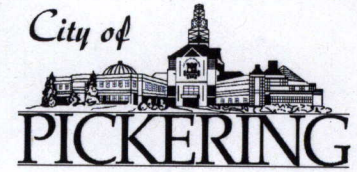


COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Highway 407 East – Preferred Route Approved

Council approved the Highway 407 East Technically Preferred Route and advised that the 407 Project Team revise the preliminary design for the proposed bridge crossings to include the City's suggestions, which included that MTO acquire and transfer to the City sufficient land for 18 metre-radius cul-de-sacs for the candidate roads for permanent closure. In keeping with the City's sustainability initiatives, it was requested that the environmental impact on surrounding properties be minimized and mitigated with adequate measures.

Council also requested that the 407 EA Team consider a better location for the highway maintenance facility that does not conflict with potential urban development plans.

(Full details can be found in Report OES 07-09)

- Kirsten Schmidt-Chamberlain, Executive Director of **Durham Hospice** appeared before Council to thank the City for their ongoing support, and provide an update on Durham Hospice's 2009 initiatives, including the Durham Hospice Gala on May 9, 2009.

- Council endorsed the concept of development of an **Urban Forest Strategy**, which is a comprehensive document that establishes the guiding principles for the management and enhancement of the City's urban forest and tree canopy. Staff were directed to include funding for this study in the 2009 budget submission for Council.

(Full details can be found in Report OES 01-09)

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

In 2005, the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* was passed with the goal of creating benchmarks for accessibility standards across the province. All public sector organizations with 20 or more employees must comply with this standard by January 2010.

In preparation for this, the City of Pickering Council has approved the Policy ADM 090 - Accessibility Standards for Customer Service and further endorsed the 2009 City of Pickering **Annual Accessibility Plan**. These policies and procedures were created to ensure the City's compliance and commitment to the AODA.

(Full details can be found in Report CAO 01-09)

Proclamations

- March 26, 2009 as Purple Day for Epilepsy
- May 9, 2009 as Science Rendezvous Day
- May 17-23, 2009 as Energy Conservation Week