



Richard Szpin <zippyonego@gmail.com>

March 2026 eNewsletter: Maurice Brenner, Regional Councillor - Ward 1

1 message

Maurice Brenner <mbrenner@pickering.ca>
Reply-To: mbrenner@pickering.ca
To: zippyonego@gmail.com

Thu, Mar 19, 2026 at 11:10 AM



March 2026 eNewsletter

Greetings!
Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that 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



Answering your questions - A segment dedicated to answering some of your most pressing questions! Often times I have residents requesting the same information over a hot topic, issue or event. Connecting with our neighbours and sharing information to Pickering residents is some of my favourite duties associated with being your Councillor. This platform will allow me to do just that!

Send an email to mbrenner@pickering.ca with your questions on City & Regional matters to see if your inquiries were chosen as a hot topic in our next eNewsletter release.

What are the plans for addressing safety on Whites Road and widening north of Finch Avenue in Pickering?

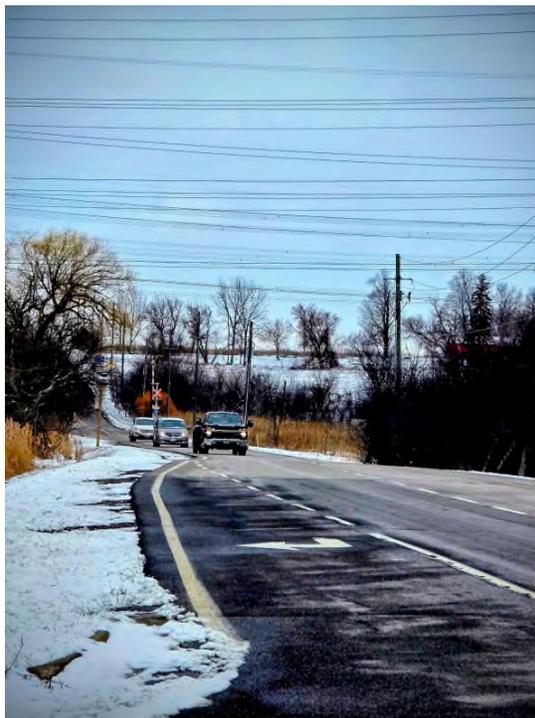
The Region currently has the proposed widening of Whites Road North of Finch planned for construction in 2028. In the meantime, the Region and the City of Pickering will be taking a multi-phase approach to addressing the issues along Whites Road.

The first phase will focus on managing vehicle speeds. To support this, we plan to install line-painted optical speed bars on the roadway and add radar feedback signs, both of which have shown effectiveness in reducing speeds at other locations.

The Need for a Safe Pedestrian Crossing at Whites and Craighurst:

Both City and Regional staff while supportive of moving forward with a temporary pedestrian signal at Whites and Craighurst the earliest possible installation would be in 2027, and this is dependent on both Pickering and Durham councils approving the measure in the 2027 budgets.

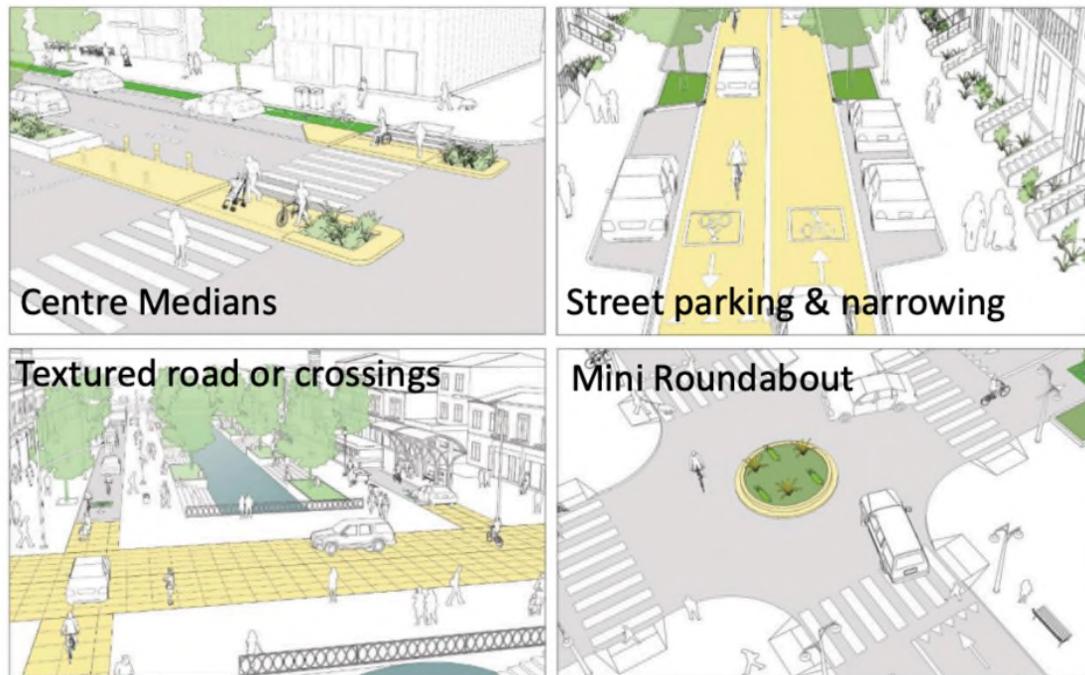
Due to the considerable grade raise planned as part of the Whites Road reconstruction, any temporary pedestrian signal would need to be removed prior to the start of construction.



Depending on how quickly the temporary signal can be installed and assuming the 2028 reconstruction schedule remains on track, there may be limited time to install the temporary device and see its full benefit.

As a result Durham and Pickering will continue to monitor the project timeline closely to determine whether installing a temporary signal remains practical and beneficial at this location.

What's the status of traffic calming in Pickering?



The Province of Ontario made the decision to ban the use of municipal automated speed enforcement (ASE) cameras effective November 14, 2025.

To assist municipalities affected by the ASE camera ban in the transition to the use of alternate traffic calming measures, the Province of Ontario has established the Road Safety Initiatives Fund (RSIF) which will provide \$210 million over the next two years. The objective of the RSIF is to maintain or enhance road safety at locations where ASE was previously implemented.

In Pickering, there were 17 Community Safety Zones where ASE was deployed, or scheduled to be deployed, through the use of mobile cameras on a rotating schedule prior to the ban.

The Ministry of Transportation has advised, that the City of Pickering is eligible to receive the following allocation of funds:

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

RSIF Funding to Pickering:

The City has received the immediate interim funding amount of \$308,675 and is now eligible to submit a single comprehensive application that includes all proposed initiatives

for which RSIF funding is being requested.

The application deadline is December 1, 2026 and all RSIF-funded initiatives must be completed, with all expenses incurred by March 31, 2028.

Staff are reviewing the application guidelines to determine eligible and ineligible expenditures and application requirements, process and reporting.

Moving Forward:

At the January 26, 2026 Council meeting, Council passed Resolution #928/26 approving the hiring of CIMA+ to prepare Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Guidelines for the City of Pickering.

Staff, with the guidance of CIMA+, will prepare a comprehensive plan that will be the basis of the City's RSIF application.

The recommended plan will be presented to Council for endorsement in September 2026, along with a recommendation to authorize staff to submit the RSIF application. Subject to Council approval of the plan, and subject to approval by the province of the RSIF application, funds will be included in the 2027 Budget for implementation of the plan.

Interim Measures:

Throughout 2026, while the recommended plan is being prepared, City staff will install radar speed message boards in our Community Safety Zones on either a fixed or rotating basis.

Although these boards do not provide a level of enforcement, they do provide awareness to motorists by displaying their speed as they approach the sign. The City owns 16 radar speed message boards of which several can be deployed for this initiative. Some boards will be kept available to be put into use across the City, on roads outside of Community Safety Zones such as Pinegrove and others when traffic information is required to respond to and address speeding concerns that come through resident requests. Information will also be used to request DRPS speed enforcement.

When will the next phase of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) work start in Pickering?

The Region of Durham has confirmed that the tendering process for the Kingston Road BRT segment from Steeple Hill to Merritton Road is underway, with construction expected to commence in July 2026 and be completed by the end of 2028.

The Region will tender the next segment, from Dixie Road to Bainbridge Drive, which is expected to begin construction in August/September 2026 and be completed by fall 2029.

The Dixie Road to Bainbridge Drive segment of the project will directly affect the Brock Road and Kingston Road intersection and vicinity, and may add to the traffic pressures already anticipated from the MTO's Brock Road-Highway 401 overpass work and the Brock Road and Bayly Street intersection improvements.

Upcoming Festivals & Events

Join us as we have an assortment of great events to engage in all year round. The City of Pickering's [Events Calendar](#) and [Festival Page](#) are great resources to see upcoming City and Community Events.



Friday, March 20, 2026: Sparky's Birthday

Time: 10:30 am - 1:30 pm

Location: Fire Station #1, [1700 Zents Drive, Pickering](#)

This free event celebrates Sparky the Fire Dog, the beloved and trusted fire safety icon who has helped children and families learn essential safety practices. The fun and engaging day will honour Sparky's ongoing commitment to keeping our community safe, and wish him a very happy birthday!

Check out the [City of Pickering's Facebook page](#) to see [Sparky.get birthday ready](#), and [prep some tours of our fire trucks!](#)

Saturday, April 4, 2026: Easter Parade

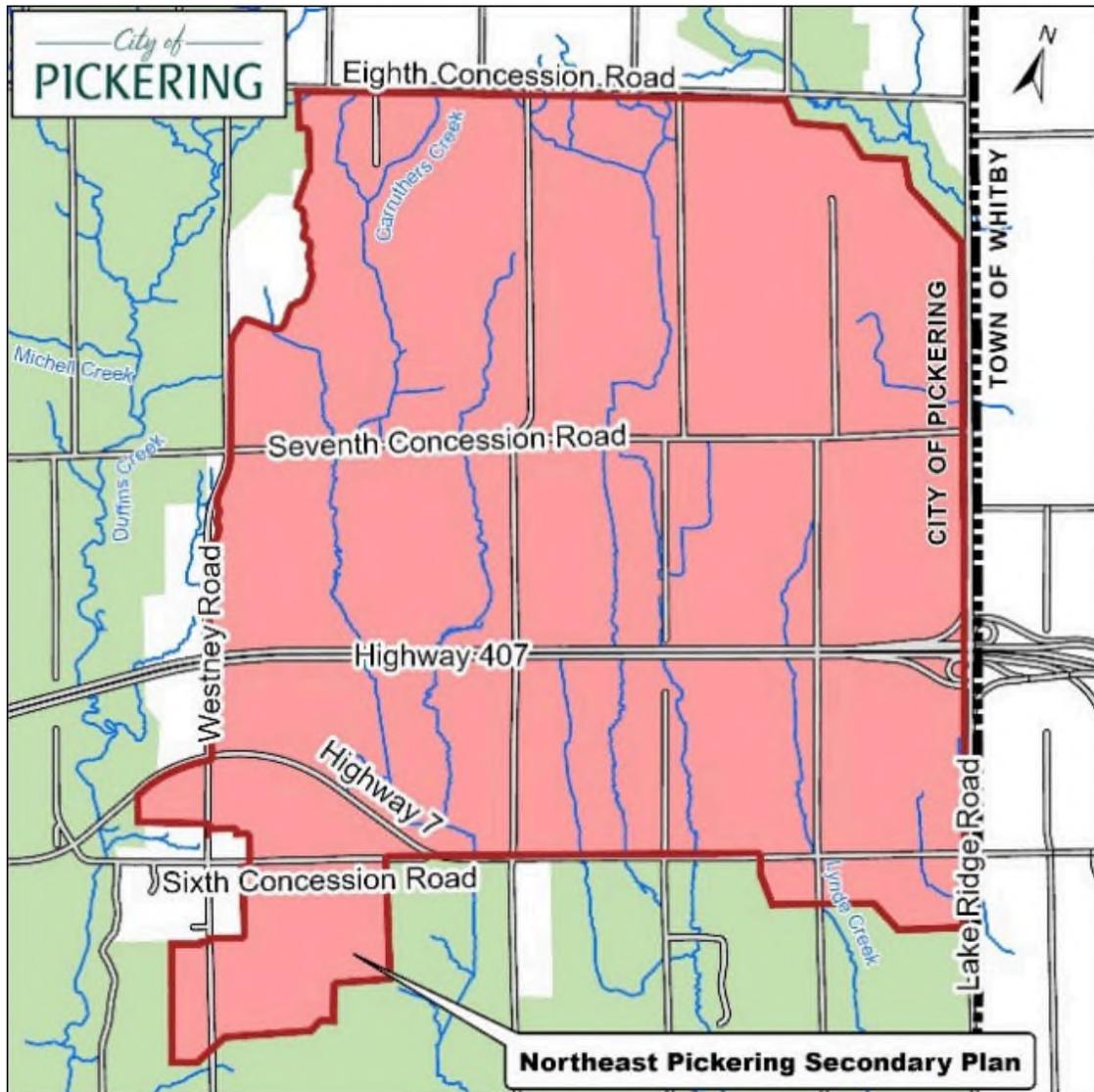
Time: 10:00 am

Join the City of Pickering and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 606 on Saturday, April 4, to celebrate the annual Easter Parade in Bay Ridges. Bring your Easter baskets and bonnets down to the parade route and partake in a spectacular welcome to Spring!

Notes: View the full [Easter Parade webpage here](#) for additional details on food, raffles, the route map, and more!



Special Meeting of Council:
Northeast Pickering: OPA 25-003/P
Monday, March 30, 2026



A Special Meeting of Council has been called for Monday, March 30, 2026 to discuss the Secondary Plan for Northeast Pickering. The agenda for this meeting will be published on the City's [website](#) on **Tuesday, March 24, 2026**. Submitted comments are to be emailed to clerks@pickering.ca, well in advance of the meeting. Should you wish to speak as a delegate at the meeting, your request must be completed **before 12:00 pm on Friday, March 27, 2026**, by filling out the [Delegation Request form online](#) or emailing clerks@pickering.ca.

For more information view the [Public Meeting Notice here](#) to learn more about this application and how you may wish to get involved.

Community Information Session: Situational Awareness & Community Safety Best Practices **Thursday, April 2, 2026**

Join us on **Thursday, April 2** at **5:30 pm (Presentation begins at 6:00 pm)** in the **East Shore Community Centre - South Pickering Seniors' Club Main Hall (910 Liverpool Road** South, Pickering ON, L1W 1S5) for a Special Community Information Session addressing Situation Awareness & Community Safety Best Practices.

This Session is being offered after a tremendous response to last month's session with a particular focus on safety for residents 55+. We look forward to seeing you there, all are welcome!

**Join Us for a Special
Community Information Session**
Presented by the South Pickering Seniors' Club
for Pickering residents 55+

Situational Awareness & Community Safety Best Practices
Guest Speaker: Brian Gonyou, 25 year Veteran,
Canadian Armed Forces, Human Performance Officer



Ward 1 Regional Councillor
Maurice Brenner



Ward 2 Regional Councillor
Linda Cook



Ward 2 City Councillor
Mara Nagy

S.P.S.C
South Pickering Seniors' Club

Thursday, April 2, 2026
Doors Open: 5:30 pm Presentation: 6:00 pm. Light refreshments provided
East Shore Community Centre: South Pickering Seniors' Club
Main Hall: 910 Liverpool Road South, Pickering

Our Guest Speaker is Mr. Brian Gonyou who served Canada with distinction over a 25-year military career. As a member of the Special Service Force (SSF) and Joint Task Force 2 (JTF2), he was entrusted with protecting Canadian national interests and combating terrorism both domestically and internationally. Following his military service, Mr. Gonyou transitioned to a career in Human Performance and Leadership training, where he focuses on developing best practices in Situational Awareness (SA). In his presentation, Mr. Gonyou will offer a practical approach to Situational Awareness by exploring the different levels of awareness, demonstrating SA in action, and highlighting the importance of recognizing your distractions and risks.

Spotlight
Community Care Durham



There are many agencies that provide important services across Durham Region that contributes to quality of life.

In this month's eNewsletter, I am proud to be highlighting Community Care Durham, (CCD). An organization that enables independent living. Follow the [link](#) to to read their newsletter and learn more about why this local business is benefitting so many lives across our great region.

Check out their [website](#) to learn about volunteer opportunities, adult day programs, transportation, friendly visits, and more.

City of Pickering: Council Highlights

As Council Members we have a commitment to participate in a number of Committee and Council meetings annually.

The Executive Committee typically meets virtually once monthly on the first Monday of the month at 2:00 pm. Likewise, the Planning & Development Committee meet virtually on the same day of the month at 7:00 pm. The last Monday of the month typically, we meet virtually for Council meetings at 7:00 pm.

Please follow the links below for the City's website calendar, to view the most up-to-date scheduling.



As part of our commitment to open, transparent, and accessible municipal government, we continue to post online recaps of the decisions made at our Council Meetings to help residents better understand municipal affairs and directions set by Council.

Members of the public may observe the meeting proceedings by viewing the [livestream](#). The official meeting minutes are also publicly available through the City's [website calendar](#) and [Corporate Records](#) webpages. For more information on attending meetings and registering as a delegate, you may visit the City's [website](#).

A breakdown of our Council Meeting Highlights are available on the City's website [here](#). Alternatively, you may check out the [City's Facebook page](#).

Building Services

Each month the City of Pickering Building Services division generates an activity report which includes statistics of new applications received within the month, permit fees received to date, estimated construction valuations, projected building permit revenues, and comparisons to the previous year.

You may view the Building Permit Activity Report for [January 2026](#) and [February 2026](#).

For more information, visit the Building Services webpage [here](#).

Visit [LetsTalkPickering.ca/Development](#) to learn more about the planning process.



Durham Region Council Updates



The Region of Durham Council continues to be a champion for our community, and leverages it's voice through memberships with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). It advocates for change on current Provincial legislation that negatively impacts our residents.

The Region plays a significant role in providing essential services and resources to all of their corresponding municipalities. Check out the [February 25, 2026](#), Durham Region CAO Briefing Notes summary to learn more.

This Week in Durham Stories



The Regional Municipality of Durham has launched a new platform at durham.ca/ThisWeek and celebrates our Durham Region, where everyone feels valued and included. This page is designed to deliver news on Regional business in a more human and heartfelt approach.

Be sure to check out their webpage and subscribe should you wish to receive updates on this and enjoy a good weekly read!

Durham Region Bicycling Parking Guidelines

Cycling across Durham continues to increased, but more work needs to be done on safe & secure bike parking. Durham Region has a plan and will be working with Pickering, Boards of Trade, DRT and other partners. Read and save the full Bicycling Parking Guideline [here](#), it has countless resources and information you're sure to find interesting!



Durham Region Transit Updates

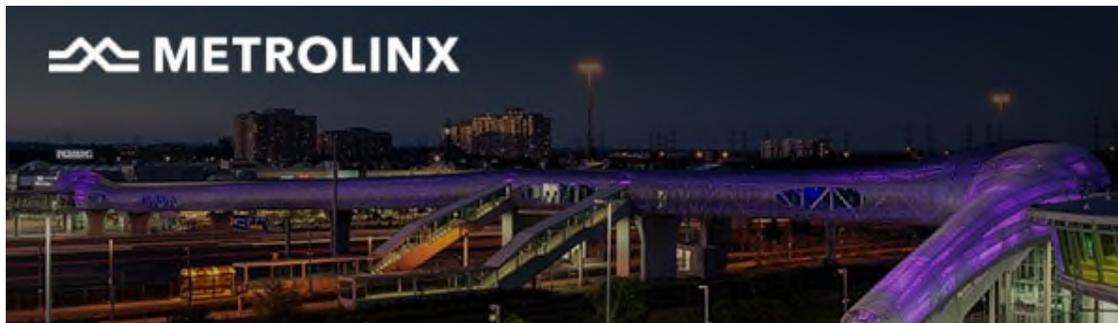


[Durham Region Transit \(DRT\)](#) is one of the most popular and reputable regional services offered to our residents.

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 was the DRT Executive Committee, which I sit on. We discussed various DRT initiatives and updates that are linked [here](#).

To stay up-to-date on the latest news with DRT, subscribe to their eNews page [here](#).

Metrolinx Updates



Metrolinx's latest Durham update highlights the opening of Line 5 Eglinton, a new 25-stop rapid transit line that strengthens connections across the GTA, while also outlining several active construction notices and progress updates for the Bowmanville Extension and GO Expansion projects.

The newsletter also spotlights Bridgette's Family Restaurant near the future Bowmanville station area and shares community engagement efforts such as the We Build A Dream event supporting young women exploring skilled trades.

Families are invited to March Break activities at the Kids Safety Village, and riders are reminded of a temporary Lakeshore East weekend service adjustment on March 28–29.

To read the full newsletter, follow the link [here](#).

Lobbyist Registry

**Open, Transparent,
and Accountable
Government**

Learn more at:
pickering.ca/LobbyistRegistry

City of
PICKERING



**City of Pickering
Lobbyist Registry**

1. Read the City's Lobbyist Registry By-law and determine if you are a Lobbyist;
2. Create an Online Profile to register as a Lobbyist; and,
3. Declare lobbying activity within 10 business days of initial lobbying activity.



clerks@pickering.ca
905.420.4611

The Lobbyist Registry is up and running, and it is now mandatory for those that lobby Public Officer Holders. The team from the Clerks Department has played a lead role in not only preparing the [Lobbyist Registry By-law](#), but also the tools that will assist Public Officer Holders and Lobbyists to understand the definition of a [Public Officer Holder](#).

Questions or Concerns?

Connect with our [Customer Care](#) team, Monday to Friday (8:30 am - 4:30 pm), by telephone at 905.683.7575, or email customercare@pickering.ca.

Stay Connected

Thank you for taking the time to read this eNewsletter. I welcome your feedback and comments. For more information on what's happening in Pickering and Durham Region, visit my social channels: mauricebrenner.ca, [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#). You can also reach me by contacting the Council Office at 905.420.4605 or by email at mbrenner@pickering.ca.

Feel free to forward this eNewsletter to other Pickering residents, who may find this information helpful. To subscribe to future eNewsletters, visit my profile on the City's [website](#) and click the link at the bottom of the page "Subscribe to my eNewsletter". My eNewsletters are sent out a maximum of once per month, and you can unsubscribe at anytime.

City of Pickering Council Office | 905.420.4605 | www.pickering.ca



City of Pickering | One The Esplanade | Pickering, ON L1V 6K7 CA

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