

City of Barrie
70 Collier Street
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Dear Members of Council,

On behalf of our coalition of Ontario civil infrastructure leaders, builders, suppliers, and engineers, we are asking the City of Barrie to implement the following policy changes in the delivery of its public infrastructure projects that will both save costs and advance sustainability goals:

- Include the use of RCA in project tenders
- Mandate a minimum of 20 percent RCA on those projects
- Harmonize municipal specifications for RCA with provincial OPSS1010 standards

Recycled Crushed Aggregate (RCA) is asphalt and/or concrete reclaimed from old infrastructure that undergoes rigorous quality assurance and control processes to be used again in new construction projects. Extensive testing shows that when adhering to provincial standard OPSS1010, RCA meets, and at times exceeds, performance standards of primary aggregates.

As municipalities continue to address growing infrastructure needs and aging assets, the inclusion of RCA in construction projects can provide immediate savings to taxpayers. Municipalities are the largest consumers of aggregates in the province, using between 60 and 70 million tonnes annually. By increasing the use of RCA, the City can both reduce its carbon footprint and deliver more from its capital budget, including helping to close the state-of-good-repair backlog.

By incorporating just 20 percent RCA in critical projects such as roads, subdivisions, highways, bridges, and tunnels, municipalities can achieve significant cost savings—amounting to more than \$260 million annually across Ontario. At the same time, this policy change could reduce greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to removing 15 million gas cars from the road each year.

RCA is a high-performing, sustainable material that has already been used extensively across Ontario, including in our 400-series highways, Pearson International Airport, and Greater Toronto Area transit systems and subdivisions.

By making these changes, the City can take a leadership role in driving sustainable infrastructure practices while reducing costs. To learn more, please visit RCAontario.ca.

Thank you for your consideration of this important opportunity. We look forward to your support in advancing more sustainable and cost-effective practices to deliver our municipal infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Raly Chakarova
Executive Director, Toronto and Area Road Builders Association (TARBA)
raly@tarba.org | Cell: 416-937-7302



Good Roads

