

Sent Via Email



November 29, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1
Premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier:

RE: Removal of Tolls on Highways 412 and 418

**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Office of the Regional
Chair

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John Henry
Regional Chair and CEO

On behalf of the Region of Durham, we are writing to share our deep disappointment about the unfairness of the provincial decision to move ahead with new highway projects in other regions, Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass, with the commitment that neither will be tolled.

Highways 412 and 418 in Durham Region are the only tolled north-south highways in Ontario.

We have been consistent, and vocal, in our advocacy for fair and equitable application of tolls across the GTHA. Despite these requests, the 400, 403, 404, 410 and newly expanded 427 remain free to use.

All Ontarians, including Durham Region residents, contribute to the construction and maintenance of these highways. However, it's only in Durham that residents pay to use the connecting links to the 407.

At the current levels of utilization on Highway 412, parallel two-lane Regional roads carry increasing traffic volumes leading to capacity and congestion issues. Durham is growing at incredible speed, and we need to ease congestion and unlock housing and job creation opportunities along the highway to support our growth.

It is time for the Province to remove the tolls on the 412 and 418; to address the economic disadvantage to local businesses and residents that rely on these highways for the movement of people and goods. Maximizing the use of the 412 and 418 will reduce the congestion on our local roads, connect people to jobs and support economic recovery.

We need Provincial leadership and immediate action to remove tolls on the 412 and 418 to create equity and support economic recovery across the GTHA.

Yours truly,

John Henry
Chair and CEO
Regional Municipality of Durham

Shaun Collier
Mayor, Town of Ajax

John Grant
Mayor, Township of Brock

Adrian Foster
Mayor, Municipality of Clarington

Dan Carter
Mayor, City of Oshawa

Dave Ryan
Mayor, City of Pickering

Bobbie Drew
Mayor, Township of Scugog

Dave Barton
Mayor, Township of Uxbridge

Don Mitchell
Mayor, Town of Whitby

- c: Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, MPP for Pickering
Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Long-Term Care, MPP for Ajax
Lorne Coe, MPP for Whitby
Jennifer French, MPP for Oshawa
Laurie Scott, MPP-Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes/Brock
Lindsey Park, MPP for Durham
Patrick Sackville, Office of the Premier
Carlo Oliviero, Office of the Premier
Durham Regional Council