



Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agendas from the **Council Meeting** on April 22 and **Committee of the Whole** meeting on April 8, 2025. Please note, the council composition item was not discussed and will be postponed to a later date. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title. Images are also linked to relevant resources.

- Service Simcoe



By-law enacted to initiate changes to size and composition of County Council

County Councillors enacted a by-law to initiate changes to the size and composition of County Council, which would reduce it from 32 members to 17 members. This marks one more step in a comprehensive process, which included a public meeting on March 11, 2025 where feedback from the public was received.

The enactment of this by-law marks the first step in the 'triple majority' process. This process requires a majority of votes on County Council (which has now been achieved), a majority of lower-tier councils passing resolutions consenting to the by-law (which will commence in the coming weeks), and the consenting lower-tier councils representing a majority of all electors in the upper-tier municipality.

The by-law will now be circulated to the 16 lower-tier councils for further consideration, with responses requested by June 30, 2025. If approved, these decisions would take effect for the 2026-2030 term. The current structure will continue for the remainder of the current term of County Council.

To view our news release, please click [here](#).



Birch Street affordable housing redevelopment project

The Birch Street Affordable Housing Redevelopment Project aims to transfer lands to the Simcoe County Housing Corporation for the construction of a 30-unit, three-storey modular building designed for individuals, seniors, and families. The project, located at 29 and 45 Birch Street in Collingwood, is budgeted at \$18.1 million, with \$750,000 from the Canada-Ontario Housing Initiative Capital funding.

Council approved the project budget, that staff proceed with the appropriate planning approvals, design, contract award, site preparation, and construction of the project, and that staff investigate and apply for additional funding opportunities that can be applied to this project.

To view the full report, please click [here](#).



LINX Transit bus order impacts

Due to a significant impact on the proposed 2025 rollout of Route 7 that was revealed in November 2024, Council approved the procurement of additional transit fleet through the Metrolinx Transit Procurement Initiative program.

In 2023, the County of Simcoe ordered four buses from Vicinity Motor Corporation. The order was cancelled when the company entered receivership, delaying Route 7 (Barrie, Innisfil, Bradford) until the new buses arrived. After looking at other options, the staff decided that the Metrolinx Transit Procurement Initiative program was the best way to get the buses needed for Route 7.

To view the full report, please click [here](#).



2024 Annual Accessibility Status Report

The County of Simcoe 2024-2028 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan requires the posting of an annual report that outlines a variety of accessibility accomplishments and progress made by the County during the year. This is the first annual report under the new Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, and shouldn't be viewed as a comprehensive list of the County's accomplishments but instead as a general overview of major accomplishments and progress made towards compliance with the standards.

To view the annual report, please click [here](#).

Council Agenda - April 22, 2025

Committee of the Whole Agenda - April 8, 2025

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