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Advocating for Safe Cycling Throughout Durham Region

Township of Scugog
181 Perry St
PO Box 780
Port Perry, ON
L9L 1A7

Via E-Mail

Attention: Grant Taylor
Director, Public Works and Recreation

March 05, 2026

RE: Cycling Safety Concern - Marsh Hill Rd.

Dear Grant,

As an advocacy group in support of safe cycling, Durham Region Cycling Coalition (DRCC) is a not-for-profit volunteer organization whose membership includes four local cycle clubs as well as individual cyclists from across Durham Region.

As a background to this letter, DRCC reached out in January, 2024 to Municipal Director Carol Coleman regarding Marsh Hill Rd. conditions seeking road surface rehabilitation and speed limit reductions in support of safe cycling with the response being “no major resurfacing was planned for the near future and speed limits could not be adjusted down.”

Given the deteriorating conditions on Marsh Hill Rd. since our 2024 request, we are once again raising the issue noting this road is a primary cycle route in Durham Region used by our supporting members as well as being included within the provincially recognized “Green Belt Cycle Route”

As such, Marsh Hill Rd. from Goodwood Rd. south to Scugog Line #4 has seen significant road surface deterioration over the last number of years with many holes and patches causing issues for all road users. Further to this, conditions are now similar from Epsom south to Scugog Line #6 and extending into Utica with pot holes and broken asphalt.

Recognizing these conditions from a cyclist’s user perspective, can you please advise if there are plans for these sections of road to be resurfaced in 2026?



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Secondly, we are once again asking for a review of speed limits which are inconsistent.

Currently, departing Utica southbound to the intersection with Scugog Line #4, the limit increases from 40 km/h to 60km/h for a distance of 1.25km. Upon reaching the intersection with Scugog Line #4, the limit reverts to 50 km/h proceeding south westerly to the Ashburn Rd. intersection and then remains 50km/h on Ashburn Rd. south to Townline Rd., a distance of 5 km.

North of Goodwood Rd. departing Utica is also a concern with the speed limit moving from 40 km/h to 60 km/h across this 2.7km section of road and then back to 40km/h entering Epsom.

This said, our recommendation would be to reduce the 60km/h speed limit to a consistent 50km/h across the full length of this corridor while retaining the Community Safety Zone 40 km/h limits currently in place. This low-cost measure could be easily implemented with the result being an improvement to cyclist safety.

Lastly, upon review of the 2021 Scugog Active Transportation and Transportation Master Plan, Marsh Hill Rd. is identified as a primary cycle route with road asphalt conditions and speed also identified as challenges in need of improvement and aligns with our request. Please reference attachment A.

In closing, on behalf of every-one at DRCC, thank you for taking time to review our concerns and looking forward to a possible positive dialogue outcome in the near future. Should the need arise for clarity, our team would be available to meet in person to discuss at your discretion.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Lalonde".

Ron

Ron Lalonde
Executive Director
Durham Region Cycling Coalition
www.durhamsafecycling.ca

C.C I. McDougall, Scugog Regional Councillor
M. Kishinevsky, Director, Durham Region Cycling Coalition
F. Jewett, President, Uxbridge Cycle Club
R. Bishop, President, Durham Cycle Club

Attachment A



TABLE 4.3: PROPOSED CYCLING ROUTES – RURAL AREA

Route	Description	Opportunities	Challenges
Marsh Hill Road Road/Scugog Line 4/Ashburn Road from Scugog Line 12 to Townline Road ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install signed on-road bike route 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connects to other routes – part of proposed Regional Cycling Plan Update Primary Cycling Network Connects outside the Township Lower vehicular volumes along route Route frequently used by cyclists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May require intersection treatments at Regional Highway 47, Reach Street, and Goodwood Road (i.e., signs and pavement markings)² Higher speed roadway Existing road surface is in poor condition. Road resurfacing required. Cyclists and motorists may not be comfortable sharing the roadway