

Sent by e-mail to: Minister.MOI@ontario.ca
Minister.mah@ontario.ca

August 8, 2025

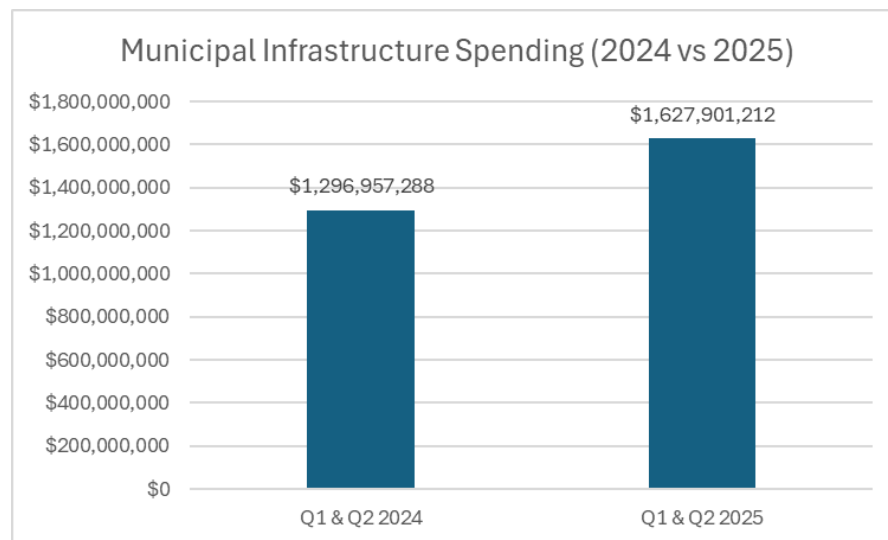
The Honourable Kinga Surma
Minister of Infrastructure
College Park, 5th Floor, Room 5E200
777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

The Honourable Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park, 17th
777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Surma and Minister Flack,

I write to you in the spirit of collaboration to achieve our shared goals of enabling housing and economic growth while protecting the province from economic disruption.

Some have speculated that municipalities have slowed infrastructure investments in the face of tariffs and trade disruptions. However, AMO recently surveyed nine large municipalities and found that infrastructure spending actually increased this year:



Note: representative sample from across the province. Includes regions and single tier municipalities only. Quarters reference the municipal fiscal year.

Despite rising construction costs, many municipalities are actively increasing construction in 2025 to meet provincial housing targets, manage climate change, and maintain critical

infrastructure. This is positive news, but municipalities are still grappling with uncertainty and price escalation.

To help keep these projects on track and accelerate others, AMO recommends that your ministries:

- **Increase contingency allowances** for the Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund and Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program to cover unexpected budget increases from tariffs and trade disruption. This will keep ongoing, provincially funded projects moving forward.
- **Disperse unallocated Building Faster Fund dollars** through the same existing Ministry of Infrastructure programs. With many over-subscribed, shovel-ready projects already in the queue, these funds can be put to work now. Investing in infrastructure today is smart, as it ensures it will be ready when the market rebounds and developers are prepared to build.
- **Increase funding to municipalities for infrastructure** by delivering on your government's platform commitment. Allocating additional funding through existing programs is efficient, as municipalities have already invested in robust applications. Consider increasing the cap on the provincial share to enable more high-impact projects to proceed.

Accelerating our long list of shovel-ready municipal infrastructure projects would stimulate Ontario's economy, create jobs, and build the long-term infrastructure needed for a strong, resilient, and competitive provincial economy.

AMO appreciates your government's significant investments in municipal infrastructure in recent years. Now is the right time to respond to the urgency of the moment and increase these investments to protect our economy and support our housing and growth goals.

Lindsay Jones (ljones@amo.on.ca) would be pleased to discuss further should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Robin Jones
AMO President
Mayor of the Village of Westport

cc: Ali Veshkini, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Infrastructure
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing