

2026 Pickering Mayoral Race

Where the 7 candidates stand on voters' top 4 issues

	Ashe, Kevin <i>Incumbent</i>	Cornell, Doug	Frampton, Janice	Rasool, Zargham	Rickard, Shaun	Robinson, Lisa	Wood, Andrea
TAXES	No tax platform on campaign site. As mayor, called the 2026 3.49% levy increase "modest" <i>(mayoral statement, not campaign site)</i>	Keep City's share "as low as responsibly possible" with a published multi-year plan; capital budget review in first 90 days; independent cost check on Seaton Rec Complex before 2027 tender; double City's seniors tax grant (\$620 to \$1,240)	Disciplined budgeting; transparent financial reporting; stricter oversight of spending	Find efficiencies before asking taxpayers to pay more; transparency on major projects and spending	Cap the City's portion of the tax levy; independent forensic audit of City finances within first 100 days; end taxpayer subsidies for developer infrastructure	Work to freeze property taxes for the full term; keep casino revenues in Pickering to hold taxes down; no unaffordable mega-projects or new debt	<i>No platform published</i>
HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT CHARGES	"Smart growth," new housing options; no further detail given too vague	"Growth pays for growth": no more development-charge deferral deals; disclose lost revenue before any DC reduction; City land for non-profit and co-op housing; priority review for missing-middle homes; annual affordable-housing target	Starter housing options; manage tax burden for young families	Range of housing options for families, seniors and youth; protect established neighbourhoods; community input before major decisions	Halt and review Northeast Pickering plan; "growth pays for growth"; hold Liverpool Road (Annland) proposal to low-rise scale; steer new density to the Hwy 401 corridor	"People before profits": real consultation before approvals; protect local businesses and employment lands from unchecked high-rise development	<i>No platform published</i>
INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSIT	General commitment to infrastructure investment too vague	Multi-year road resurfacing program; restore daytime bus service to established neighbourhoods; "roads before rooftops"; push for more GO service and a City Centre transit hub	"Infrastructure first": roads, transit, schools and healthcare before new development; expand local transit and bike/walk routes	Better road maintenance; tackle congestion and bottlenecks; reliable public transit; plan infrastructure alongside growth	Infrastructure and environmental studies completed and independently verified before any approvals; independent traffic and emergency-access study for Liverpool Road	"Infrastructure first": no development approvals without the roads, schools, parks and services to support it	<i>No platform published</i>
GREEN SPACE & OVER-DEVELOPMENT	As mayor, welcomed federal transfer of Pickering Lands to Parks Canada for Rouge Park expansion <i>(mayoral statement, not campaign site)</i> City now holds a conditional deal to buy Frenchman's Bay <i>(reported Sept 17 by Rickard campaign)</i>	Will not advance Northeast Pickering plan until independent environmental assessment, full costing and First Nations consultation are complete; build out Seaton first; Duffins Creek master plan; finish Waterfront Trail	Protect farmland and environment; revitalize vacant commercial sites before consuming green space; prevent high-density overdevelopment	Well-maintained parks; protect community spaces. No stated position on Northeast Pickering	Complete public purchase of Frenchman's Bay with full due diligence; "Blue Economy" marina plan with no housing on the waterfront; downsize Northeast Pickering footprint	"Finish Seaton first"; protect Northeast Pickering and the federal lands from development permanently	<i>No platform published</i>

Updated October 8, 2026. Summarized from each campaign's own published platform (campaign websites and candidate-written profiles on AjaxPickering.ca), except where marked. Kevin Ashe's campaign site carries no issue platform, so his cells draw on statements made as sitting mayor. "No platform published" means no website, profile or public statement on any issue was found.