



# Council Highlights

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**March 27, 2024**

## **Key highlights:**

Regional Council began with a moment of reflection for four members of The Regional Municipality of Durham who recently passed away. Regional Chair Henry asked for everyone to please keep these individuals, and their families, in our thoughts.

The Durham Regional Police Services Board provided a quarterly update, which also outlined its 2024 budget and strategic operational priorities. Key highlights include a new dedicated headquarters facility; and the addition of 25 new front-line officers, 29 additional officers, and 22 civilian positions.

Council approved the 2024 Business Plans and Budget for property-tax-supported purposes. Report [2023-F-3](#) outlines a total of \$2.2 billion in gross expenditures, with a net property tax increase of 7.5 per cent (a monthly increase of approximately \$19 for a residential home assessed at \$483,100). Key highlights include the hiring of 16 new paramedics and purchase of two additional ambulances; increased Durham Region Transit (DRT) service levels; 34 new electric buses and supporting infrastructure; and expanded housing and homelessness support programs. [Review the full highlights here.](#)

A public meeting was held regarding the proposed water supply and sanitary sewer area specific [development charges By-law and background study](#) in the Seaton area. This includes minor proposed changes to align with the Region-specific development charges By-law.

Council passed a new By-law ([2024-WR-1](#)), which impacts various Regional waste management services. Report [2024-WR-2](#) also outlines that Durham Region will no longer provide Blue Box services to small businesses as of January 1, 2026; but endorses the creation of a recycling regulation for Ontario's industrial, commercial and institutional sectors.

A recording of the March 27 Regional Council meeting will be available on [durham.ca](#), and on the Region's [YouTube page](#).

The next regularly scheduled Regional Council Meeting is April 24, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

**Please note, this is not an official record of Regional Council.**

**Visit [durham.ca](#) for the official minutes.**