Clarington. The continued implementation of the Phase 1 Highway 2 Pulse Rapid Transit including intersections at Liverpool, Brock Rd. Westney Rd. and Whites Road are also priorities to be completed during 2015 to 2017. Regional staff will continue working with local municipalities to identify and transfer road segments and will bring a comprehensive plan for Regional Council review and consideration in 2015.

Slated for construction in 2015 is the reconstruction and widening to four lanes of Bayly Street/Victoria from Halls Road to Seaboard Gate, Whitby. Also planned in 2015 is the widening to four lanes, including noise walls and modifications to the Rossland intersection and the platform for a multi use trail of Westney Road north of Delaney/Magill Drive to Rossland.

Polybutelene Water Service Connections

Planned for in the 2015 polybutelene replacement program are 491 water service connections on the following Ajax streets; Angus, Atkinson, Barnes, Bird, Dobson, Doric, Gilmour, Harman, Langstaff and Mandrake.

Community Climate Adaptation Plan, Phase 1

The plan looks at climate change projections summarized as warmer, wetter and wilder from 2040 to 2049 and the potential impact on Durham Region's physical infrastructure, health care and economic and social systems. Seven Expert Task Forces representing the Region, municipalities, conservation authorities and electrical utilities were created to interpret the future climate projections and undertake risk analyses on the impacts.

The report was endorsed by Council and be circulated to lower tier municipalities as well municipalities, Durham MP's and MPP's, AMO and FCM.