



Revenue Tools - Public Consultation

Date - May 15 2007

Location - Etobicoke

Question # 1 - What is your opinion about any of these proposed new taxes? Why so?

( Note - question was reworded after May 7 consultation)

- 1 Show constraint in spending.
- 2 Paying enough taxes.
- 3 Toronto not looking at contracting out services.
- 4 Toronto wages much too high.
- 5 If everyone makes \$100,000/yr then every one is poor.
- 6 Don't need government employees to collect garbage.
- 7 Spending too much.
- 8 Not using money effectively.
- 9 City of Toronto should be audited.
- 10 Too much money being spent on grants + special interest groups.
- 11 Too much money spent on consultation rather than actual services.
- 12 Not acceptable, because how to reduce costs are exhausted. Eg. Like lighting in TTC tunnels are old fashioned. Road maintenance hardly done (road tax no); City hall is driving business out of town, too high taxes.
- 13 Review salaries before increasing taxes. (six figure salary club) i.e. sacrifice on top end before hitting average guy.
- 14 More department fiscal accountability to minimize their expenditures.
- 15 Cut you spending. Don't try to increase revenues.
- 16 Why was the police service budget so large and what used for.
- 17 City's books and budgets should be transparent to the public.
- 18 Why is the police services budget so disproportionately large, compared to other divisions.
- 19 City should put you house in order.
- 20 If the city councilors manage the City Treasury like to their own bank accounts we won't be going bankrupt with nothing left in our Reserve Fund. First, put the Treasury House in order. Stop giving yourselves raises. Try cutting the expense accounts of councilors to \$5,000 only instead of \$55,000 and award councilors medals of honor. Merit for not spending any money. Do away with this regulation of giving councilors a bigger expense budget if they spend all their present year budget. This just encourages councilors to spend spend.
- 21 There is a problem with spending. Even if government is being efficient, but doing activities that are unnecessary or inappropriate. Then it doesn't matter how efficient they are. Toronto needs a "back to basics" approach to what the government does. Once finances are under control things may change, but right now there are too many pet projects. Keep it simple.
- 22 Clean your house.
- 23 What is being measured -> measure it (eff) outside private service -> productivity of SWM is higher to contracted service provider
- 24 Union Tendering is costing City money. Push province to adopt "non union" tenders. Millers received Mr Holidays report and did nothing with it.
- 25 Renegotiate all contracts.
- 26 Must be accountability for contracts.
- 27 City should develop a best price policy regardless of Union affiliation. Unanimous agreement at table.
- 28 Look inward for revenue.
- 29 It costs too much money to do anything now.
- 30 Look at expenditures of wages and benefits. (i.e. City employees have second jobs - in many cases paid cash)
- 31 Stop spending money you don't have.



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### Suggestions

- 1 To solve the problem of traffic "grid lock" in Toronto, have left hand turn signals at all intersections (always 24 hrs) to allow left hand turn vehicles to get out of the intersection - then through traffic and TTC vehicles are free to proceed without further delay. Make sure the left hand turn light bulbs are working - not burned out.e.g. Rexdale & Martin Grove - as well Royal York & Eglinton - Kipling & Eglinton - Dixon Road & Martin Grove, etc.
- 2 My Property taxes have doubled since Market Value Assessment. There are thousands of new Condo units that are paying incredible property taxes. - What was property tax revenue prior to MVA and what is property tax revenue in 2006?
- 3 I feel any new tax is unwarranted. My property taxes have doubled since market value was introduced. We currently pay upwards of 45% of our income as taxes. We have had enough!! None of the scruples in the City are being delivered efficiently. The road in front of my house is like a broken country road. What about all of new condos and the increase taxes they are paying. Where is all this revenue increase gone. If user taxes are implemented, property taxes must be .....It is incumbent upon the city to cut expenses, take away the free golf from the city Councilors. Cut out the excesses and the waste before you look at more taxes. - For shame, Miller is building a meeting room for \$3 million. I don't want anymore taxes!!!!!!!!!!!!
- 4 They all suck big time. Toronto does not have a revenue problem, Toronto has a spending problem. Tax Freedom Day in Canada is now - July 7th. Taxes now account for more than folks pay for their housing, food and clothes and I know that they all represent better value than government services. Downsize - Privatize. Use existing revenues to do the job we pay you to do.
- 5 There should be no new taxes until the City has reduced internal costs by the projected tax increases. Cost reduction must be evident and audited not projected .....as in in housing York Garbage
- 6 The consultation was extremely well run. Thank you to the staff who gave up a night to come out and take the heat, and to the councilors who attended. My biggest concern which was shared by most of the audience is that the City will not listen and will implement these taxes in the face of overwhelming opposition. If the Mayor and Executing were really listening, they would be here in the City. They govern at these meetings.
- 7 Please ask the Mayor and Ward 6 Councilor - The City is looking for new revenue through taxation. In ward 6, at the corner of New Toronto and Kipling, the Lakeshore Lions are building a 4-pad arena on city land. We the taxpayers AKA the City of Toronto will be on the hook if the Lions default on their mortgage payments. Yet the City has given ALL the profit from concessions to Maple Leaf Sports, and there are no public skating hours for the general public. Yet the TDSB has negotiated skating for their students. So what does the taxpayer et out of this?? Why is the City not at the very least collecting a percentage of the concession profits as a "Revenue Tool"
- 8 Problem is not revenue, but controlling spending. While I agree that Fed & Prove. Governments must return more of our tax \$ to the City, unless our Toronto elected officials are efficient in managing money, I understand that these government are reluctant to give \$ to these Toronto officials. Why aren't Projects Etc. audited - Example: \$ spent to bring dragon Boat races, supposedly world class - but really minor league. \$ spent to clean up water front beaches - still contaminated and after all the money spent, it appears that fecal material from geese is the major problem & e.coli.
- 9 Parking enforcement is too strict, it is nothing more than a tax. It is often unfair and cruel. Something should be done. I'm sure that it is the single largest contribution to citizens .....towards city government.
- 10 This entire exercise strikes me Pennachetti answered, but my concerns remain.
- 11 Good Set-up, good room, 2nd question - "Leading Question" , Water was good, Handouts were good

- 12 As the result of downloading the City is desperate - but the idea of imposing a municipal land transfer tax on the purchase of all real estate in the city has the potential to cause a major disruption to the City's economy especially with 1st time buyers. Why should property owners on the Southside of Steeles Ave. have to pay tax while owners on the Northside are exempt. We don't want another Detroit. If road tolls are put on the Gardiner Expressway and the Don Valley Parkway, most of that traffic will use side streets to avoid there tolls- causing wasted gas and pollution by idling at red lights causing GTA gridlock.
- 13 We should have Downtown delivery vans and trucks pay a fee for a windshield sticker to allow them to make short term delivery - otherwise, they should be towed away. This would increase revenue to the City.
- 14 A new alcohol tax on licensed venues, bars and restaurants etc. will drive business and visitors from this city. The sector is one of the more significant employers, especially of young people. The sector has been particularly hard hit over the past five years, and this measure will only make things worse.
- 15 The City of Toronto are perceived to be poor managers. Until this is fixed, new taxes will be as successful as to Gun Registry. Any new revenues should be target for specific programs and not under any circumstances be assigned to the Consolidated Res. fund.



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Question # 2 - What type of expenditures should new revenues be used for: enhanced existing services? City building type initiatives? To help solve the fiscal imbalance?

- 1 Support Billboard Tax (only 1 person supports this)
- 2 Want to get a return on money paid on taxes
- 3 Put \$ into public transit - Too many cars on the road
- 4 Direct vast majority on fiscal imbalance
- 5 Park upkeep
- 6 Maintain infrastructure
- 7 Beautify city (image, promotion)
- 8 Help solve the fiscal imbalance
- 9 City Programs - Transit
- 10 Any new revenues should be used for:
  - 1) Maintaining (if not improving) key City services such as Housing/Fire/Police/EMS and Social Services and Public Transit
  - 2) Improving crumbling infrastructure, especially Roads, Bridges, Watermains and Sidewalks
  - 3) Stopping the privatization of Public Facilities and Services e.g.. Street Lighting, Billboards for Hire
- 11 Fiscal unbalance should be corrected with Provincial money. No new Taxes for Toronto Residents
- 12 Vehicle Registration - Pothole Repairs. How will we know - Public access to Independent Audit
- 13 Sell the Transit System to Private Company
- 14 Pay the bills we have
- 15 Type of expenditures new revenues be used for. Providing new revenues does not refer to Question #1 which I feel should not be enforced:-
  - 1) Enhanced existing services such as Social Services
  - 2) Taxing "one person" vehicles used to transport them to work. (Hopefully encourage car pooling and lower emissions as well) (Help solve fiscal imbalance)
- 16 1) Hot water boiler system should be replaced by boiler when you need hot water then it will heat the water
  - 2) City Hall should be more influential - Create more tourism  
Christmas lighting over the streets to attract more visitors  
Create every four years a Floral for 6 months  
Concentrate the different type of walks for a period of 4 days
  - 3) Reduce business tax, to keep the businesses in town which will create more business for the locals. Employees need to eat, go to the Barber.
- 17 Social Services for youth and single parents. Health care - nursing  
Should be used for enhance existing programs and repair roads and bridges. The City should focus on the Provincial and Federal Government for proper funding of
- 18 Social Programs
- 19 Get money from current gas tax
- 20 Transit
- 21 Infrastructure
- 22 Use revenue to clean up the graffiti in the City
- 23 Improve transit
- 24 What are the Sources of "New Revenues"??? New revenues (if not tax based) should be directed towards solving City debts and fiscal imbalance.  
Some revenues (not tax based) should go to City Beautification Initiatives and to increase awareness to eliminate pollutions and waste and to increase Civic Pride of TO Citizens



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Are the "new revenues" sourced from some other incentive or are they in fact the "new taxes" in disguise.

New revenues (if not tax based) should be used to maintain public access to recreational facilities and programs. Stop holding citizens hostage

This question is improperly phrased and likely assumes a positive take on the "tax grab"

25 Maintenance of services

26 If you have money to spend - pay the bills

27 Water System - Improve the water system and ditch at City building in Etobicoke - Improve infrastructure for people to walk at the ditch area

28 Improve TTC Service - \$2.45 per trip for one family with 4 people very not economic. Expand TTC to airport route and downtown area

29 Subside & Increasing Jobs - Do not leave kids stay in the house. Provide money to subsidize the kids to work for city

30 Improve Recreation - Take people to work force in Etobicoke

31 Spend public money where we can leverage private money. I.e.. Infrastructure projects as province does

32 Lotteries tend to fall on the most economically challenged. City should run a Lottery to generate general revenues

33 The city provides enough social services. Focus should be on hard services. Increase transit in areas of high ridership

34 Intelligent service expansion - don't use parkland - connected to places of work - Improve service of transit first, expansion is the second priority.

35 Transit is the priority - Later service (i.e. overnight service) also earlier start

36 Dedicated trust funds for specific expenditures

37 Revenue should be targeted, not general revenue. Mechanism needed to ensure this.

38 Reduce property tax burden - move to service user fees (which is more accountable)

39 Infrastructure maintenance (all of it) - subways, watermains, roads

40 Solve the fiscal imbalance

41 Should be tax breaks for entertainment district

42 Paying down the debt is the most important

43 More bike paths

44 Toronto is a 2nd class city due to its public transit

45 Improve public transit through Toronto

46 Saying no to new services, won't solve the problem

47 Let all people have a say on taxes

48 New revenues to help seniors



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#### Comments

- 1 Should be across the board incentives to bring all Divisions into a cost savings accountability
- 2 None
- 3 Lower Property Taxes
- 4 Use existing money
- 5 No info on tax spending
- 6 Audit the City of Toronto
- 7 No new taxes from these tools. Instead reduce current spending
- 8 There should be no new taxes! We are already taxed to Death. Clean up your own fiscal house first!!!
- 9 No money should be spent because no money should be collected
- 10 Less renovations to City Hall
- 11 No more culture - I forget that I am Canadian
- 12 No new taxes
- 13 When general population wages are the same or up 3% , why are public servants and Councilors getting more?
- 14 Need fiscal responsibility
- 15 Compare like with jobs (similar sized City) for accurate assessment of salaries and costs - efficiencies
- 16 We need to determine how we want to spend our dollar - not to be provincially mandated. We should fight for efficiency balances
- 17 How come we are held accountable to pay our taxes on time. Why aren't you?
- 18 Sensible spending practices and stay within the budget for the City - each councilors office
- 19 Council should reduce the - perks and freebies. Be role models for the City.
- 20 Rollback salaries of Councilors and Management
- 21 No more free dinners and perks
- 22 Accountability needs to be developed and leadership from Mayor & Council through the Bureaucrats to Budget Presentation at all levels.
- 23 Why take on more than you can handle
- 24 #4 None of the above
- 25 Cut salaries
- 26 Work from different assumptions - where is the CAUSE OF PROBLEM - if its not tax payers "fault" get fix somewhere else
- 27 Solve your own financial problems and balance your own budget
- 28 It's not how much you make, its how much you save. LOOK INSIDE FOR EFFICIENCIES
- 29 Mississauga doesn't have a deficit ( Why) - She knows how to spend money
- 30 No increases, no change, pay bills
- 31 City dwellers can't afford any other increases
- 32 Be efficient - Internal review of work - No tax hike
- 33 Just be efficient at what you are doing (One hand doesn't know what the other is doing)
- 34 Efficiency - Download City program and use it for inspecting their house very efficiency that is "Inspection Acceptance Program"
- 35 Expand Subway - Union Company should be converted to union contract for saving money because of insurance paid very expensive for the project
- 36 Expensive Labour System - Review the hiring system for skills labour jobs - Outsourcing contract e.g. civic centre cleaning services
- 37 Excess of expenditure over actual cost of services
- 38 Need to focus on fiscal imbalance ... if spending under control, no new taxes are needed



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- 39 Toronto not fixing it's spending problems
- 40 We have to live within our means
- 41 40% of emissions come from cars
- 42 Water taxes gone up - where is the \$ going
- 43 Where is the \$ going
- 44 Will new \$ be used for the services you say it will be used for
- 45 Question 2 is irrelevant when you read our response to question 1
- 46 Invest reserves wisely
- 47 City/passengers should not pay 100% for (TTC ) Transit Feds & Province should fund it.
- 48 The process tonight will probably not change political decisions - Just being polite.....
- 49
  - 1) No new tax
  - 2) No comments
  - 3) Dangerous precedent in Canada
  - 4) Not ready to give any new money so you won't have any money to spend
  - 5) Give me my money back
  - 6) Identical to the Health Premium taxes not use for what its meant for. These new taxes are similar to that "very questionable"
  - 7) Putting the horse before the cart
  - 8) Citizens are extremely concerned
  - 9) Provincial government is responsible for this mess
  - 10) Increased vehicles going to pot holes is questionable
  - 11) Taxing products/Services will make people move to where they can pay less
  - 12) People will move to Mississauga especially in Etobicoke to avoid these new taxes
  - 13) Lottery winnings
  - 14) Give small businesses beer & wine (that is .....)
  - 15) .....
  - 16) Encouraging small business to attend Executive meetings to make their views heard
  - 17) 100 cases of ..... Moving to Mississauga will cause a lost of \$20,010/month as an example
  - 18) City has lost touch with the people
  - 19) When you have nothing, you can't give nothing
  - 20) Lets take Etobicoke out of the City of Toronto
  - 21) It's a joke
- 50 If the City of Toronto was in such a bad financial place - why was so much money wasted on the St. Clair Ave. street car right of way? A simple much cheaper solution would have been to put advanced green light left turn signals at every intersection, therefore cars would get out of the way and the street cars could proceed.  
If there's no money, why is the street car right of way continuing to Gunn Ave. ??
- 51 Misleading stats in summary tables
- 52 Bad decision making. Have control of ideas re: contractors
- 53 Discount fairs for the students and seniors. Also, reduce property taxes for seniors over age 65
- 54 Use the money to help separate Toronto own Provinces
- 55 Do not implement taxes



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56 Upload City Services

The "fiscal gap" maybe true but does not matter to the "trenches" of our City. Increased taxes will hurt people, businesses, communities. The .....economics of the City.

Begin with the City, than seek help from other levels of government. Stop the pet projects, from climate change to public awareness, all may be valuable, but should only come

after the basics. Miller and his clique are terrible when it comes to pet projects.

58 Transit is important, but resources should be diverted instead of created. Fix the roads, but only where it is a danger, Many side streets are less pressing

59 I love the parks in this City, but much of the gardening could be done by citizens or through using ..... and native species.

60 Please don't abandon the admirable and principled policy of unionized tending of public works!!!!!!!

61 Business pay \$45,000 per year - asked to plant flowers in City furniture - was told to plant her own

62 Restaurants have been hit enough - No smoking (ban) - age of majority - Customers will be driven out

63 If "you" don't hear now, you will hear at election

64 We will not choose any option because that means we consent

65 Detroit example - flee to 905 - city responded by amalgamating (What next - amalgamate 905 to GTA and steal their money)

66 If we pick one of these choices - you the city are assuming we will accept taxes

67 Find different solution to problem

68 I don't want anymore services if you have to tax me for it. If I loose my business, I will not benefit from creased services

69 City generally as good planning, just don't have the \$ to carry it out

70 Voucher system instead of subsidized housing

71 If a recession was to happen, we won't be able to pay \$

72 Global Warming - we need change

73 Smog puts tourists off coming to Toronto

74 Too much plastic in our environment

75 Concern over coffee cups - no recycling available in Toronto

76 Too many meetings taking place - not enough action

77 Use a paper trail - Re: Toronto money being spent

78 Work with business community and tap into the wealth

79 People outside Toronto laugh at Toronto

80 Working poor cannot afford to pay anymore taxes

81 James Garden etc - too much idling - enforce this more - Police idling too much as well



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- 32 Cuts should occur before any new taxes are introduced.
- 33 Against all taxes -> spending is out of control. Greater efficiencies needed.
- 34 Don't overpay for work being done. If a job is worth x\$ then pay only that amount. Don't inflate costs.
- 35 Work within your budget.
- 36 If the City is in such financial trouble then why is the Mayor renovating for \$3 million.
- 37 Salaries are too high.
- 38 Treat our money as if it is your own.
- 39 Balance budget with what you have.
- 40 Spend only what you have.
- 41 Run city budget the way a family would run their budget.
- 42 Don't increase taxes cut expenses.
- 43 Accountability.
- 44 What are we really spending our money.
- 45 Be more efficient.
- 46 Results that these consultations are a wash / false / fraud. Questions should have been fielded by Mr. Holiday.
- 47 Look to internal inefficiency -> eg. Streetcar production is flawed -> other more cost effective method.
- 48 Very upset at cost of difference of solid waste (why are we not contracting out more)
- 49 Waste of time doing this type consultation.
- 50 Look at price point for services and goods people will trade.
- 51 City needs to look inward. Look for efficiency. Make a case by getting your own house in order.
- 52 Etobicoke money spent on old debt.
- 53 Etobicoke saves \$1.8 million by contracting out. Why are we not farming out all work.
- 54 Decrease draw to City as a whole.
- 55 Review social services - hand up vs. hand out
- 56 No tax (new) fiscal accountability before public support.
- 57 There should be no new taxes. The city needs to solve its fiscal problems through reduced spending not by increasing taxes or introducing new taxes to allow for / justify increased spending. These taxes as stated by city officials are not intended to solve \$ shortages and they are only the beginning.
- 58 Unfair, tighten your belts first and ask met to tighten mine, no creativity all levels of government are increasing taxes, always picking on businesses especially small business, continuously been taxed.
- 59 Lousy leadership in cahoots with Union.
- 60 New Taxes are dumb. This proposal avoids the actual problem - mismanagement.
- 61 100% against all tax proposals. Don't trust council with the money.
- 62 No new taxation strategies until forensic audit instituted.
- 63 Fixed income residents can't afford any increase. Their incoming funds are limited.
- 64 I think all of the potential new taxes proposed are unreasonable because we are already overtaxed. Also many business will choose to leave the city and go elsewhere where they can survive. Tourism is down now -- will get worse with all the proposed taxes. The city needs to find other methods of revenue without laying it on the Torontonians.
- 65 I am not impressed, because I can't afford them, I am a widow on a fixed income, and it will hurt my way of living.
- 66 One time tax taxed on anyone who makes \$1,000,000+ this will free up disposable income.
- 67 Don't like tobacco cost, makes no sense.



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68 Do not add taxes to real estate.

69 Tolls not reduce cars on the road without transit improvement.

70 I would support a billboard tax, but only because I don't like billboards. I don't think the tax would matter for revenue generation, but it would dissuade billboards. This speaks to effects the other taxes would have in their respective areas. PS billboard taxes should also apply to the billboards on the back of trucks.

71 Billboard tax should apply to street furniture.

72 Vehicle registration tax should be connected to the kind of vehicle you drive (i.e.. Related to fuel efficiency)

73 Okay with vehicle tax.

74 Higher cigarette and liquor taxes (re: health benefits).

75 I do not support an increase in taxes or any new taxes. Only one person at our table wants higher taxes, but on cigarettes and alcohol only.

76 By raising entertainment taxes you are hurting the entertainment (single moms + students)

77 Increase in taxes affects family, people who work for the city and business closer.

78 Will increase illegal activities if tobacco taxes. Staff at risk; ...instable; not friendly environment; night premises.

79 Vehicle tax is a duplication. Money grab.

80 Every area that is taxed will be affected. For instance, tax on alcohol -> bars buy from out of city sources -> city creates a by-law against this -> business do it anyways -> city checks by-law enforcement -> no new revenue, only net spending increase.

81 All proposals are regressive and ill advised. Cost of collecting the taxes would almost equal taxes collected.

82 Jobs have already been lost, tax increase will push this more.

83 If you increase taxes, people + business will leave.

84 No new taxes recessive.

85 200 stores at border (~ 1 km) of Toronto. Most people are willing to relocate.

86 Willing to drive out to city to buy goods.

87 Live at border will bring business elsewhere.

88 Entertainment taxes hit low income families hardest.

89 Not fair to families to pay extra for movies, entertainment.

90 Border city (Etobicoke, North York, Scarborough) will lose business to suburbs.



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91 Vehicle tax, parking, alcohol, entertainment, school board -> people will go outside Toronto.

92 People feel entertainment is important thus, don't need to increase taxes. Affect their businesses.



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## Comments

- 1 Unnecessary
- 2 Public transport from and to airport.
- 3 Needs for quality of life facilities (pools) should remain open.
- 4 Don't spend money on private projects (esp. BMO Field).
- 5 Put a plan in place!! Break ground on Infrastructure.
- 6 Transportation - more buses and more services on city major roads eg. Eglinton, Scarlett and stop increasing the fares. If services improve more people will take public transit. Right now it is so unreliable and too far in between.
- 7 Limited parking in the City. Transit already at capacity. This is driving business out.
- 8 Trust is lacking that the Mayor and Executive and Councilors are fiscally responsible.
- 9 Where is the money from speeding + parking tickets revenue going.
- 10 Union "slush fund" contributors in City contracts should be ended.
- 11 Seems like no flexible in taxes. How much taxes can we take?
- 12 What happened to all the levies/new taxes (property) from all the new construction going on in the City.
- 13 This is peanuts. No matter what you do nothing is going to change. Total est = 350 million. Tools make no substantial impact to the deficit.
- 14 PF&R -> Garbage / tree trims. Staff is saying multilayer and amalgamation is a mistake.
- 15 No tax, taxed too much, business is suffering, no service for tax dollar.
- 16 We are behind in business.
- 17 City will be losing more money if businesses leave.
- 18 What does home depot / Walmart etc. pay per square foot? They do not pay fair share (as compared to small businesses)
- 19 Require changes within the Income Tax Act to benefit the small business owner within the community.
- 20 Willing to relocate business also life, employees, least knowledgeable people to select from.
- 21 Increasing taxes will reduce expenditure ability.
- 22 Only one taxpayer business and retailer business owner suffers 2X residential owner suffers multiple (entertainment etc)
- 23 The more taxes you put on residents and businesses the more people and businesses will leave.
- 24 Don't download onto the taxpayer go to the Province.
- 25 No new taxes - any increase in revenue should be used to solve the fiscal deficit.
- 26 Lack of leadership, too afraid to be here, Mayor should be in town, Toronto will become a ghost town, NYC tried the same taxes and failed. People..... Taxes were primarily created for specific purposes now its own.... A "cash grab"
- 27 Inefficient City crews. City should look at pension plans high cost, Exorbitant salaries within the City structure, taxing entertainment will be counter productive, city will lose more money as a result of increased taxes, approach the fed to .....
- 28 City doesn't care what the outcome from these meetings is, taxes will still be imposed, All window dressing, Proceedings from the last meeting was not well represented in the media, No respect for public options / wishes, benchmarks are questionable, comparison of Toronto to U.S. cities who get federal funding.
- 29 City has not demonstrated that this is necessary. City is flexing its powers. Options have not been presented. Increased staff positions are counter productive (biggest portion of the budget), 25% increase to salaries is not good, Lack of trust in the city, Independent audit is not available for public scrutiny.



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- 30 All cities within Ontario will start increasing taxes because of these new powers. More participations from residents to get their objections across. Last meeting not well publicized as compared with this one. If Finance department is serious the report will show that there is great opposition to the pending tax increase. City not doing a good job.
- 31 Announcements in the newspapers is not informative enough. Citizens are already overtaxed as it is. Etobicoke highest paying property taxes.
- 32 Services are or seem to be deteriorating yet taxes are increasing.
- 33 More difficult for older people to find jobs.
- 34 Don't tie people down to their homes.
- 35 Bankrupt City.
- 36 Organize website online referendum to show Province how our population feels.
- 37 Maybe we should be a province.
- 38 Bring in Hazel from Mississauga.
- 39 We are heading toward soft dictatorship.
- 40 None of the taxes have a democratic mandate -> not campaigned on. Referendum needed during an election.
- 41 Toronto is an exceptional City. We can't live at a medium city cost for a city of this size. (doesn't have to be new taxes though).
- 42 Downloading.. PowerPoint slide # 15 says it all!!! The flat lining of debt levels at the federal and provincial levels of government is at the expense of the City of Toronto (and Ottawa). Stop the bleeding ... maybe the City should declare official bankruptcy to make the political point?
- 43 No taxes are welcome or advised. Council admits these proposals will not solve imbalance. What is their real agenda?
- 44 Suggest: Mayor Miller resign and find a fairer leader.
- 45 Shouldn't compare our financial situations to U.S. cities.
- 46 Can't afford to have stores in downtown Toronto.
- 47 More commuters coming into Toronto.
- 48 100,000 jobs lost in Toronto - going outside the City.
- 49 London England's air quality much more acceptable than Toronto.
- 50 Low tourism in Toronto due to poor air quality.
- 51 Where did all the furniture in City Hall go?
- 52 Toronto City Hall is functional as it is.
- 53 People move out of Toronto because they get better services.
- 54 3000 people die because of air pollution.
- 55 Don't see improvement in services.
- 56 Other public transit systems expanding.
- 57 TTC means 'take the car'.
- 58 Better public transit service.
- 59 Get public transportation in order.
- 60 No new taxes.
- 61 Totally + completely disagree.
- 62 This is not the USA, compare us to Canadian cities.
- 63 Until we have the infrastructure don't knock the car.
- 64 Property tax enough. Residence paid property tax already enough. Therefore Federal and Provincial government should paid the deficit not the residence.
- 65 Vehicle registration: Drive clean record pay money to city; Need to stop paid tax; the property tax already the real ....



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- 66 Parking: due to property did not have parking spot, need to pay assessment fee every year, government increase revenue; if selling property, residence/owner need to pay land transfer tax.
- 67 Parking: Etobicoke difference from downtown of City Toronto due to the car need to park on the sidewalk; increase revenue by selling the property.
- 68 Land Transfer: people paid tax did not have parking space; sell property with 4% or less interest rate.
- 69 All tools, at the maximum estimated revenue, would bring in \$350 million, which is only 1/2% of the \$7.8 billion estimated budget (one half of one percentage point).  
Therefore these taxes are irrelevant to meeting the budget needs. But they will matter to citizens + business.
- 70 How can you add 3 levels to taxes. Makes no sense?
- 71 Management should step up to bring the Provincial + Federal government into account.
- 72 This process is politically driven in order to mask the imbalance.
- 73 Go to Province get what is owed.
- 74 Discount fares for the students, and seniors.
- 75 Taxes aimed at drivers -> GO station parking lots already at capacity. Need greater service.
- 76 Sales Transfer Tax is hurtful -> double hit that will hurt homeowners + real estate market.
- 77 Entertainment: hospitality industry concerned that it will drive customers away (one more tax). Business may emigrate.
- 78 Many of the taxes are simply provincial duplicates. No creativity in connecting new taxes to public policy objectives.
- 79 Not enough clarity around how each of the taxes would be applied.
- 80 No accountability -> should be a direct connection between what you pay and what you pay.
- 81 Focusing on alcohol and tobacco taxes is also a losing proposition in the coming years since overall alcohol and tobacco consumption are on the decrease. So what next? Secondly, vehicle registration as proposed (i.e. \$40 / year) is acceptable to me (as a car owner), but road tolls should be limited to non-Toronto vehicles since the GTA drivers generate more road wear than Toronto drivers.
- 82 These new taxes are mostly tinkering with the fiscal imbalance generated by the provincial government itself. Ironically, the proposed taxes that would generate the greater revenues, are also the more difficult to impose and collect, so the eventual revenue generated would be much less expected.
- 83 Consider excessive parking enforcement a tax, and it is often cruel (once got a ticket while getting change for the machine) and it is offensively enforced (no less fee for early payment, difficult to apply for court hearing). It is also highly immoral: strict enforcement at hospitals and universities.
- 84 Elasticity of Demand: Even if the taxes are imposed, this principal will negate their intent.
- 85 Table Opinion: we don't want any new taxes!
- 86 There is no need or desire for any tax increase.
- 87 Public Transit Extensions to connect all areas + transportation modes (airports, etc.)
- 88 Suggest; Zone fares for TTC travel.
- 89 Please confirm: are the "new taxes" for "increased spending" -> what are these initiatives?
- 90 Opposed to new taxes.
- 91 I am not opposed to the first three proposals as long as the revenue is used wisely. The City must cut back on expenses and budget better. We cannot get improved parks and rec. programs. I am totally against road tolls/tax these roads were built and paid for by my taxes.
- 92 I don't find a need for all of them with the exception of tax congestion for the roads. Plus start cutting all the salaries above \$100K.
- 93 Land transfer tax will seriously effect new first time buyers. The economy needs them to move the economy. This can bring the market to a stand still no movement.  
The youth trying to get a step up get penalized!
- 94 Not in favor of any taxes.
- 95 Tax payers cannot afford land transfer taxes.
- 96 New taxes not a solution.



Revenue Tools - Public Consultation

Date - May 15 2007

Location - Etobicoke

- 97 Nowhere else in Canada has a municipal land transfer tax.
- 98 Municipal land transfer tax is a double tax grab.
- 99 Raising taxes is the wrong approach.
- 100 Over taxed.
- 101 Disagree with all options.
- 102 No new taxes.
- 103 Too many Toronto taxes cause people to spend outside the City.
- 104 Churches should pay taxes.
- 105 Spirit consumption down in Canada.
- 106 Tired of taxes on smoking and drinking.
- 107 Elasticity of demand: land transfer is great concern; \$900 on average house; affect new home buyers; purchase power