

Maurice Brenner - March 2026 eNewsletter

Regional Councillor, Ward 1 | City of Pickering

Land Acknowledgement

The City of Pickering resides on land within the Treaty and traditional territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation and Williams Treaties signatories of the Mississauga and Chippewa Nations. Pickering is also home to many Indigenous persons and communities who represent other diverse, distinct, and autonomous Indigenous nations. This acknowledgement reminds us of our responsibilities to our relationships with the First Peoples of Canada and to the ancestral lands on which we learn, share, work, and live.

You've Got Questions, I've Got Answers

Connecting with neighbors and sharing information is one of my favorite duties. Send your questions on City and Regional matters to mbrenner@pickering.ca for a chance to be featured in the next newsletter.

Safety and Widening on Whites Road (North of Finch Ave)

The Region currently has the widening of Whites Road north of Finch planned for construction in 2028. In the meantime, we are taking a multi-phase approach to safety:

- * Phase 1: Focus on managing vehicle speeds by installing line-painted optical speed bars and radar feedback signs.
- * Pedestrian Crossing: Staff are supportive of a temporary pedestrian signal at Whites and Craighurst. The earliest installation would be in 2027, subject to budget approval by both Pickering and Durham councils.
- * Note: Any temporary signal would need to be removed prior to the 2028 reconstruction due to planned grade changes.

Traffic Calming Update

Following the Province's decision to ban municipal automated speed enforcement (ASE) cameras effective November 14, 2025, the Road Safety Initiatives Fund (RSIF) has been established to provide \$210 million over two years to help municipalities transition to alternate measures.

Pickering's RSIF Allocation:

- * Immediate Interim Funding Received: \$308,675
- * Additional Application-Based Funding: \$1,229,585
- * Total Allocation: \$1,538,260

Next Steps for Traffic Calming:

- * Council approved hiring CIMA+ to prepare Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Guidelines.
- * A comprehensive plan will be presented to Council for endorsement in September 2026.
- * Interim Measure: Throughout 2026, the City will deploy its 16 radar speed message boards in Community Safety Zones and other requested areas to raise motorist awareness.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Schedule

- * Kingston Road (Steeple Hill to Merritton Road): Construction begins July 2026; completion expected by the end of 2028.
- * Dixie Road to Bainbridge Drive: Construction begins August/September 2026; completion expected by fall 2029.
- * This work will affect the Brock Road and Kingston Road intersection, coinciding with MTO overpass work and other intersection improvements.

Upcoming Festivals & Events

- * Sparky's Birthday: Friday, March 20, 2026 | 10:30 am - 1:30 pm | Fire Station #1 (1700 Zents Drive). A free event featuring truck tours and safety fun.
- * Easter Parade: Saturday, April 4, 2026 | 10:00 am | Bay Ridges. Join the City and Royal Canadian Legion Branch 606 to welcome spring.
- * Special Meeting of Council: Monday, March 30, 2026. Discussion regarding the Northeast Pickering Secondary Plan. Delegations must register by March 27 at 12:00 pm.
- * Community Safety Session: Thursday, April 2, 2026 | 5:30 pm | East Shore Community Centre. Featuring guest speaker Brian Gonyou (CAF Veteran) on Situational Awareness.

City and Regional Highlights

- * Spotlight on Community Care Durham (CCD): Highlighting their work in enabling independent living through adult day programs and transportation services.
- * Building Services: Monthly activity reports for January and February 2026 are now available online.
- * Durham Region Updates: The Region continues to advocate via the AMO and FCM. Check out the new 'This Week in Durham Stories' platform at durham.ca/ThisWeek.
- * Bike Parking: New guidelines have been released to increase safe and secure bicycle parking across the region.
- * Metrolinx: Line 5 Eglinton is now open! Note a temporary Lakeshore East weekend service adjustment on March 28-29.

Accountable Government: Lobbyist Registry

The Lobbyist Registry is mandatory for anyone lobbying Public Office Holders. Steps include:

- 1. Read the Lobbyist Registry By-law.
- 2. Create an online profile.
- 3. Declare lobbying activity within 10 business days.

Stay Connected

Feedback is always welcome. Contact the Council Office at 905.420.4605 or email mbrenner@pickering.ca.

Visit mauricebrenner.ca for social links.