



Website: durhamsafecycling.ca
Email: info@durhamsafecycling.ca
Mail: 1B-701 Rossland Road E.
Suite # 629
Whitby ON, L1N 9K3

Advocating for Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

The Regional Municipality of Durham
605 Rossland Road E.
Whitby ON
L1N 6A3

Via e-mail; Katlyn.bertin@durham.ca

February 07, 2022

Attention: Katlyn Bertin - Project Manager, Transportation Design

RE: Lake Ridge Road Rehabilitation Public Notice

Dear Katlyn,

Durham Region Cycling Coalition (DRCC) is a not-for-profit volunteer organization, representing the six cycle clubs as well as local cycling enthusiasts across Durham Region advocating for safe cycling improvements.

As a community partner, we are pleased to provide feedback relating to the above noted project specific to entrance grade improvements leading into the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Dagmar Forest property located at 1445 Lake Ridge Road.

Over the last number of years – with the support of TRCA and the Durham Mountain Bike Association– we have been in contact with the Region of Durham regarding this entrance. Our request has been based on improving public access and parking to the extensive trail network within Dagmar Forest via a controlled entrance from Lake Ridge Road. (Exhibit A)

Although receptive, Durham Region has not been supportive primarily due to the short vehicle sight line distance across this section of road which we understand.

This is mind, we are once again reaching out to Durham Region to review our previous request for sight line grade improvements, possible turn lanes and entrance modifications within the scope of the proposed construction project set to commence this year on Lakeridge Road.

The merits of this request are as follows;

- Dagmar Forest is a primary destination for mountain biking in Durham Region attracting thousands of users over the course of a year utilizing the extensive trail network. (Exhibit B)
- Envision Durham is projecting Durham's population growth to double by year 2051 to 1.3M which will place an ever-increasing demand for recreational forest access including Dagmar Forest.



Website: durhamsafecycling.ca
Email: info@durhamsafecycling.ca
Mail: 1B-701 Rossland Road E.
Suite # 629
Whitby ON, L1N 9K3

Advocating for Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

- Currently, the only public access to Dagmar Forest is by a trail located on Concession Road #7 with no on-site parking support at the trail head.
 - Presently, patrons are parking their vehicles on Concession Road #7 which was never designed for trail head parking.
 - This situation is both unsustainable and unsafe. (Exhibit C).
- This project presents an opportunity for a collaborative approach to cycling improvement as identified in the recently approved Durham Region Cycling Plan. (Exhibit D)
 - Durham residents clearly communicated the need for increased recreational cycling support noting the Regional Cycling Plan survey completed March 2020. (Exhibit E)
- Incorporating this request within the current construction project is a cost-effective solution given the safety concerns identified as well as addressing future recreational growth.
- Significantly improves the ability for first responder to access Dagmar Forest.
- With Durham Forest – which is managed by Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority - now exceeding parking limits, additional parking at Dagmar Forest would assist with parking relief.

Given the inherent benefits detailed and supported by our community partners, it is our belief the opportunity to encompass this request is within the reach of Durham Region and would be a community win for all stakeholders. As such, we are recommending this request to be included in the project.

In closing, on behalf of every-one at DRCC thank you for reviewing our feedback. Should you require additional supporting detail, we are available to discuss upon request.

Respectfully,

Ron Lalonde

Executive Director
Durham Region Cycling Coalition

- c.c. Deanna Cheriton – Senior Program Manager, Toronto Region Conservation Authority
Mark Boucher – President, Durham Mountain Bike Association
Kevin Ash – Durham Region Councillor, Toronto Region Conservation Authority Board Member
Joanne Dies - Durham Region Councillor, Toronto Region Conservation Authority Board Member
Gord Hightet - Durham Region Councillor, Toronto Region Conservation Authority Board Member
Phil Davies – Manager, Forestry and Greenspace Services, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Cory Byron – Forestry Program Coordinator, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority



Website: durhamsafecycling.ca
Email: info@durhamsafecycling.ca
Mail: 1B-701 Rossland Road E.
Suite # 629
Whitby ON, L1N 9K3

Advocating for Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

Exhibit A

Civic Address 1445 Lake Ridge Road

Photo Source: Google Street view





Website: durhamsafecycling.ca
 Email: info@durhamsafecycling.ca
 Mail: 1B-701 Rossland Road E.
 Suite # 629
 Whitby ON, L1N 9K3

Advocating for Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

Exhibit B

Dagmar Forest Trail Network

<https://www.trailforks.com/region/dagmar-north-trails/>



Link to Photo Collage- Durham Forest Users

<https://www.google.ca/maps/place/Dagmar+North+Trails+--+Primary+Mountain+Bike+Trails/@44.0188242,-79.0751436,16z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x89d522cde07cb5f5:0x13cd847367b777fec:18m2!3d44.0182928!4d-79.0746469?hl=en>



Website: durhamsafecycling.ca
Email: info@durhamsafecycling.ca
Mail: 1B-701 Rossland Road E.
Suite # 629
Whitby ON, L1N 9K3

Advocating for Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

Exhibit C

Concession Road #7 Trail Head - Parking Challenges and Safety Concerns

Photo Source; Google Maps September 2021

<https://www.google.ca/maps/place/Parking+for+Dagmar+North+trails/@44.0168112,-79.0701823,16.5z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x89d523eb71f56ef7:0x6d48483871b05030!8m2!3d44.0188126!4d-79.0752058?hl=en>



Exhibit D

Regional Cycling Plan – page 85

<https://www.durham.ca/en/living-here/resources/Regional-Cycling-Plan-2021---Final---October-2021.pdf>

Coordination . Chapter 6.0

Implementation Partnerships

The successful identification, development and delivery of the actions presented within the RCP is reliant on strong, active partnerships with the many stakeholders with ties to cycling in Durham Region. Though the RCP will be administered by Regional staff, its success relies on the collective efforts and support of the community at large.

Stakeholders can help shape the appropriate scale and scope of measures that should be undertaken and provide knowledge, resources, involvement and information that is crucial to their successful delivery.

Failing to activate this potential through the engagement of coordinated and collaborative partnerships, risks both the financial viability of these actions as well as the punctuality of the RCP’s implementation timeline.

The intent is to provide some direction and clarification around where and how Regional partners are meant to be engaged. A summary of key stakeholders is presented in **Figure 6-4**.

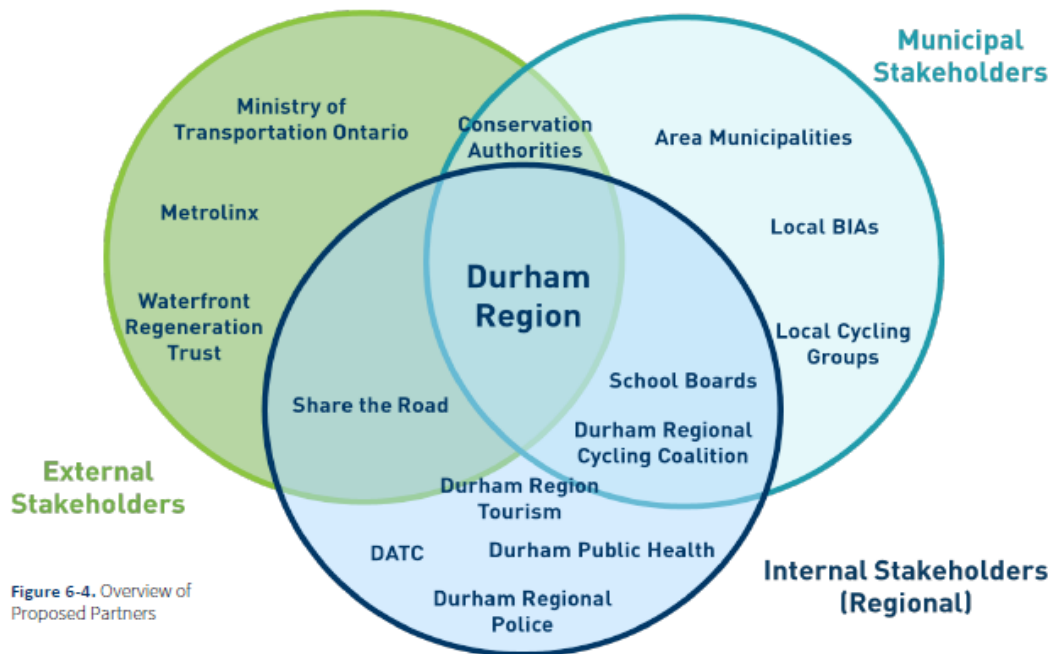


Figure 6-4. Overview of Proposed Partners



Website: durhamsafecycling.ca
 Email: info@durhamsafecycling.ca
 Mail: 1B-701 Rossland Road E.
 Suite # 629
 Whitby ON, L1N 9K3

Advocating for Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

Exhibit E

Region of Durham Survey March 26, 2020

<https://www.durham.ca/en/regional-government/resources/Documents/Council/CIP-Reports/CIP-Reports-2020/2020-INFO-49.pdf>

