



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

FROM THE JULY 2, 2019 MEETING

Clarington may be getting another rainbow crosswalk



Photo above: Official opening of the rainbow crosswalk at Apple Blossom Boulevard and Mearns Avenue.

The Municipality is looking to have the Region install a rainbow crosswalk on Liberty Street just west of Bowmanville High School. Council directed staff to work with the Kawartha Pineridge District School Board and the Region of Durham on this project. The new crosswalk would be paid for in consultation between the School Board and the Region.

Clarington is also looking to repair the vandalized rainbow crosswalk at Apple Blossom Boulevard and Mearns Avenue. Staff will examine various options to clean or paint over the tire marks left on the crosswalk. Clarington will ask community organizations to assist with the cost of the repair.

For more information, see the [July 2 Council minutes](#).

Clarington Library and Museum are looking to merge



Photo above: Clarington Museum: Waverley Place

Clarington Council has directed staff to form a joint Museum Library transition committee and proceed with the next steps of potentially merging the Clarington Library Board and the Clarington Museums and Archives Board. Council reviewed a report that described the merger as a “natural partnership” between the library and the museum since both organizations offer universal access, enhance community development, provide a space for continued learning and education as well as social interaction. Currently, both the Clarington Library Board and the Clarington Museums and Archives Board are independently appointed and operate at arm’s length from the Municipality; this practice will continue with the merger. Both the Library and the Museum receive operating grants from the Municipality as well as other sources of funding. The transition committee will report back to Council in September on the potential merger.

For more information on the merger, see report [CAO-005-19](#).



For more information about Clarington’s Council and meetings, visit www.clarington.net/council.

Clarington is reviewing its forestry services

The Municipality is always looking to improve its services to ensure our residents get the best possible value for their tax dollars. To that end, Clarington will conduct a Forestry Services Delivery Review. The review will focus on how the service is currently delivered, define what success looks like from both the resident and staff perspective, analyze available data and trends related to the service and program, and recommend a future delivery model for the Municipality. Currently, Clarington's Operations Department is in charge of all forestry services including the Emerald Ash Borer tree removal and replacement program, maintaining over 20,000 boulevard trees, as well as trees across forests, rural roads, parks and open spaces.

For more information on the Forestry Services Delivery Review, see report [COD-010-19](#).



Photo above: Samuel Wilmot Nature Area

Explaining ZONE Clarington

The Municipality is taking proactive measures to respond to concerns raised by rural residents regarding the ZONE Clarington initiative, which involves a comprehensive review of Clarington's Zoning By-laws. Many residents came out to the Planning and Development Committee meeting on June 24 to listen to a staff presentation, ask questions and seek answers about the zoning review.

The mandatory review is underway to ensure that Clarington's two current Zoning By-laws conform to the Clarington Official Plan amendment adopted in 2017. In addition, Clarington's Zoning By-law must conform to policies and land use planning documents set out by the Region of Durham and the Province.

Some Clarington rural residents expressed concerns over the proposed expanded Environmental Protection zone on rural lands. ZONE Clarington hopes to clarify any confusion and create more transparency when it comes to zoning. The Municipality has been able to map out its new proposed zoning rules using new mapping technology. Some residents were concerned that the new maps showed a lot more land in the rural areas zoned Environmental Protection. In the past, zoning was not mapped out to this extent due to technology limitations and was only stated in words without a visual representation.

To help eliminate any confusion about this initiative, Council has directed staff to consult with concerned property owners. Council has also directed staff to fix any errors in Official Plan amendments to Environmental Protection designations at no cost to residents. Staff have also been asked to improve communications with all residents affected by the proposed changes.

For more information on ZONE Clarington, [visit our website](#). For more information on Council's direction to staff regarding ZONE Clarington, see the [July 2 Council minutes](#).

Clarington is taking a closer look at shoreline erosion and mitigation funding options



Photo above: Water surges from Lake Ontario during the 2017 flooding at Cedar Crest Beach Road.

Clarington Council has been examining the issue of Lake Ontario shoreline erosion as it relates to the portion of shoreline along Cedar Crest Beach Road in Port Darlington. This area has also experienced flooding in 2017 and again in 2019. Following the completion of several studies led by the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) that looked at shoreline erosion and flood mitigation in the area, Council has asked staff to provide a report estimating the quantity of waterfront land that may have been lost along Cedar Crest Beach Road over time. Council has also asked staff to provide a detailed cost of municipal response during and since the 2017 flooding in that area; this would include emergency response and operations assistance. The costs associated with shoreline erosion and flood mitigation are significant. Council also asked that the Municipality, in partnership with CLOCA, bring together representatives from Votorantim Company, owner of St. Marys Cement, federal and provincial officials and other government agencies to explore funding options for an engineering solution to the shoreline erosion issue. Staff will provide an update to Council on this matter in the fall.

For more information on this issue, including background on the work completed to date and shoreline erosion and flood mitigation recommendations for the Port Darlington (west shore) area, see report [CA0-006-19](#).

Clarington to undergo an organizational review pending provincial grant funding

The Municipality of Clarington is looking to take advantage of Ontario's Audit and Accountability Fund to perform an organizational review. The review will look at how the administration is structured and recommend streamlining operations. As set out in the provincial guidelines, pending grant funding, the review will be conducted by a third-party with a public report distributed by November 30. The expectation from the Province is that any municipality undertaking this review will find four per cent savings in its operations. While finding savings and maintaining services is not guaranteed, Clarington Council authorized staff to conduct the review. Stay tuned for the results.

For more information on the organizational review, see report [FND-021-19](#).