



## **Motion on Stimulus for Fast-Tracking Investments in Infrastructure to Protect Local Economies**

**Moved by - Mayor Andrea Horwath, Seconded by - Mayor Cam Guthrie**

**WHEREAS** the United States has imposed tariffs on key Canadian industries, and Canada has implemented counter-tariffs in response; and

**WHEREAS** tariffs are already disrupting local economies across Ontario, jeopardizing jobs, investment, and economic stability in communities of all sizes; and

**WHEREAS** we must protect our most vulnerable residents whose housing supports and services may be negatively impacted by an economic downturn; and

**WHEREAS** in times of economic uncertainty, federal and provincial governments have historically stepped up with stimulus investments to support municipalities, create jobs, and maintain economic momentum; and

**WHEREAS** past stimulus initiatives, such as the 2009 Economic Action Plan, which funded 23,000 infrastructure projects across the country in response to the global financial crisis, and the 2020 COVID-19 stimulus plan, which provided critical economic relief during the pandemic, played a critical role in stabilizing local economies and ensuring communities could withstand economic downturns; and

**WHEREAS** municipal governments are uniquely positioned to drive economic recovery by facilitating major infrastructure projects that create well-paying jobs, attract investment, and improve public services for residents; and

**WHEREAS** fast-tracking significant municipal projects as stimulus initiatives would help mitigate the negative economic impacts of US tariffs and Canadian counter-tariffs while building critical infrastructure that benefits Ontarians for generations; and

**WHEREAS** projects such as light rail transit (LRT) systems wastewater treatment plants and other key infrastructure investments that support economic growth (see appendix), job creation, and sustainable urban development, stand ready to serve as engines of economic resilience; and

**WHEREAS** the active involvement of municipalities as partners in the development of these programs, working collaboratively with our provincial and federal counterparts, will ensure that they are designed and implemented in a way that meets municipal needs and supports effective delivery.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) calls on the federal and provincial governments to introduce comprehensive municipal stimulus strategies to fast-track large-scale investments in infrastructure, housing, transit, state-of-good-repair projects and other critical projects that will help safeguard local economies against the destabilizing effects of US tariffs and Canadian counter-tariffs; and



— **OBCM** —  
Ontario's Big City Mayors

**THAT** these stimulus strategies also allow for funding of social housing programs including wrap around services for our most vulnerable residents; and

**THAT** OBCM urges the federal and provincial governments to work in partnership with municipalities to identify and accelerate key projects (see appendix) to serve as stimulus initiatives, ensuring that economic growth remains centered on protecting the livelihoods and well-being of the people who power our communities.



— **OBCM** —  
Ontario's Big City Mayors

## **Appendix** - large scale infrastructure projects from OBCM member municipalities

### City of Hamilton

- LRT Project - will connect Eastgate square to McMaster University
- Dundas Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades
- Kenilworth Access Road and Bridge Renewal

### Town of Whitby

- Construction of new Mid-Block Arterial Road between Cochrane Street/Highway 7 and Britannia Road in Oshawa
- Widening of Columbus Road between Country Lane and the east Town limits
- Construction of New Animal Services/Bylaw Enforcement Building

### Municipality of Clarington

- GO Train Extension to Courtice and Bowmanville
- Bowmanville Hospital Expansion
- Bridge to unlock Courtice Waterfront - a community park and residential development

### City of Greater Sudbury

- College Street Underpass Rehabilitation Project - will allow for repairs to Greater Sudbury's oldest bridge to accommodate three lanes of vehicular traffic under three Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) railway tracks.
- Valley East Twin Pad Multipurpose Sports Complex - a new-build facility that replaces multiple stand-alone aging community facilities that are at end of lifecycle.

### Town of Oakville

- Kerr Street Grade Separation - will provide an important link to connect Oakville residents to the Oakville GO Station, supporting the planned growth in ridership and increased service levels for GO Rail.
- Royal Windsor Drive Interchange improvements - needed for development in Midtown Oakville to proceed.
- Trafalgar and Dundas BRT - will provide a critical link for businesses and residents along the Trafalgar and Dundas corridors.



#### City of Kitchener

- Indoor Recreation Facility Quad Gymnasium - will create a much needed multi-use amenity for our rapidly growing community.
- Schneider / Shoemaker Creek Floodplain Remediation Project - will enable 11,000 new residential units.
- Sanitary Sewer Capacity Building Project - will enable 6,100 new residential units.

#### City of Brantford

- Brantford Sports and Entertainment Centre (SEC) - will see constructed a new, premier entertainment centre that creates economic stimulus by attracting visitors across the Province and creates jobs in the construction, hospitality, recreation, and other industries
- Brantford Wastewater Effluent Pumping Station - the construction of a new pumping station to discharge effluent and protect the City from future flooding events is a major infrastructure project that will improve public service for residents and create jobs in the construction industry
- Brantford Downtown Infrastructure Renewal - will reconstruct the significantly aging infrastructure in the downtown core, upsize existing infrastructure for growth, and create economic stimulus by reconstructing a new, beautiful streetscape to support local businesses. This creates jobs in construction and attracts new businesses to support job growth in all industries

#### City of Brampton

- City Lands Project: - the City of Brampton is spearheading a joint development partnership to transform City Lands. Currently, the 41-hectare site encompasses the CAA Centre (formerly the Powerade Centre) and the Brampton Sports Park. A newly proposed Multi-Purpose Cricket Facility – accommodating 20,000 spectator seats – will act as an anchor for a larger sports and entertainment complex and a catalyst for the development of a new walkable, transit-oriented, and sustainable mixed-use community.
- Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) - Brampton is planning a Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT project, which will involve dedicated bus lanes and enhanced transit stops. This project is expected to improve transit reliability and reduce travel times for residents.
- Downtown Revitalization - the Riverwalk project is anticipated to create 12,900 housing units, a redeveloped downtown core, and a direct connection to higher-order transit (HOT) systems, such as Light Rail Transit (LRT) and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT).

#### City of Mississauga

- New Transit Maintenance and Storage Facility - will provide critical capacity to support fleet growth tied to housing and population expansion. This investment is crucial for



increasing housing availability in our community and achieving the Government of Ontario's target of 120,000 new homes over the next 10 years.

- Downtown LRT Loop - will connect the City Centre to the Hurontario LRT, supporting intensification and key regional growth areas.
- Rehabilitation of Cooksville Community Centre and Library - will revitalize core infrastructure, serve a rapidly growing and diverse neighbourhood and continue to foster community participation.

#### City of Ottawa

- Greenbank Road realignment – a major road realignment and transitway extension in the city's south end, including a new bridge over the Jock River
- Upgrades to the city's wastewater treatment plant – will improve electrical reliability, enhance biogas capture, and ensure continuous operation during power outages.
- Trim Road Pedestrian bridge – will connect the Trim Road LRT station over highway 174 allowing for greater pedestrian and cycling access.

#### City of Cambridge

- Elgin Street Reconstruction - will upgrade water and stormwater infrastructure and replace roads / Wastewater
- Townline Road Reconstruction - will see road Widening of major roads to support growth
- Soper Park Pool Project - will replace an end of life decommissioned outdoor pool

#### City of St. Catharines

- Spring Garden Creek to YMCA Drive Sewer Upgrades
- New Zero Carbon Fire Hall #3
- Fairview Park Redevelopment Project

#### City of Waterloo

- Beaver Creek Road and Conservation Drive Pumping Stations - construction of 2 new pumping stations required to enable the creation of over 4,500 new homes in Waterloo.
- Albert McCormick Community Centre Renovation and Expansion - a significant redevelopment to enhance its energy efficiency, accessibility, and overall functionality.
- RIM Park GHG and Accessibility Retrofit Project – a major renovation of a key community asset that represents approximately 47% of the GHG savings required to meet the City's 2030 GHG emission target (in 2030).

#### City of Guelph

- Clythe Water Treatment Plant and Linear Services project, will relieve sewer capacity constraints and increase capacity for water treatment and conveyance, and addresses



increased water resiliency in the City's east end, which is required to enabling more housing

- Exhibition Park Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvements project, will address upgrades to all municipal utilities, address flooding, increase water resiliency, and see roads rebuilt, to add sanitary and water conveyance capacity to support current residents and future housing units within the catchment
- Outdoor Water Recreation Facilities project, will rehabilitate aging pool infrastructure and convert wading pools to splash pads, which is required to meet community accessibility needs and manage water resources efficiently

#### City of Burlington

- Walkers Line Reconstruction + Active Transportation - \$22M. Design 2026, Construct 2027
- Upper middle Road Reconstruction + Active Transportation - \$11M. Design 2026, Construct 2027
- Wolf Island Bridge Rehabilitation - \$10M. Design and Permitting 2026 Construct in 2027

#### City of Barrie

- Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion and Upgrade will allow the City to service growth and meet Lake Simcoe Protection Plan requirements
- Neighbourhood Reconstruction Projects will replace aging, deteriorated infrastructure including the City's oldest water mains and sewers
- Performing Arts Centre will allow for greater access to arts and culture within the City

#### Municipality of Chatham-Kent

- Sewage Pump Station #11 - community of Chatham in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent - \$33 Million - Service 1500+ new housing units in the north-west quadrant of Chatham – preliminary engineering design and can be fast tracked to shovel ready
- Chatham-Kent Community HUB – community of Chatham in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent - \$53 Million - New Library, Museum and City Hall all ADOA accessible, fully engineered design and shovel ready
- St. Clair College Community Park -west of community of Chatham in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent - \$5 Million - New 20 acre regional park with cricket pitch, indoor tennis dome, pickleball court, indoor multisport facility, soccer field, playground, fully engineered design and shovel ready



#### City of London

- Highbury Avenue Freeway Renewal - This shovel-ready project will implement life cycle renewal and improvements to this freeway between Hamilton Road and Highway 401. Highbury Avenue is an important entrance to London and a connection to the proposed PowerCo automotive battery manufacturing facility in St. Thomas (estimated cost \$40 - 50 M)
- Wharncliffe Underpass Replacement - Replacement and expansion of an aging road-rail grade separation on Wharncliffe Road at the CN rail line north of Horton Street. Addressing this long-standing bottleneck will improve traffic flow, improve safety and reduce cut-through traffic in adjacent residential neighbourhoods (estimated cost \$90 -100 M)
- Greenway Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity Restoration - Project will expand the Greenway Wastewater Treatment Plant capacity to enable housing growth in the north, central and south regions of London (estimated cost \$100 M)

#### Town of Ajax

- Hunt Street Extension - will connect Hunt Street to Westney Road
- Ajax Community Centre – North Community Park Renovation, will feature a new playground, skate park, pickleball courts, etc.

#### City of Richmond Hill

- Dave Barrow Civic Square – New destination park that will serve residents in an corridor targeted for significant residential intensification (Yonge/Major Mackenzie)
- Operations Centre Expansion – Expansion and upgrades necessary for Public Works Operations to serve current and forecast population with environmental improvements (Leslie/Elgin Mills)
- Bantry/Briggs Active Transportation Project – Pedestrian and cycling infrastructure near the future Yonge/High Tech Station of the Yonge North Subway Extension and to support the related increased residential density there.

#### City of Pickering

- Seaton Recreation Complex & Library Design and Construction Project, will build multi-purpose recreation complex with aquatic centre, two arenas, triple gymnasium, fitness centre and studios, walking track, library, and community park with sports courts, splash pads and destination playground.
- City of Pickering Fire Hall #5 Design and Construction Project, will build 2-Bay Fire Hall to replace existing Fire Hall #5 at end of life.



- City of Pickering Beachfront Park Master Plan Design and Construction Project, will rehabilitate and revitalize the waterfront and beachfront.

#### Town of Milton

- Two Way, All Day GO service to the Milton GO Station and Milton's MTSA.
- Investments to facilitate the construction of a second GO Station in the planned Agerton neighborhood. A new high-density, mixed-use area of Milton.

#### City of Windsor

- Cabana Road in Sandwich South Area – Walker Road to Lauzon  
Road widening and intersection improvements on Cabana Road East from Walker to Lauzon Parkway including storm, sanitary and water infrastructure in support of housing and employment lands in Sandwich South and the new regional Windsor-Essex Acute Care Hospital.
- Lauzon Connection – Cabana to 401  
Construction of a new major arterial roadway (Lauzon Parkway) to connect Cabana Road East through the Sandwich South development lands to the new Highway 401 interchange being designed by the Ministry of Transportation in accordance with the Lauzon Parkway Class Environmental Assessment Study. This is the extension of a major artery that services the east side of Windsor, including the new NextStar Battery Plant, new Regional Windsor-Essex Acute Care Hospital and industrial lands at the Windsor International Airport.
- Water Retention Treatment Basin (DMAF #4)  
Construction of a retention treatment basin to control combined sewer overflows along the west Windsor waterfront between Caron Avenue and the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant. This project was identified as a high priority in the City's Sewer Master Plan and will mitigate basement flooding for approximately 40,000 homes in Windsor.