

# Toronto **2014** **BUDGET**

Every time you use a park or recreation centre, get a book from the library, have your garbage or recycling picked up, drink clean water, ride the TTC or have emergency services rush to your aid when you make a 911 call – you are using a City of Toronto service.

City services touch your life every day. That's why the City's budget is so important. More than just deciding what gets taxed and by how much, the budget is council's plan for the City. City Council, through the budget, directs staff on how to fund its priorities for that year. It is aligned with the City's strategic plan and determines the level of service provided to Toronto residents. It also identifies what infrastructure – roads, buildings and public transit – we can afford to build, buy or repair.

## How to Get Involved in the Budget Process

### Be informed

The first step is to be informed. You can learn about the budget process on our website at [toronto.ca/budget2014](http://toronto.ca/budget2014) and in our Budget Basics brochure, "Understanding the Toronto City Budget."

Toronto has three rate supported budgets: Solid Waste, Toronto Water and the Toronto Parking Authority. These programs are primarily funded entirely by the user. The staff recommended budgets for these programs were presented at the City's Budget Committee on November 1.

The staff recommended tax supported operating and capital budgets will be presented at Budget Committee on Monday, November 25. At that meeting, the City Manager, the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, and the Director of Financial Planning will present the staff recommended operating and capital budgets to Budget Committee members, the media and the public.

After the launch of the budget, you can find a copy of the presentations along with supporting documents such as program service summaries and analyst notes for each City program and agency at [toronto.ca/budget2014](http://toronto.ca/budget2014).

## Be engaged

You can follow the development of the budget as it is reviewed, debated, changed and approved by the Budget Committee, Executive Committee and then City Council. During this process, staff will make presentations and answer questions and Councillors may make motions and vote on the budget. Details on the when and where meetings are held are available at [toronto.ca/council](http://toronto.ca/council).

## Timelines for the 2014 Tax Supported Operating and Capital Budget

### Budget Committee

#### Budget Launch

November 25 and 26

#### Public Presentations (Deputations)

December 2 (a second meeting on December 3 will be scheduled if necessary)

#### Program Reviews

December 10-13

#### Briefing Notes and Supplementary Reports

December 20

#### Motions and Voting

January 8

### Executive Committee

#### Presentation to Committee

January 22

### City Council

#### Presentation to Council, motions and votes

January 29 and 30

## Be heard

There are several ways to share your views on the budget. You can:

1. Make a public presentation to the Budget Committee. Deputations will be heard for the rate supported budgets on Wednesday, November 6. For the tax supported budgets, there will be a public consultation sessions. On **Monday, December 2** a session will be held at Toronto City Hall, starting at 9:30 a.m. A second day, **Tuesday, December 3** will be scheduled if necessary. To register to speak, call 416-392-4666 or email [buc@toronto.ca](mailto:buc@toronto.ca).  
  
To find out more on how you can participate, visit [toronto.ca/council](http://toronto.ca/council).
2. Can't attend in person? Submit a written deputation to the Budget Committee by e-mail [buc@toronto.ca](mailto:buc@toronto.ca), fax 416-392-1879 or mail to Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W., 10th floor, West Tower, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2.
3. Send a letter or email to your local City Councillor. For information on how to contact your City Councillor, call 3-1-1.

Toronto City Council will review and approve the final rate supported budgets at its meeting on December 16 and 17. The 2014 tax supported operating budget and 2014-2023 capital budget and plan will be reviewed and approved at Council's meeting on January 29 and 30, 2014.