

Investment in infrastructure will support growth

by Regional Chair Gary Carr

Halton Region is growing as our high quality of life continues to attract new residents. With the Provincial "Places to Grow" plan, which mandates Halton's population to increase to 780,000 people and 390,000 jobs between 2021-2031, Regional Council remains committed to investing in new infrastructure to support this growth.

On December 16, 2009, Halton Regional Council approved the Region's 2010 Budget and Business Plan, delivering a 0.2% tax reduction for Regional programs and services and a combined water and wastewater rate freeze for Halton residents.

The 2010 budget offers residents the financial relief they need while enhancing Halton's core programs and services, and without a reduction to the Regional investment in infrastructure.

The budget delivers the second largest capital infrastructure investment program in the

Region's 35-year history, with an investment of \$394.7 million. This funding will be used to upgrade, expand and rehabilitate Halton's infrastructure. This funding includes \$109.3 million for transportation, \$252.8 million for water and wastewater, and \$1.5 million for waste management.

Along with this investment was the infrastructure funding from Federal and Provincial Governments that was announced in June 2009. As a result of this funding, we were able to accelerate some of the large capital projects with financing provided from the infrastructure funding.

Halton's capital infrastructure investment program is being used to upgrade, expand and rehabilitate Halton's infrastructure.

As Halton Region continues to evolve, we need to work together to ensure that Halton remains a great place to live, work, raise a family, and retire. If you have any Regional concerns or comments you would like to share, please feel free to email me at gary.carr@halton.ca.

Infrastructure Funding from Federal and Provincial Governments at Work

Burlington Skyway Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion

Funding: \$103 million for the expansion and upgrade of the Skyway Wastewater Treatment Plant in Burlington

Benefits: The upgrades and expansion at the Skyway plant will minimize the environmental impact of the wastewater released into Hamilton Harbour and will create close to 1,700 jobs. The work will also improve the waterfront experience in Halton's communities.

Timeframe: 2010 – 2011

Oakville Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant

Funding: \$33.4 million for improvements to Oakville Southwest Wastewater Treatment Plant

Benefits: Improvements to the Oakville Southwest plant will ensure that wastewater entering Lake Ontario will continue to meet high standards, providing significant environmental benefits to the lake.

Timeframe: 2010 – 2011

Widening of Tremaine Road between Main Street and Derry Road, Milton

Funding: \$10.6 million towards widening of Tremaine Road, between Main Street and Derry Road, Milton

Benefits: The widening of Tremaine Road from Derry Road to Main Street will alleviate traffic congestion and help support the Region's economic growth.

Timeframe: 2010 – 2011

Meetings at Halton Region Headquarters

Feb. 2, 9:30 a.m. Health & Social Services Cte
Feb. 3, 9:30 a.m. Planning & Public Works Cte
Feb. 3, 1:30 p.m. Administration & Finance Cte
Feb. 10, 9:30 a.m. Regional Council Meeting
Feb. 15 Offices closed for Family Day
Feb. 23, 9:30 a.m. Health & Social Services Cte
Feb. 24, 9:30 a.m. Planning & Public Works Cte
Feb. 24, 1:30 p.m. Administration & Finance Cte
 Meetings can be viewed at www.halton.ca

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 The Regional Municipality of Halton • 1151 Bronte Rd., Oakville, Ontario L6M 3L1