

Toronto **2014** **BUDGET**

Budget Basics Rate Supported Budgets

Rate supported budgets

In addition to the tax-supported operating and capital budgets, the City of Toronto has three fee supported or rate supported programs: Toronto Water, Solid Waste Management Services and Toronto Parking Authority.

These programs are funded primarily by the user. For example, your water and garbage costs are calculated by how much water you use and the size of your garbage bin. In turn, the revenue collected from these user fees is used to pay for the services that are provided.

Annually, City staff put forward recommended operating and capital budgets for Toronto Water, Solid Waste Management Services and the Toronto Parking Authority. Through the City's rate supported budget process, the Mayor and City Council – with input from Toronto residents and businesses and advice from City staff – make decisions about user fees directly related to these three programs.

Toronto Water

Toronto Water manages one of the largest water and wastewater systems in North America, providing services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In 2014, an average Toronto household will pay \$2.43 per day (\$887 per year) for all drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services. This is among the lowest costs in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). The revenue the City receives from residents and business goes towards continuous service delivery and the future needs of Toronto communities.

How your money is spent

Drinking water - Toronto Water treats and supplies 454 billion liters of safe drinking water to 3.4 million residents and businesses annually.

Wastewater – Toronto Water collects and treats 425 billion litres of wastewater (such as water from toilets, dishwashers and washing machines) every year.

Stormwater management – Toronto Water protects private property and the environment from stormwater runoff (rain and melted snow).

Maintenance and repair – Toronto Water repairs about 1,500 broken watermains each year, maintains and repairs about 5,900 km of watermains, 3,900 km of sanitary sewers, 4,900 km of storm sewers and 1,500 km of combined sewers. Toronto Water has four water treatment plants and four wastewater treatment plants across the city.

Solid Waste Management Services

Solid Waste Management Services does not rely on the property tax base to support its operating and capital budgets. The provision of services and programs, repair and replacement of Solid Waste infrastructure, vehicles and equipment is funded largely through fee revenues. The volume-based rate revenue is used to fund 71% of Solid Waste's operating budget, with the remaining 29% funded through tipping fees at transfer stations, revenue from recyclable material and producer funding obligations.

How your money is spent

Solid Waste Management Services collects garbage, recyclables, organics, bulky items and yard waste from approximately one million residential homes and businesses. That number can be broken down into 450,000 single-unit homes, 425,000 multi-unit

homes, 12,000 residential units above commercial and 14,500 small commercial businesses. Solid Waste Management Services provides waste removal services for nearly 1,000 special events every year. Private commercial and industrial waste is also accepted at the City's transfer stations and landfill. Solid Waste Management Services also collects waste from the City's agencies, corporations and divisions.

In 2013, Solid Waste Management Services managed approximately 955,000 tonnes of material, disposed of about 497,000 tonnes municipal garbage, and processed about 211,000 tonnes of recyclable material, 143,000 tonnes of source separated organics and about 102,000 tonnes of leaf and yard waste. The division also manages electronic and household hazardous waste programs, collects litter from public right-of-ways, maintains and collects from over 6,000 street litter/recycling bins as well as 6,000 parks bins and ensures the perpetual care of 160 closed landfill sites.

Toronto Parking Authority

The Toronto Parking Authority (TPA), better known to residents as GreenP, is a self-sustaining and self-financing agency of the City of Toronto. The TPA's mandate is to provide safe, attractive, self-sustaining, conveniently located and competitively priced off-street and on-street public parking as an integral component of Toronto's transportation system. The TPA is recognized as one of the largest municipal parking operators in North America.

Revenues generated from GreenP parking customers plus rents generated from the leasing of retail/office space that is incorporated into a number of TPA garage facilities exceed the operating costs of the TPA, resulting in a positive net contribution to the City of Toronto. The TPA's capital budget is also funded through revenues generated by user fees.

How your money is spent

Presently, the Toronto Parking Authority provides 21,600 off-street spaces in about 200 facilities, including 24 parking garages throughout the city. The TPA also manages approximately 18,000 on-street spaces controlled by solar powered pay-and-display machines or meters.

Besides its own facilities, the TPA operates a number of third party sites including 14,000 spaces for the Toronto Transit Commission, and about 2,000 seasonal spaces for the City of Toronto's Parks, Forestry and Recreation division, other real estate holdings of the City of Toronto and the Distillery District.

Timelines for the 2014 rate supported operating and capital budgets

Budget Committee

Rate supported budget launch –
November 1

Budget drop-in sessions for Councillors –
November 5

Public presentations (deputations) –
November 6

Budget wrap-up –
November 12

At this stage, the Budget Committee may make motions and propose changes to the staff-recommended budget. The budget is then referred on to the City's Executive Committee for its consideration.

Executive Committee

Presentation to Executive Committee –
December 5

The public may make presentations to the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee may make further motions and propose changes to the budget before it is referred on to Council for final consideration.

City Council

Presentation to Council –
December 16 and 17

At this stage, Council votes to approve or make further amendments to the City's final Rate supported operating and capital budgets.