

faculty of environmental studies

Graduate Students in Regional Planning | Studies of the Greater Golden Horseshoe Greenbelt Plan

Contemporary regional planning issues include: governance, growth management, transportation, food security, social justice, marketing and ecological values.

TRANSPORTATION

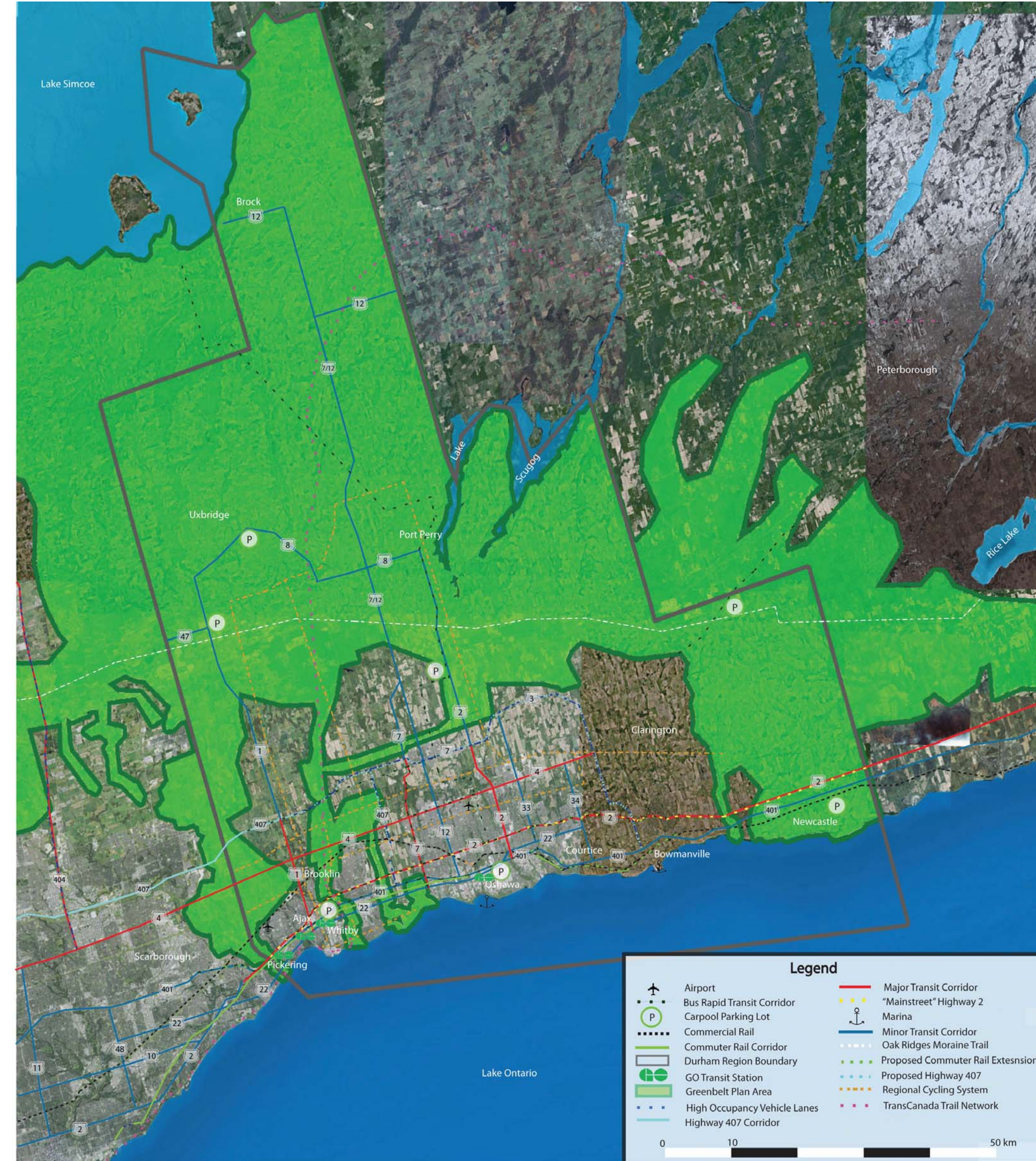
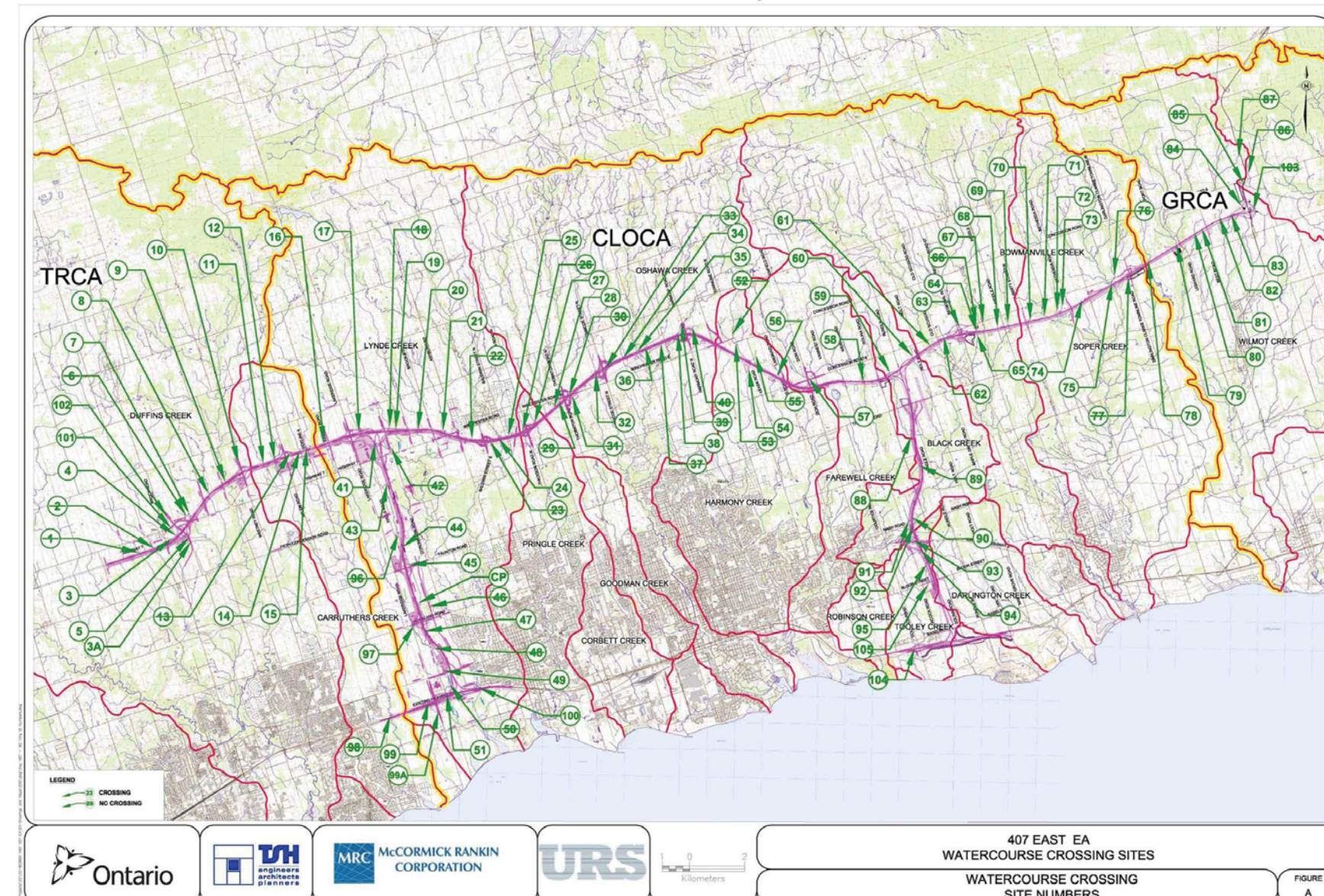
Key to any evaluation of the Greenbelt is an evaluation of transportation planning in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTAH). We undertook a case study of transportation planning in Durham Region. Our study reveals that transportation planning goals for the GTAH may not align with the goals of the Greenbelt Plan.

When it's paved over it's gone

- Low market value attached to agricultural land and natural lands, therefore loss is not accounted for in planning for transportation improvements
- Loss of productive capacity

Category	Total
Loss of Land (total ha)	2086.6
No. Of Severed Parcels Created	94
Farm Residential Units	39
Barns	49
Silos	19
Grain Bins	13
Granarys	1
Sales/Market/Packaging Building Sheds	2
	57

Exhibit 8.17: Watercourse Crossing Location Plan



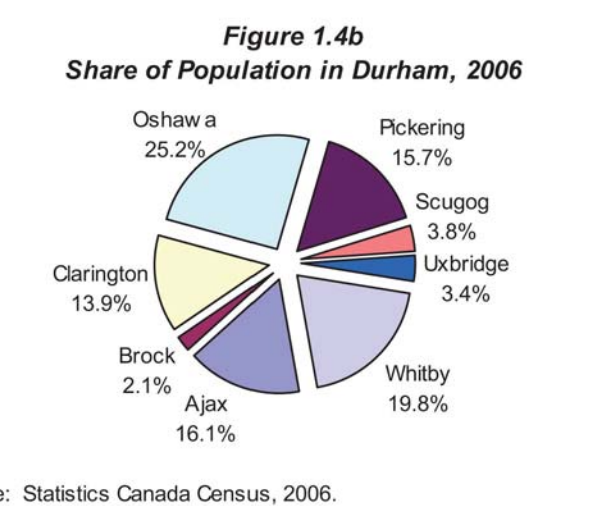
What are the important considerations for transportation planning?

Transportation planning and roadway improvements are reflective of an urban bias, understood here as preferential consideration of urban residents versus rural residents. This bias is problematic given the demographic composition and transportation needs of Durham Region residents.



Access to safe, reliable, convenient transportation services is not provided to residents in rural areas. This urban bias is not adequately reflected in transportation planning policies or service improvement decisions.

The urban bias and knowledge gaps have hindered environmental protection and conservation efforts. Lack of knowledge about the movement of goods and people in Durham Region compromises the assessment of long-term environmental and socio-economic impacts of highway extensions through the Greenbelt.



Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2006.

Through examination of the Growth Plan, The Big Move and the Durham Region Transportation Master Plan, trends were found:

- Dominance of economic growth over Greenbelt protection goals
- Transportation-related policies are not found in the Greenbelt Plan
- Planning for and design of highway extensions prioritize movement of goods

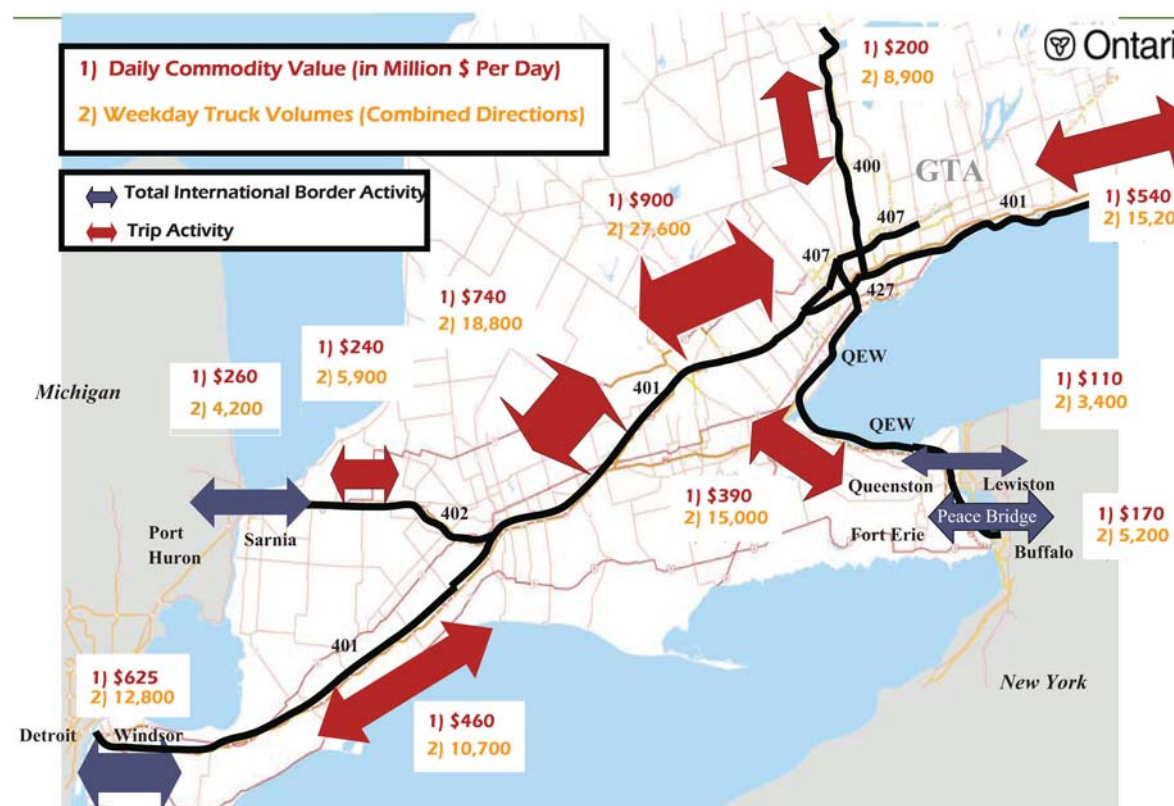
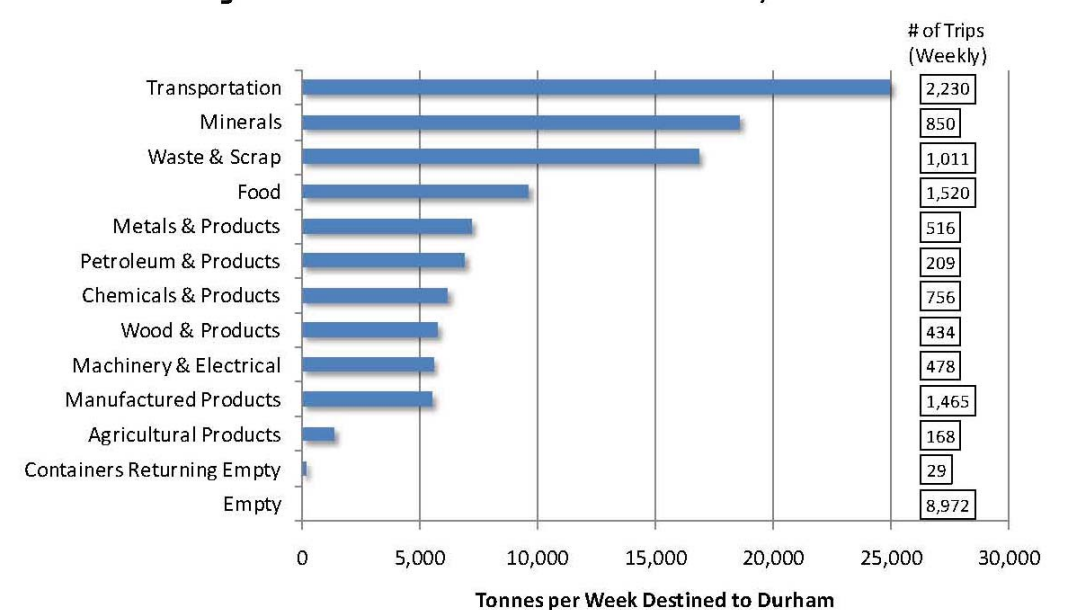


Figure 3-4: Truck Traffic Destined to Durham, 2006



Source: CPCS analysis of data from the Commercial Vehicle Survey (CVS), Ministry of Transport of Ontario (MTO).

Project by: Professor Laura Taylor, Andrews Boadu, Donna Lalumiere, Vivien Leong, Stephanie Matveeva and Joseph Yow