

Ontario Building Critical Infrastructure in Pickering



PICKERING — The Ontario government is investing \$2,757,711 to help renew and rehabilitate critical infrastructure in City of Pickering. The funding will be delivered through the 2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) as part of the government's more than \$200 billion capital plan to protect Ontario by building key public infrastructure that will strengthen the economy and keep workers on the job in the face of tariffs and economic uncertainty.

"Through the 2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF), we are ensuring Pickering has the support they need to upgrade and maintain essential infrastructure", said Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP for Pickering-Uxbridge. "This \$2,757,711 investment not only boosts the local economy and creates good jobs, but also helps build a stronger,

more resilient Ontario."

In 2026, Ontario will allocate \$400 million in OCIF funding to help 423 small, rural and northern communities address critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems. The minimum grant amount for municipalities will increase to \$125,000 from \$100,000. Funding allocations are based on a formula that accounts for the different needs and economic conditions of each community. Communities may accumulate funding for up to five years to address larger infrastructure projects.

"Small, rural and northern communities are essential to the growth and prosperity of Ontario," said Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure. "That is why we're increasing the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund's minimum grant amount to provide

predictability and stability for these communities and ensure they have the resources they need to thrive. With our record investments across all infrastructure programs, we're driving an unprecedented wave of construction—highways, transit, hospitals, schools, and more—to make communities stronger, keep workers on the job, and drive economic growth for generations to come."

"On behalf of the City of Pickering, I thank the Government of Ontario for this important investment in our core infrastructure," said Kevin Ashe, Mayor, City of Pickering. "As one of Ontario's fastest growing municipalities and an emerging centre for business and innovation, we are focused on building resilient infrastructure that serves both our growing population and dynamic commercial sector. This \$2.76 million in OCIF funding will help us renew aging assets and ensure our roads and bridges can support the efficient movement of people, goods, and services throughout our city and beyond."

The OCIF provides funding for local infrastructure projects in municipalities with populations under 100,000, rural and northern municipalities, as well as for Local Services Boards that own water or wastewater systems.

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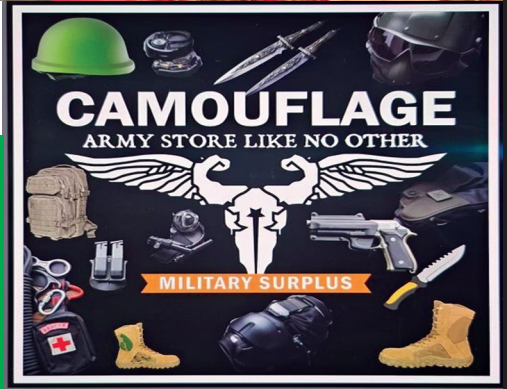
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