



The Regional  
Municipality  
of Durham

Corporate Services  
Department  
Legislative Services

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**Don Beaton, BCom, M.P.A.**  
Commissioner of Corporate  
Services

November 24, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Room 281  
Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford:

**RE: Bus Stop Dead End Roads, Our File: T02**

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Council of the Region of Durham, at its meeting held on November 24, 2021, adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas Dead-End Road delegations have been received from parents in attached correspondence, website [www.durhamdeadendroadkids.ca](http://www.durhamdeadendroadkids.ca) and video [www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCVNLsUKk&t=18s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCVNLsUKk&t=18s) noting approximately 386 Durham Region kids and families remain in crisis walking kilometres daily to wait on highspeed roadway shoulders with winter dark coming;

And whereas the Ontario Ministry of Transportation has responded and now amended their Policy to allow and provide guidelines for reversing a school bus on a dead end road <https://www.ontario.ca/document/official-ministry-transportation-mto-bus-handbook/special-safety-precautions-school-bus-drivers> which is in keeping with the previous historic practice of using smaller buses, doing 3-point turns and using a spotter in rural areas;

And whereas to date 10 municipalities across Ontario have passed a resolution endorsing Scugog's bus stops on dead end roads Resolutions CR-2021-086 (April 26, 2021) and CR-2021-175 (June 28, 2021), given family safety challenges exist on dead-end roads throughout the province;

And whereas Report PWIS-2021-022, Williams Point Road and Beacock Road School Bus Turnarounds, be received noting municipal cost for construction of school bus turnarounds is prohibitive with 178 dead end roads now not accessed by Durham District School Board alone not including hundreds of roads around province, and any funds invested in turnarounds would not be consistent with asset management priorities promoted by the Province of Ontario;

And whereas to date Durham Student Transportation Services have not re-considered the previous motions or adjusted their policies, citing Ontario Ministry of Transportation policy changes are “guidelines” only, <https://www.durhamregion.com/news-story/10445254-mto-tweaks-unlikely-to-reverse-scugog-route-changes-dsts/> are not “direction to school boards” <https://www.durhamregion.com/news-story/10445254-mto-tweaks-unlikely-to-reverse-scugog-route-changes-dsts/> , maintaining far-distanced highspeed roadside common stops are safer;

Now therefore be it resolved:

That Council request the Ministry of Education and the Province of Ontario to amend policies requiring Student Transportation Services and School Boards around the Province work with parents to facilitate the use of smaller buses, spotters, and 3-point turns or backing up where necessary, to provide safer service to dead-end and private road children and prevent the need for additional turnarounds to be constructed on municipal roads; and

That a copy of this motion and the staff report from the Township of Scugog be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Honorable Stephen Lecce (Minister of Education), Honorable Caroline Mulroney (Minister of Transport), Durham Student Transportation Services, all school boards serving Durham Region, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott, all Durham MPPs, all Ontario Municipalities, Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA), and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).”

Please find enclosed a copy of Report #PWIS-2021-022, from the Township of Scugog, for your information.

*Ralph Walton*

Ralph Walton,  
Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

RW/ks

Attachment

c: The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education  
The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transport  
Nadiya Viyiv, Durham Student Transportation Services

Durham Catholic District School Board  
Durham District School Board  
Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board  
Peterborough, Victoria, Northumberland and Clarington Catholic  
District School Board  
Conseil Scolaire Catholique MonAvenir  
Conseil Scolaire Viamonde  
Rod Phillips, MPP (Ajax)  
Lindsey Park, MPP (Durham)  
Laurie Scott, MPP (Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes/Brock)  
David Piccini, MPP (Northumberland/Peterborough South)  
Jennifer French, MPP (Oshawa)  
Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP (Pickering/Uxbridge)  
Lorne Coe, MPP (Whitby)  
All Ontario Municipalities  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)  
Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
S. Siopis, Commissioner of Works