

Daily Briefs:

Monday, September 14, 2026

PORT PERRY — NEW MUNICIPAL WATER WELL PROJECT ENTERS FINAL TESTING PERIOD Durham Region's project to develop a new municipal water-supply well near Simcoe Street continues this month. The new well is intended to increase the municipal water supply available to Port Perry. The Region's construction schedule calls for testing of the new well to be completed during September, with the overall work period running through September 30.

WHY IT MATTERS: Reliable water capacity is fundamental to Port Perry's future growth. New housing and commercial development ultimately depend on municipal infrastructure being able to support it. **OSHAWA — CONSTRUCTION BEGINS AT ED BROADBENT PARK** Construction of a permanent washroom building begins today at Ed Broadbent Park on Harbour Road. The northern section of the park near Harbour Road and Simcoe Street South will be closed during construction. Sections of the multi-use trail and the overflow parking lot on the north side of Harbour Road will also be unavailable. Construction is expected to continue until spring 2027. The main event stage, southern parking lot and existing portable washrooms will remain accessible.

WHY IT MATTERS: Ed Broadbent Park has become an important part of Oshawa's developing waterfront. Permanent facilities improve long-term usability, but residents should expect restricted access to parts of the park for several months.

BOWMANVILLE — LIBERTY STREET CLOSURE CONTINUES AS MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT MOVES FORWARD Liberty Street North remains closed between Longworth Avenue and Bons/Freeland Avenue. The first phase continues through December 31 and includes road reconstruction, sewer and watermain work and construction of a new roundabout. The entire project is expected to continue until spring 2028. Businesses in the construction area remain open.

WHY IT MATTERS: This is much larger than a temporary road repair. Bowmanville's continuing population growth requires substantial infrastructure investment, but residents and businesses will face.

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

BEAVERTON — POLICE SEARCH FOR MAN ACCUSED OF DAMAGING DRPS CRUISER Durham Regional Police are asking for help identifying a suspect after a marked police cruiser was damaged outside the Beaverton Arena. Police say the incident occurred Saturday, September 12 at approximately 11:21 p.m. at 176 Main Street. A male suspect allegedly damaged both windshield wipers on the cruiser before leaving the area. Investigators have released a photograph and are seeking witnesses as well as surveillance, dashcam or cellphone footage.

WHY IT MATTERS: This is a new northern Durham police investigation and particularly relevant to residents in Brock, Scugog and surrounding communities. Anyone with useful video or information is being asked to contact Durham police.

PORT PERRY — SMARTCENTRES EXPANSION NOW MOVES FORWARD AFTER PUBLIC MEETING Scugog held its public meeting Monday night on a proposed zoning change for the SmartCentres property at 1535 Highway 7A in Port Perry. SmartCentres is seeking permission to increase the maximum gross leasable floor area from 17,985 square metres to 20,500 square metres. The application would also remove existing maximum floor-area restrictions applying to supermarket, service and other uses, allowing additional commercial development within the shopping centre. Monday's meeting was for public input. A final rezoning decision has not yet been made.

WHY IT MATTERS: This could mean additional retail and commercial development along one of Port Perry's most important business corridors. Residents should watch the effect on traffic, existing downtown businesses, servicing and the overall commercial balance between Highway 7A and historic downtown Port Perry.

PORT PERRY — SIMCOE STREET HOUSING PROPOSAL ALSO MOVES THROUGH PLANNING PROCESS Scugog also held a public meeting Monday concerning 15682 Simcoe Street North. The property owner is seeking to change the zoning from Urban Residential Type Two to Urban Residential Multiple Type One Exception to permit a semi-detached dwelling. The applicant intends to later seek consent to divide the property so each portion of the proposed semi-detached dwelling could be located on its own lot. No final rezoning decision was made at the public meeting. Residents can continue submitting written comments before a recommendation comes back to council.

SCUGOG — FOOD DONATIONS BEING COLLECTED FOR OPERATION SCUGOG Scugog is participating in Durham's Hunger Action Month campaign. Residents can drop off food donations at the Scugog Municipal Office at 181 Perry Street and the Scugog Community Recreation Centre at 1655 Reach Street. Scugog donations are being directed to Operation Scugog. Across Durham, more than 880,000 visits were made last year to the 70 community food programs in Feed the Need in Durham's network.

WHY IT MATTERS: Food-bank use remains one of the clearest measurements of affordability pressure on Durham families. The issue is particularly important during an election campaign in which taxes, housing costs and household affordability should receive serious attention.

OSHAWA — PARK ROAD SOUTH RESTRICTIONS COMING NEXT WEEK Durham Region announced Monday that Park Road South will have northbound and southbound lane restrictions between September 21 and 23 near Marland Avenue. Both daytime and overnight restrictions are planned while crews investigate a broken watermain valve.

OSHAWA — AUTO INDUSTRY WATCHES BRAMPTON PLANT FALLOUT Ontario's automotive industry remains unsettled following Stellantis' move toward selling its idled Brampton Assembly Plant to Canadian defence manufacturer Roshel. Unifor has said negotiations with Stellantis reached an impasse as the current collective agreement approaches its September 20 expiry.

WHY IT MATTERS TO OSHAWA: The possible conversion of another Ontario auto assembly plant demonstrates how rapidly the industry is changing. General Motors' recent commitment to next-generation Heavy-Duty GMC Sierra production in Oshawa becomes even more significant when viewed against uncertainty elsewhere in Ontario's automotive sector.

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

OSHAWA — POLICE INVESTIGATE AFTER TWO PEOPLE FOUND DEAD IN HOME Durham Regional Police are investigating after two people were found dead inside an Oshawa residence. Police responded to a home on Drew Street, near Olive Avenue and Ritson Road South, on Tuesday afternoon after receiving a call requesting a wellness check. Officers located a deceased adult male and adult female inside the residence. Investigators say there is no known threat to public safety and the Homicide Unit is investigating the circumstances surrounding the deaths. Police are asking anyone with information or video from the area to contact investigators.

Continues pg. 6

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