

June 8, 2026

Mayor Kevin Ashe  
City of Pickering  
1 The Esplanade  
Pickering, ON L1V 6K7

**Re: Participation in the Canada–Ontario Development Charges Reduction Program**

Dear Mayor Ashe,

The Toronto Regional Real Estate Board (TRREB) and the Central Lakes Association of REALTORS® (CLAR) represent 70,000 real estate professionals across the Greater Toronto Area, Durham and surrounding regions. On behalf of our associations and Members, we are writing to urge the City of Pickering to apply for funding under the Canada–Ontario Development Charges Reduction Program (the “Program”) before the June 19 deadline.

Housing affordability remains a central economic and social priority for the region. Development charges (DCs), while essential to funding local infrastructure, have substantially increased the upfront cost of new housing delivery. This, in turn, contributes to higher purchase prices and rental costs. TRREB and CLAR have consistently advocated for policies that balance the need for infrastructure funding with strategies that remove barriers to housing supply and affordability.

The Program presents a meaningful opportunity for municipalities to reduce development charges for eligible housing projects while accessing provincial funding to offset related fiscal impacts. Participation aligns with shared objectives of all orders of government to accelerate housing supply, reduce affordability pressures, and foster complete, sustainable communities.

We urge the City of Pickering to give prompt consideration to applying for the Program and to take all necessary steps to maximize potential benefits for residents, builders, and the housing market at large.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,



Daniel Steinfeld  
President  
Toronto Regional Real Estate Board



Christine Riley  
President  
Central Lakes Association of REALTORS®

Cc: Minister Rob Flack  
Municipal Affairs & Housing