

Ontario Society of Professional Engineers Survey

What are the top five major infrastructure projects needed in your municipality, in order of importance?

1. Bolstering Active Transportation infrastructure (including upgrading and integrating public dedicated bike lanes and championing walkable communities)
2. Developing a Public Space (including establishing Waterfront Innovation District with a cutting edge, quiet and clean transportation network; a North-End Library; an East-End Community Centre; and more protected park space)
3. Expanding Fibre Optic Network (including adding an Internet Exchange Point (IXP) to the network and seeking a fibre link from Kingston to New York State)
4. Improving Road Maintenance and Snow Removal programs (including increased urban intensification, which lessens need to repair and plow further and further from the city's periphery)
5. Constructing the Third Crossing of the Great Cataraqui River (including a dedicated space for public transit, biking and walking)

What would you do to help implement essential infrastructure projects in your municipality, including those that impact surrounding municipalities?

I commit to using evidence based policy in decision making. I will seek opportunities to collaborate with other municipalities (both institutionally through the OMA and FCMA and formally through partnerships across all sectors) to share best practices, find economies of scale and augment regional or scalar purchasing power.

In other words, I would not try to reinvent the wheel. I would look for partners in my area or partners of similar sized cities to learn and improve upon past projects and keep project costs to a minimum while maintaining infrastructural integrity.

How do you envision financing major infrastructure projects and how would you ensure they will be viable and maintained for the long term?

We have a tremendous opportunity to re-direct infrastructure funding in Kingston by incentivizing "Smart Growth" and discouraging low-density sprawl, particularly (but not only) at the urban fringe.

The re-directed funds could be found by deferring (for 2 or 3 years) municipal development charges paid by developers on new residential/commercial developments that adhere to

"Smart Growth" design principles.

The avoided future infrastructure and servicing costs from this more sustainable growth pattern would then allow for some of the saved capital to be spent on other projects such as financing/paying off the municipal portion (33%) of the Third Crossing of the Cataraqui River.

Although enacted by the provincial government, municipalities are mandated to enforce regulations within the *Building Code Act* and other *Acts*. In regard to conservation, how would you encourage and in some cases enforce energy and water conservation as required in these various *Acts*?

If elected I will work with my municipal counterparts across the province (officially through the OMA and in regional teams) to lobby for increased conservation considerations in the *Acts*. Specifically, I would encourage LEED structures and practices and I believe that monetary incentive, such as reduced building permit fees, may help realize this goal. Another example, the City of Kitchener, provided grants for LEED buildings.

Concerning existing regulations, public education is imperative. As Mayor I will lead by example: I plan to harness the media (from formal press releases, speeches and events to spontaneous spectacles equivalent to #IceBucketChallenge) to publicize my professional and personal conservation practices.

This commitment to conservation has been demonstrated throughout my candidacy. During debates, I have suggested practical and principled steps that will move our city to be more sustainable. By attending events - such as *Managing Energy* by SWITCH – and meeting with key stakeholders such as the CEO of our local utility, I have further informed myself of best practices and emerging technologies.

Additionally, enhanced enforcement is also necessary to see conservation. Elsewhere, I have proposed partnership between Kingston's post-secondary institutions and the City's By-Law Enforcement Department to see the training and utilization of college and university students in by-law enforcement.

Similarly, collaborative educational and enforcement efforts can be promoted with our local School Boards and regional Conservation Authority.