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Chief Administrative Officer

December 16, 2025

From: Kevin Heathcote
Director, City Infrastructure

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Subject: Kingston Road Sidewalk Status and BRT Implementation Update
File: A-1440

Background

In 2019, the Engineering Services Department reviewed sidewalk gaps along Kingston Road from Rouge River Bridge (west) to Notion Road (east), a corridor spanning approximately 7.8 kilometres. At that time, Kingston Road featured a mix of urbanized and rural cross-sections, resulting in gaps where sidewalks were not constructed.

The 2019 review identified 4,160 metres of sidewalk gaps:

- **North Side:** 1,640 metres (21 percent of corridor)
- **South Side:** 2,520 metres (32 percent of corridor)

These gaps were primarily due to rural cross-sections (lack of boulevard platform available), pinch points at the Canadian National Railway crossing, and elevation differences. Some sections were scheduled for City-led construction, while others depended on Metrolinx's Durham–Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Environmental Assessment for future widening and the resulting proposed Region of Durham's BRT projects.

Current Status

Progress to infill the sidewalk gaps has been made since 2019 through land development, City-led projects, and Region of Durham's BRT initiatives. The Region's BRT program will incorporate active transportation elements, including one-way cycle tracks and sidewalks on both sides of Kingston Road across all segments.

Below is an updated table of existing sidewalk gaps along Kingston Road.

	Side	Description	Length (m)
1	North	From 115 m east of the Highway 401/Whites Road ON/OFF Ramp to Fairport Road	290
2	North	From Merritton Road to Dixie Road	670
3	North	From 115 m east of Dixie Road to 50 m west of Walnut Lane	130
4	North	From 115 m east of Walnut Lane to Glendale Drive	430
		North Side Subtotal	1,520
5	South	From Rosebank Road to Acura Pickering	350
6	South	From Highway 401/Whites Road ON/OFF Ramp to Dixie Road	1,270
7	South	From 290 m east of Valley Farm Road to Denmar Road	330
		South Side Subtotal	1,950
		Total	3,470 m

Since 2019, the cumulative gap on the north side of Kingston Road has decreased from 1,640 meters to 1,520 meters, accounting for 19% of the total length. Likewise, on the south side, the cumulative gap has been reduced from 2,520 meters to 1,950 meters, representing 25% of the overall length.

Due to challenges such as rural cross-sections, inadequate widths, crossing of Petticoat Creek and pinch points at the CN Rail underpass, the installation of further sidewalks are not feasible at this time. **All remaining gaps will be completed through the implementation of the Region of Durham’s BRT project.**

Additional information regarding phasing linked to each gap identified is provided below:

1. North Side from 115 m east of the Highway 401/Whites Road ON/OFF Ramp to Fairport Road

Pedestrian facilities will be included in the Region of Durham’s Phase 1 BRT construction that runs from Steeple Hill to Merritton Drive. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2026, with substantial completion targeted for summer 2028.

2. North Side from Merritton Road to Dixie Road

Pedestrian facilities within this section will be included in the future phase of Durham Region BRT construction from Merritton Road to Dixie Road. Design is anticipated to commence in 2026, however, construction timing is currently unknown. The scope of this work includes a twinning of the CN Rail grade separation for westbound traffic.

3. North Side from 115 m east of Dixie Road to 50 m west of Walnut Lane

Pedestrian facilities will be included in Phase 2 BRT works which runs from Dixie Road to Bainbridge Drive. Construction for this segment is expected to begin in summer 2026, with substantial completion anticipated by the end of 2028.

4. North Side from 115 m east of Walnut Lane to Glendale Drive

Pedestrian facilities will be included in Phase 2 BRT works which runs from Dixie Road to Bainbridge Drive. Construction for this segment is expected to begin in summer 2026, with substantial completion anticipated by the end of 2028.

5. South Side from Rosebank Road to the Acura Dealership

Pedestrian facilities and widening across Petticoat Creek will be included in the BRT works from Altona Road to Steeple Hill. Detailed design is currently advancing for this phase, but construction budget has not yet been approved by the Region of Durham.

6. South Side from Highway 401/Whites Road ON/OFF Ramp to Dixie Road

Pedestrian facilities will be included in the Region of Durham's Phase 2 BRT construction that runs from Steeple Hill to Merritton Drive. Construction for Phase 2 is anticipated to begin in spring 2026, with substantial completion targeted for summer 2028. Pedestrian Facilities from Merritton Drive to Dixie Road will be included in a future phase. Design for this phase is anticipated to commence in 2026, however, construction timing is currently unknown. The scope of this work includes a twinning of the CN Rail grade separation for westbound traffic.

7. South Side from 290 m east of Valley Farm Road to Denmark Road

Pedestrian facilities will be included in the Region of Durham's Phase 2 BRT construction which runs from Dixie Road to Bainbridge Drive. Construction for this segment is expected to begin in summer 2026, with completion anticipated by the end of 2028.

Durham Region Bus Rapid Transit Update

The Region has confirmed that they are currently tendering the Kingston Road BRT segment from Steeple Hill to Merritton Road. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2026, with substantial completion targeted for summer 2028.

Following the Steeple Hill to Merritton Road tender, the Region intends to tender the Kingston Road Bus Rapid Transit segment from Dixie Road to Bainbridge Drive. Construction for this segment is expected to begin in late spring or early summer 2026, with completion anticipated by the end of 2028.

Detailed design is advancing for two additional segments within the City of Pickering:

- Kingston Road from Altona Road to Steeple Hill
- Kingston Road from Bainbridge Drive to Notion Road

Although design work is underway, these segments are not yet funded for utility relocations or construction, and therefore no construction timelines have been established.

The Region also plans to initiate design in 2026 for the Kingston Road segment from Merritton Road to Dixie Road. Similar to the segments noted above, construction for this section is not currently funded, and timelines remain undetermined.

The proposed design for all Pickering segments includes a one-way cycle track and a sidewalk on each side of Kingston Road.

Summary Table

Location	Status
Phase 1: Steeple Hill – Merritton Rd.	Out for Tender, Construction 2026 to 2028
Phase 2: Dixie Rd – Bainbridge Dr.	Tender 2026, Construction 2026 to 2028
Altona Rd. – Steeple Hill	Detailed design underway, construction TBD
Bainbridge Dr. – Notion Rd.	Detailed design underway, construction TBD
Merritton Rd. – Dixie Rd.	Detailed design commencing in 2026, construction TBD

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