

# 2019 Staff-Recommended Budget

Toronto is Canada's largest city, and home to a diverse population of more than 2.9 million people. It is a global centre for business, finance, arts and culture and sits at or near the top of international rankings for quality of life. Our city is an economic anchor for Ontario and Canada, and lives its motto of "diversity our strength."

Toronto is the fourth largest city in North America, and like other large cities faces financial pressures and challenges including aging infrastructure, affordable housing, mobility, neighbourhood equity and climate change.

As more and more people move to the city, these (and other) challenges will need to be considered when creating budgets.

The City strives to balance the need to provide high-quality services and invest in infrastructure while keeping the city affordable for residents and businesses.

#### 2019 Staff-Recommended Operating Budget

The 2019 Staff-Recommended Operating Budget is \$13.46 billion gross, which includes a tax-supported budget of \$11.55 billion and a rate-supported budget of \$1.91 billion. It maintains current service levels and makes modest investments in key areas. The 2019 budget continues to implement investments approved by Council in 2018, including poverty reduction, environmental sustainability, and advancing city building and mobility.

The budget has been balanced through constraining City operations costs, as well as requested federal funding to address an increase in refugees and asylum seekers in the City's shelters. Staff also recommended a 2.2% increase for garbage collection and a 3% water rate increase. The TTC board has recommended a \$0.10 fare increase.

The budget proposes a property tax rate increase of 2.55% for residential properties, 1.28% for commercial properties and 0.85% for industrial properties. There is no increase for multi-residential/apartment buildings.

After a pause in the reductions of the Single Family Solid Waste Rebate in 2018, staff recommend that the Solid Waste Rebate be phased out over the next four years. The volume-based rate structure is intended to provide an incentive for residents to reduce their waste and divert more away from landfill. Once the rebate is phased out, those who produce more garbage will still pay more than those who produce less.

With Municipal Land Transfer Tax (MLTT) revenues lower than projected for 2018, staff have proposed a strategy to reduce the reliance on MLTT revenue in the Operating Budget, and redirect it to fund the Capital Budget.





## **Tax Supported Operating Budget: \$11.55 B**

#### Where the Money Goes (\$ Billions)



## Where the Money Comes From (\$ Billions)



### Your Tax Dollars At Work



#### \$154.01 or 5.1% in Transportation

Services, which includes salting, snow plowing, road and sidewalk repair, cycling paths, traffic signs and signals, special event road closure permits and street furniture such as transit shelters.



**\$437.52** or **14.4%** in Social Programs which includes employment services, child care and affordable and social housing.



### 2019-2028 Staff-Recommended Capital Budget And Plan

The City's capital plan is focused on building the infrastructure needed to support Toronto's growth. It is funded from development charges, reserves, other levels of government and by borrowing funds or taking on debt.

The 2019 Capital budget is \$40.67 billion (\$26.23 billion tax-supported and \$14.44 billion ratesupported), of which 49% is dedicated to maintaining and investing in the City's state of good repair. \$783 million in new investments have been added to the City's 10 year Capital Plan in areas like transit, modernization, emergency services, and accessibility improvements. 70% of the tax-supported 10 year Capital Plan is dedicated to transit and transportation.

## Tax-Supported 10-Year Capital Budget and Plan: \$26.23 B



#### Where The Money Goes (\$ Billion)

## Where The Money Comes From (\$ Billion)



## **Growing Unmet Capital Needs**

Unmet capital needs include transit and transportation state of good repair, transit expansion, social housing and city-building.

Options to increase funding capacity with non-debt funding strategies include:

- Continued Capital From Current (CFC) growth
- Allocating operating surpluses to Capital financing reserve
- Maximizing Development Charge funding
- redirect MLTT revenue from operating to capital
- partner with other levels of government

### **Get Involved**

You can follow the development of the 2019 budget as it is reviewed, debated, changed and approved by Council.

Information about the budget, including presentations and budget and briefing notes, is available at toronto.ca/budget.

To make your voice heard, you can:

• Speak at a public meeting about the budget.

#### February 7:

City Hall, Committee Room 1 100 Queen St. W., 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. onwards

Scarborough Civic Centre, Council Chamber 150 Borough Dr., 3 to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. onwards

#### February 11:

Etobicoke Civic Centre, Council Chamber 399 The West Mall, 3 to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. onwards

North York Civic Centre, Council Chamber 5100 Yonge St. 3 to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. onwards

To register to speak, call 416-392-4666 or email buc@toronto.ca.

- Can't make it to a meeting? Submit a written deputation to the Committee by email to 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
- Send a letter or email to your local City Councillor. To find out how to contact your City Councillor, call 311 or visit toronto.ca/council

Notice: if you write or make a presentation to the Budget Committee, the City will collect and use your personal information in accordance with applicable laws. We also videotape meetings and make recordings publicly available on request. More information about the collection and use of your personal information is available at toronto.ca/legdocs.privacy.htm.

