

Daily Briefs:

Monday, September 28, 2026

PICKERING — 23-MONTH KINGSTON ROAD TRANSIT CONSTRUCTION STARTS TODAY. Major new phase of the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit project begins today along Kingston Road in Pickering. Construction will run from Steeple Hill to Merritton Road and is scheduled to continue until August 31, 2028. Lane shifts and restrictions will remain in place throughout construction. Beginning in late October, Kingston Road is expected to be reduced to one eastbound lane and two westbound lanes for an extended period while major wastewater work is completed. The broader DSBRT project is planned as a 36-kilometer rapid-transit corridor connecting Oshawa, Whitby, Ajax, Pickering and Scarborough.

AJAX — PARENTS DEMAND ACTION OVER HOURS-LONG SCHOOL BUS COMMUTES Some Ajax parents are calling for changes after a school bus route adjustment reportedly left students spending hours each day travelling to and from school. Parents told City News that children attending St. Jude Catholic School have faced lengthy trips since transportation changes were introduced this school year.

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

COURTICE — SEARCH CONTINUES FOR MISSING 14-YEAR-OLD BOY Durham Regional Police continue searching for a 14-year-old Courtice boy who has been missing for more than a week. Cairo was last seen September 21 at approximately 8 p.m. near Nash Road and Old Varcoe Road. Police say he has not been seen or heard from since and continue asking the public for information.

BOWMANVILLE — ST. MARYS CEMENT FINED \$475,000 AFTER WORKER'S DEATH St. Marys Cement has been fined \$475,000 following a workplace fatality at its Bowmanville cement plant. The case stems from a March 21, 2023 incident during maintenance work at the plant. A millwright apprentice entered an overburden hopper to perform maintenance. During a planned power shutdown elsewhere at the project, a gate inside the hopper closed and fatally injured the worker. A Ministry of Labour investigation found blocking had not been installed to prevent the gate from moving. The company pleaded guilty and was sentenced in Oshawa court. A mandatory 25-per-cent victim fine surcharge was also imposed. Know

PICKERING — 23-MONTH KINGSTON ROAD CONSTRUCTION NOW UNDERWAY Major Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit construction is now underway along Kingston Road between Steeple Hill and Merritton Road. The project is scheduled to continue until August 31, 2028. Work includes dedicated median bus lanes, new transit platforms, pavement reconstruction, water infrastructure, sidewalk accessibility improvements, new wastewater infrastructure and traffic signals. Beginning in late October, Kingston Road is expected to operate with only one eastbound lane and two westbound lanes for an extended period.

PORT PERRY / SCUGOG — GROWTH REMAINS CENTRAL ISSUE ONE MONTH BEFORE ELECTION Port Perry continues facing major decisions involving residential growth, commercial development, sewage and water capacity and the future of the Port Perry Fairgrounds. Large proposed developments could add substantial numbers of new residents while the next Scugog Council will inherit unresolved decisions concerning municipal land and infrastructure.

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

DURHAM — ONTARIO TECH EXPANDS MOBILITY INNOVATION PROGRAM Ontario Tech University has announced an expansion of opportunities for transportation and mobility innovators in Durham. The initiative comes as the Region undergoes major transportation and infrastructure investment, including the Bowmanville GO extension, Highway 401 improvements and other large projects.

DURHAM — FOOD DRIVE CONTINUES AS HUNGER ACTION MONTH ENDS Although September's Hunger Action Month concludes today, Durham's regional donation campaign continues through October 5. More than 880,000 visits were made to food programs in Feed the Need in Durham's network of 70 community food programs last year.

PORT PERRY / SCUGOG — GROWTH REMAINS MAJOR ELECTION ISSUE Port Perry continues facing potentially transformative development decisions. A proposal involving properties on Reach Street could accommodate as many as 1,355 residential units, while the next Scugog Council will also inherit decisions involving the Port Perry Fairgrounds and infrastructure required to support future population growth.

BOWMANVILLE — ROAD PROJECT REACHES SCHEDULED MILESTONE TODAY Lane restrictions on Bowmanville Avenue, Durham Regional Highway 2 and Stevens Road were scheduled to continue through today as Durham Region completes infrastructure work in the area. **WHY IT MATTERS:** Bowmanville residents have experienced extensive construction as Clarington grows. The continuing challenge is ensuring roads and other infrastructure expand quickly enough to accommodate new housing and population growth.

Thursday, October 1, 2026

DURHAM — ONTARIO TECH EXPANDS MOBILITY INNOVATION PROGRAM Ontario Tech University is expanding opportunities for transportation and mobility innovators as Durham undergoes major infrastructure growth. The university says projects including the GO East Extension, Highway 401 improvements and Ontario Power Generation's nuclear expansion are creating opportunities to develop new technologies for moving people and goods across the Region.

PICKERING — SANDY BEACH ROAD CLOSURE REACHES SCHEDULED END TODAY The long-running rehabilitation closure of Sandy Beach Road between Bayly Street and Parkham Crescent is scheduled to conclude today. The road has been under construction since April 20, although local access has remained available for businesses and residents. The work has been part of the City's rehabilitation of Sandy Beach Road.

PICKERING — KINGSTON ROAD ENTERS FIRST WEEK OF TWO-YEAR TRANSIT CONSTRUCTION Major construction associated with the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit project continues along Kingston Road between Steeple Hill and Merritton Road. The work is expected to continue until August 2028 and includes transit infrastructure, road reconstruction and underground servicing.

WHITBY — NEW TRAFFIC-CALMING SYSTEM TARGETS NEIGHBOURHOOD SPEEDING Whitby is moving forward with a new standardized process for evaluating traffic-calming requests. Possible measures include speed humps, speed cushions, raised crosswalks, curb extensions and neighbourhood roundabouts. The Town says the new policy is intended to create a consistent, data-driven method for determining which streets receive improvements.

BOWMANVILLE — CLARINGTON'S BIGGEST-EVER RECREATION COMPLEX OPENS Clarington is preparing to open the doors of the new Bowmanville Community Complex this Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. The completed facility will exceed 172,000 square feet and is projected to attract more than 675,000 visits annually. The first phase includes a FIFA-sized multi-sport dome containing more than 100,000 square feet of indoor turf and an indoor walking track. Regular programming begins October 13. An outdoor refrigerated skating trail is also planned, while the Aquatics Centre is scheduled to open in 2027.

DURHAM — TAXES AND REGIONAL SPENDING MOVE INTO ELECTION SPOTLIGHT Durham Region's 2026 budget increased Regional property taxes by 4.8 per cent. For an average homeowner, the Region estimates the increase at approximately \$14 per month — about \$10 for policing and \$4 for other Regional services. Water and sanitary sewer rates also increased by a combined five per cent in 2026. Your Durham Continues Pg. 6

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ERROL MASSIAH

Regional Ward 3 Candidate – Ajax



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