

Township of West Lincoln

PRESENTATION OF DRAFT 2025 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET

January 27, 2025



Agenda

Introduction and Background

2025 Operating Budget

2025 Capital and Special Projects

2025 Levy Impacts

Long Term Capital and Reserves Forecast



Budget Principles

- Reserve contributions and withdrawals align with the Township Reserve Policy
- Infrastructure Funding Gap is being addressed
- Prepared with consideration to the Township's financial needs from 2025 to 2034
- Budget must be balanced (revenues = expenditures)
- Alignment to Township's Corporate Strategic Plan
- Concerted effort to keep operating budgets below or aligned with 2024 average inflation rate of 2.4%

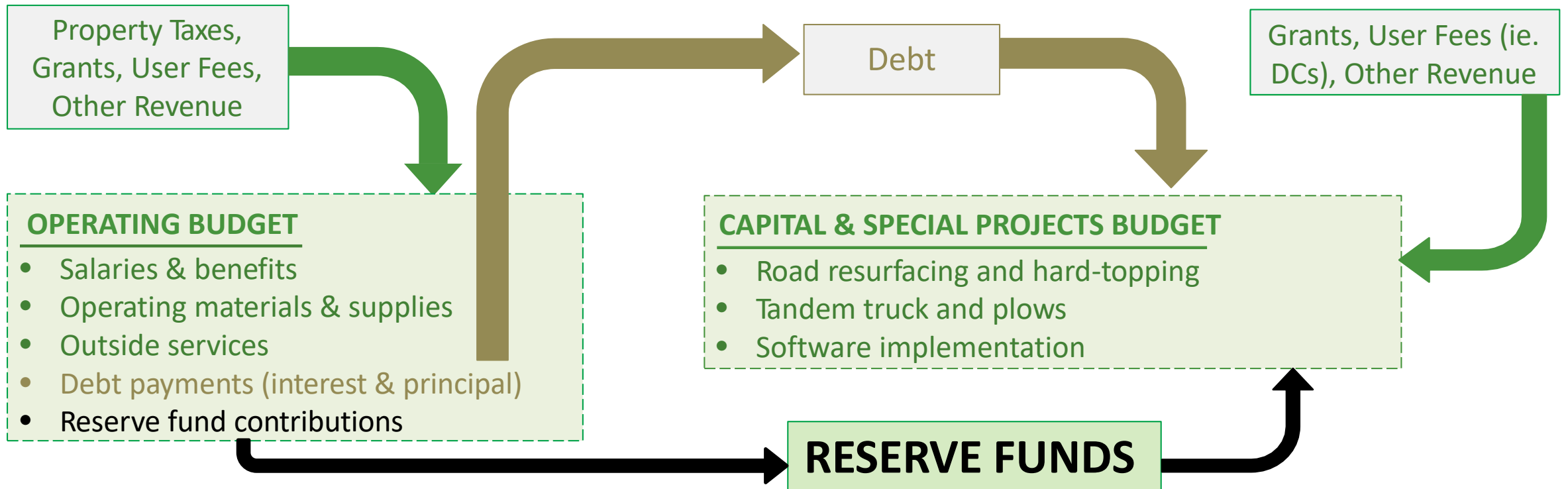


Our Corporate Strategic Plan Themes

1. Build a safe, connected, caring and active community
2. Champion strategic and responsible growth
3. Enrich our strong agricultural legacy
4. Foundational: Advance organizational capacity and effectiveness

How Do The Operating and Capital Budgets Work Together?

- Two budgets prepared by Administration: Operating and Capital & Special Projects

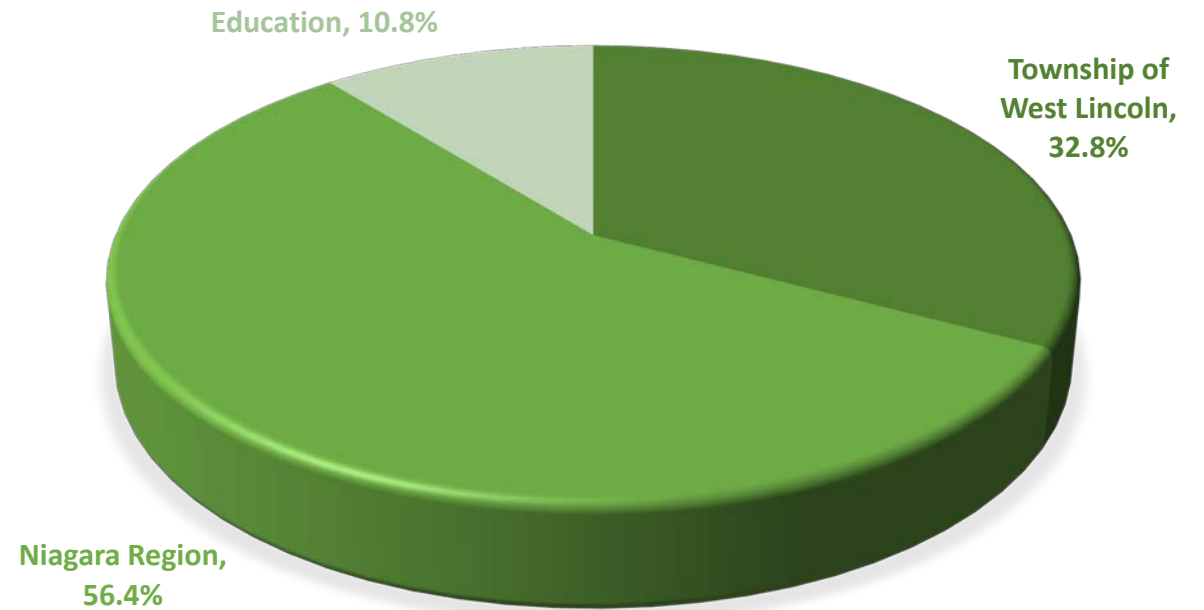




Rate-Supported Service Areas

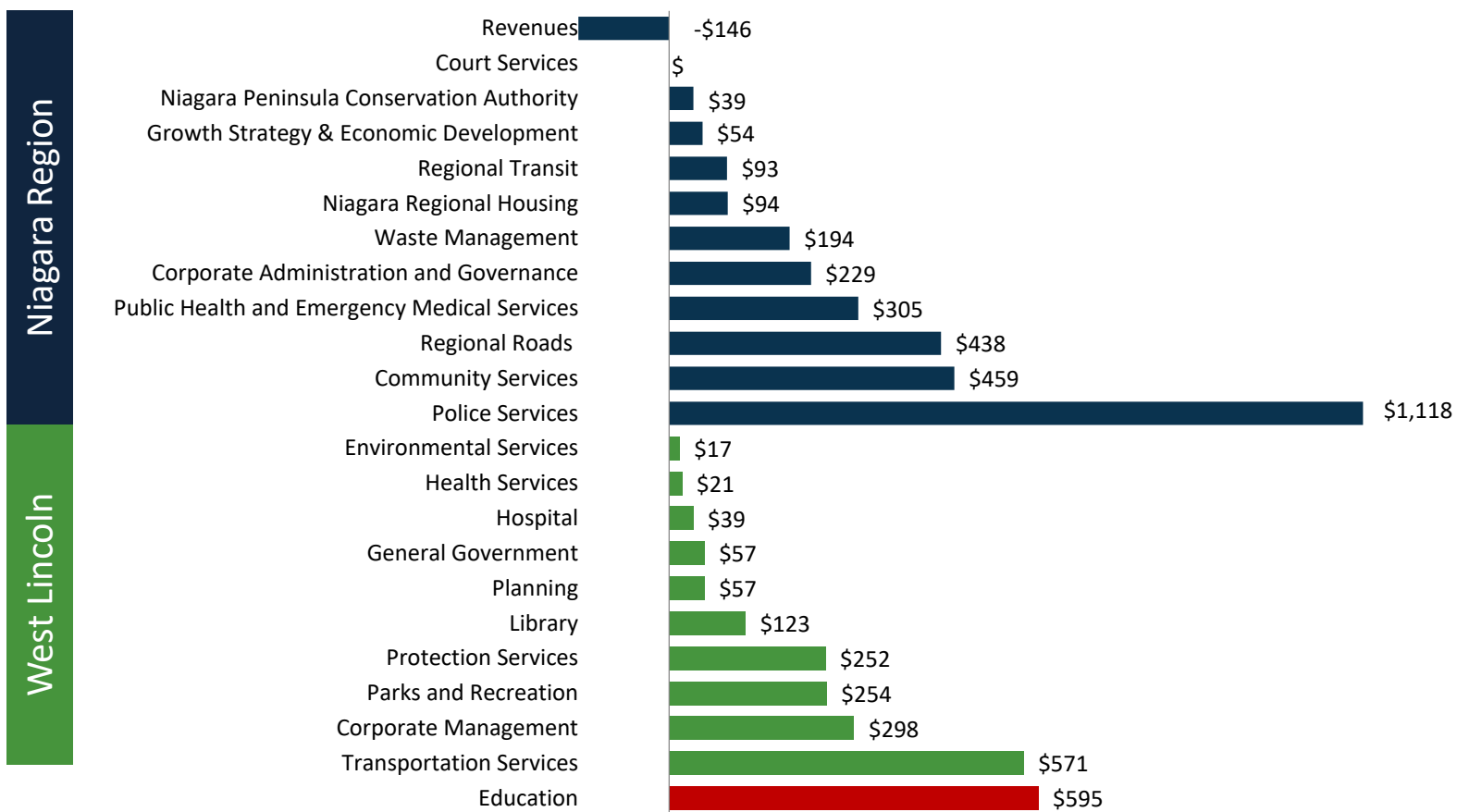
- The following service areas are self-funded, where revenues must cover expenditures:
 - Building, Water and Wastewater (sewer)
- Any surplus or deficit is either transferred to or from the appropriate reserves
- Equipment Costs are allocated to Road Maintenance, Winter Control, Arena, Water, Sewers, Recreation and Urban Sidewalks
- An allocation of overhead costs from Corporate Services and Transportation Services are charged to the rate-supported budgets

- The below chart represents the estimated breakdown of the 2025 property tax bill, by taxing authority:



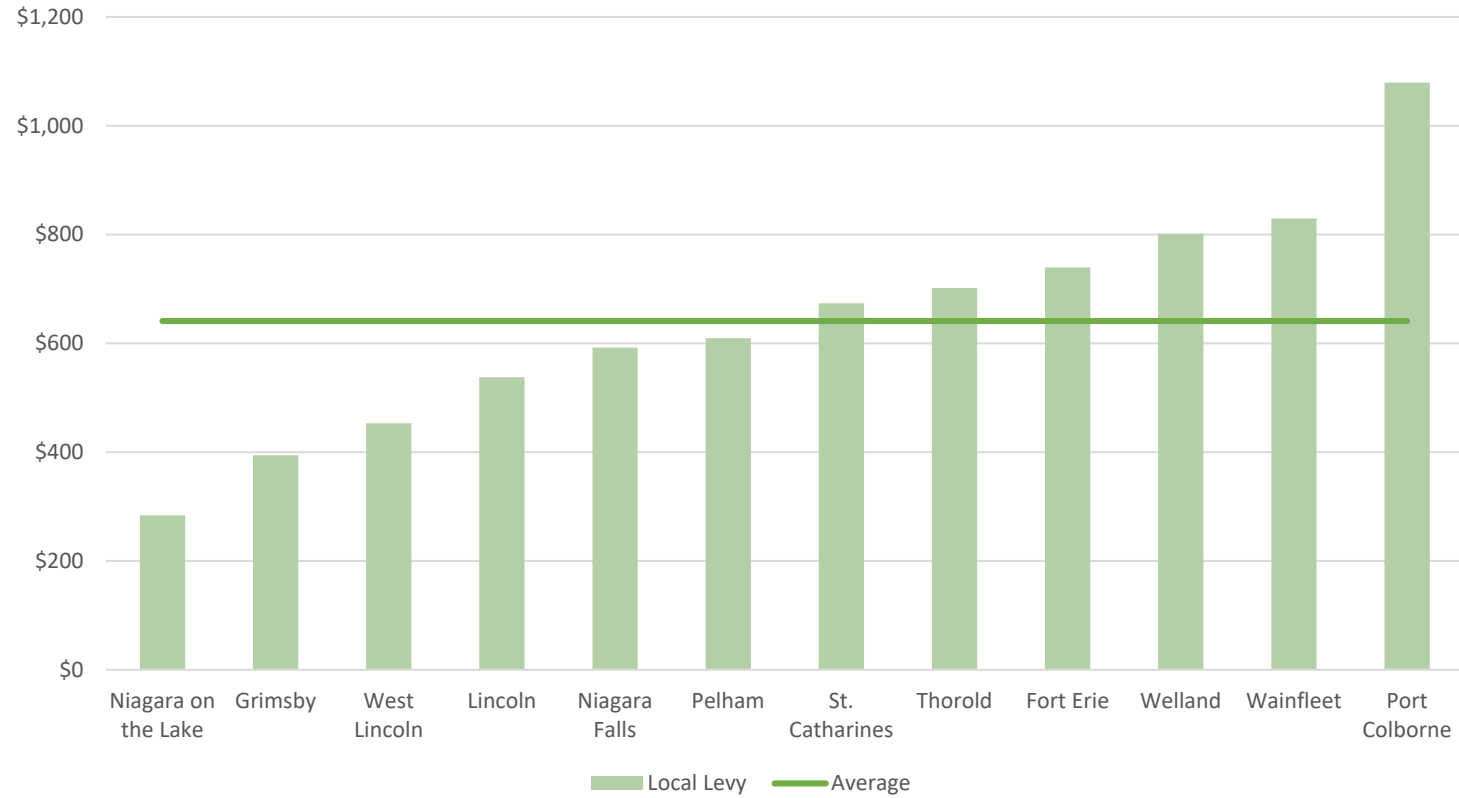
2025 Property Tax Distribution

What Did 2024 Property Taxes Pay For?



2024 Property Tax Comparator


Local Levy (Residential) for \$100,000 of Assessment



2024 Affordability Metrics

Municipality	2024 Estimated Average Household Income	2024 Average Residential Property Taxes	Property Taxes as a % Household Income	Residential Water/Sewer Costs (average 200 m ³)	Property Taxes & Water/Sewer as a % Household Income
West Lincoln	\$136,336	\$4,922	3.6%	\$1,370	4.6%
Grimsby	\$140,321	\$5,277	3.8%	\$890	4.4%
Pelham	\$152,722	\$5,822	3.8%	\$1,195	4.6%
Thorold	\$102,396	\$4,051	4.0%	\$1,363	5.3%
Lincoln	\$134,846	\$5,396	4.0%	\$1,536	5.1%
Niagara on the Lake	\$140,702	\$5,872	4.2%	\$1,392	5.2%
Fort Erie	\$97,431	\$4,205	4.3%	\$1,744	6.1%
Niagara Falls	\$96,975	\$4,196	4.3%	\$1,219	5.6%
Welland	\$90,426	\$3,940	4.4%	\$1,511	6.0%
St. Catharines	\$95,846	\$4,296	4.5%	\$1,254	5.8%
Port Colborne	\$94,647	\$4,327	4.6%	\$1,898	6.6%
Wainfleet	\$120,422	\$5,874	4.9%	\$0	4.9%
Niagara Average	\$116,923	\$4,848	4.1%	\$6,129	5.2%
Provincial Average	\$124,639	\$4,522	3.7%	\$5,894	4.9%

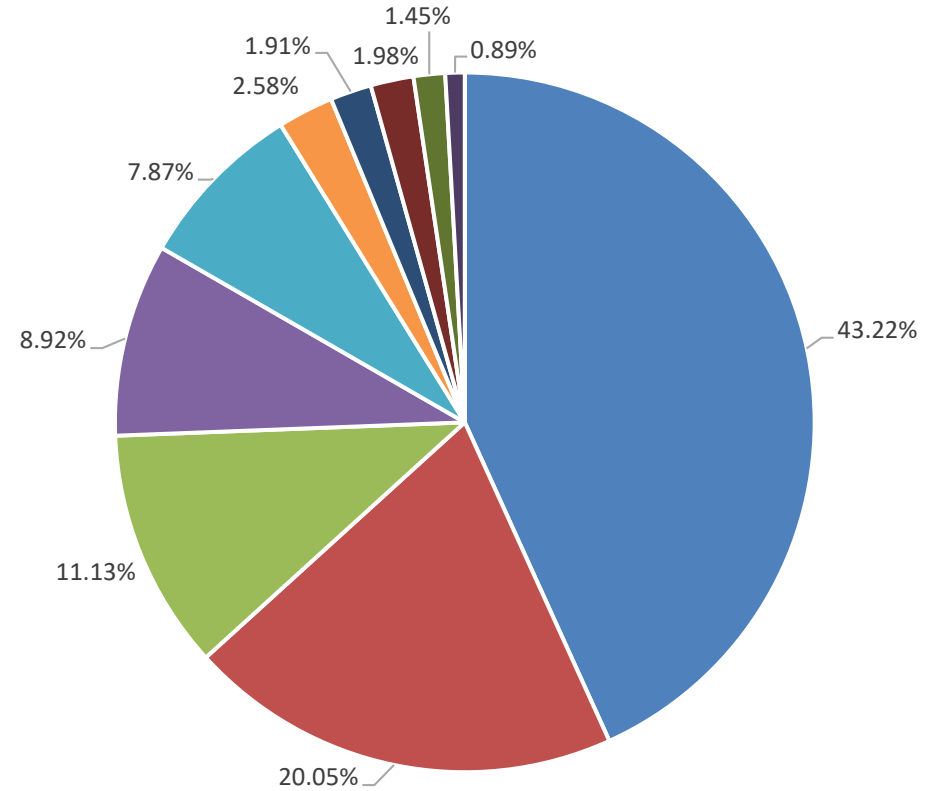
- West Lincoln has the **lowest** property taxes as a percentage of household income, in comparing against other local Niagara municipalities.
- West Lincoln is 3rd lowest when combined with water & sewer costs.



Budget 2025 – Key Factors

- Due to assessment growth of 1.01%, the first \$97,772 of increase to the overall tax levy has no impact to property owners
- An expenditure increase/decrease of \$97,091 equates to a 1% change in the tax levy
- A 1% change to the tax levy equates to an approximate \$16 change to the West Lincoln portion of taxes for an average residential home, with an assessment of \$390,400
- The Province continues to defer when a new assessment date will be introduced. This results in no assessment changes for the majority of property owners. Valuations are based on the assessment date of January 1, 2016

2025 Operating Budget Expenditures

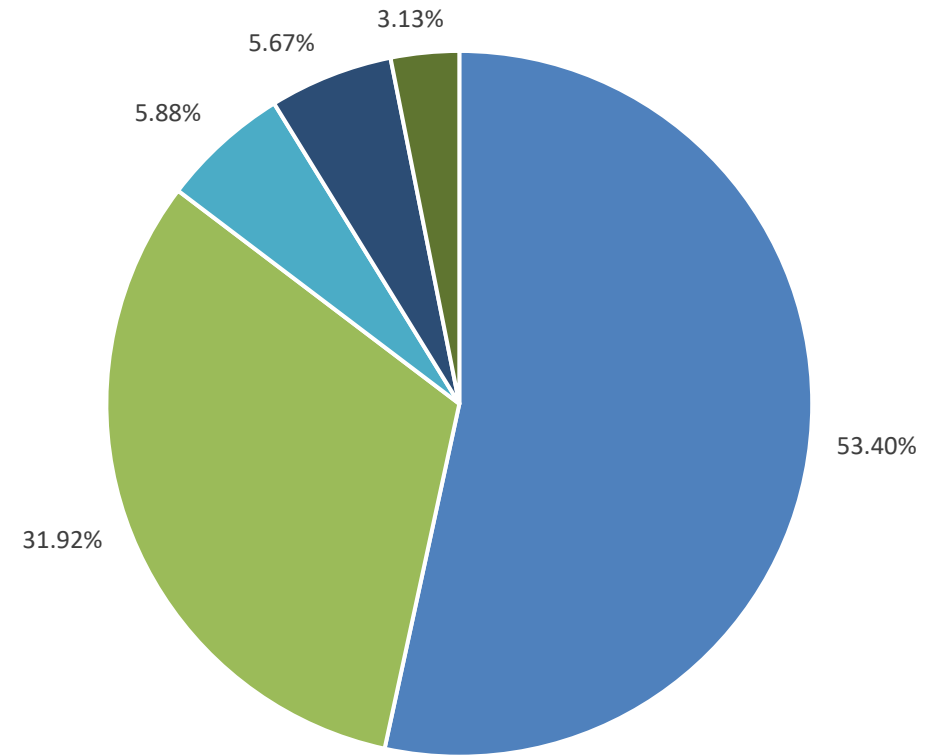


- Wages and Benefits - \$9,496,280
- Reserve Contributions - \$2,444,580
- Debenture Repayment - \$1,728,280
- Supplies and Equipment - \$419,310
- Administrative - \$319,610
- Contracted Services - \$4,404,480
- Repairs and Maintenance - \$1,959,940
- Utilities - \$567,130
- Insurance - \$436,050
- Other - \$196,400

2025 Expenditures by Department

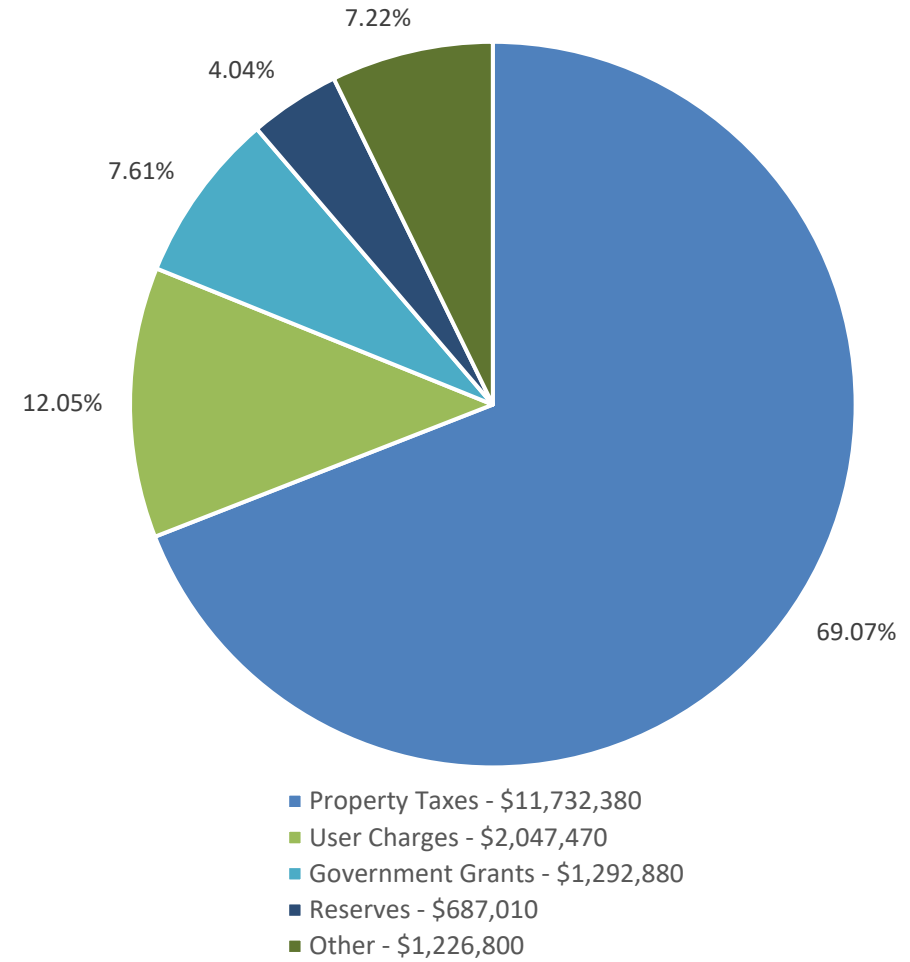


2025 Operating Budget Revenues



- Property Taxes - \$11,732,380
- User Charges - \$7,014,390
- Government Grants - \$1,292,880
- Other - \$1,245,400
- Reserves - \$687,010

2025 Operating Budget Revenues - Tax Supported



Overview of 2025 Operating Budget - Pressures

INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE

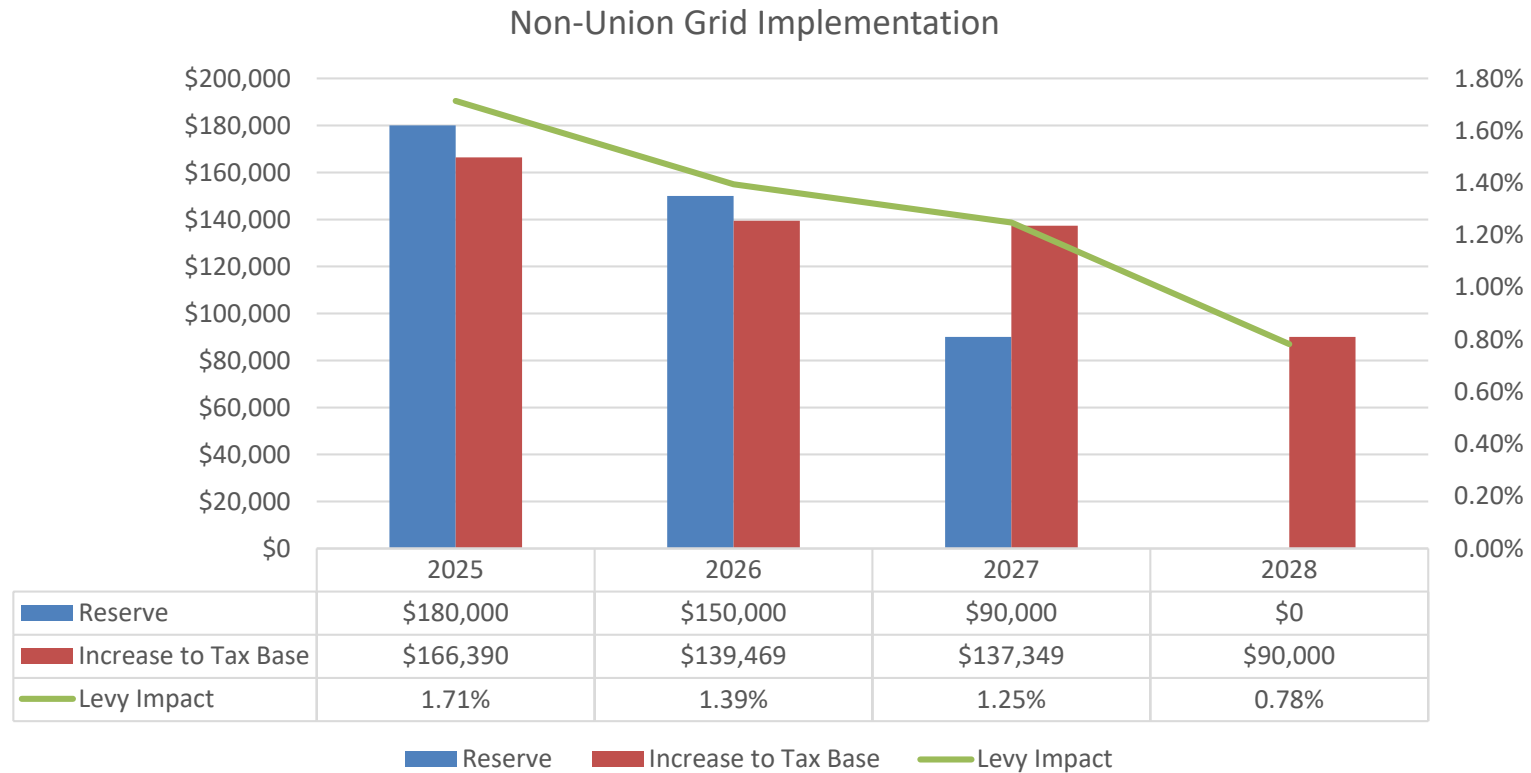
	<u>Budget Impact</u>	<u>Levy Impact</u>
• Reserve Increases to Fund Capital and Special Projects	• \$487,330	• 5.02%

Overview of 2025 Operating Budget - Pressures

INVESTMENT IN STAFF

	<u>Budget Impact</u>	<u>Levy Impact</u>
• Cost of Living Adjustments	• \$231,710	• 2.39%
• Non-Union Grid Implementation	• \$166,390	• 1.71%

Overview of 2025 Operating Budget - Pressures



Overview of 2025 Operating Budget - Pressures

INVESTMENT IN STAFF

	<u>Budget Impact</u>	<u>Levy Impact</u>
• Cost of Living Adjustments	• \$231,710	• 2.39%
• Non-Union Grid Implementation	• \$166,390	• 1.71%
• Township of West Lincoln Staffing Level Enhancements:		
• Supervisor of Accounting – New FTE	• \$128,000	• 1.32%
• Director, Community and Protective Services – New FTE	• \$199,700	• 2.06%
• Loss of Developer Contribution for Planning Department Position	• \$60,000	• 0.62%
• Parks and Recreation Part Time Staff – Increase in Hours	• \$42,600	• 0.44%
• Reinstatement of Part Time Administrative Assistant (0.5 FTE)	• \$35,600	• 0.37%
• Library Board Staffing Level Enhancements:		
• Library Public Service Assistants – Increase in Hours and Rate	• \$41,300	• 0.43%

Overview of 2025 Operating Budget - Pressures

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS & GENERAL INFLATION

	<u>Budget Impact</u>	<u>Levy Impact</u>
• General Expenditure Inflation Increase	• \$95,200	• 0.98%
• Software Cost Increases	• \$41,350	• 0.43%

Overview of 2025 Operating Budget - Pressures

SERVICE LEVEL ENHANCEMENTS

	<u>Budget Impact</u>	<u>Levy Impact</u>
• Fire Services Emergency Services Coordination	• \$25,520	• 0.26%

Overview of 2025 Operating Budget - Mitigation

MITIGATING FACTORS

	<u>Budget Impact</u>	<u>Levy Impact</u>
• Increase to OMPF Grant	• \$(186,700)	• (1.92)%
• Increase to Property Tax Penalty and Interest Revenue	• \$(40,000)	• (0.41)%
• Planning Department Increase in Revenues	• \$(23,210)	• (0.24)%
• Increase to Budgeted Dividend Revenue from PWPI	• \$(40,000)	• (0.41)%
• Increase to Recreation Programming and Facility User Fees	• \$(65,800)	• (0.68)%
• Increase in DC Funding for Fire Station 2 Debenture	• \$(76,330)	• (0.79)%
• Increase in DC Funding for Recreation Centre Debenture	• \$(263,300)	• (2.71)%
• Increase to Budgeted Donation from Wind Turbine Agreement	• \$(30,000)	• (0.31)%

2025 Water & Wastewater Rates

- This chart reflects the proposed water and wastewater (sewer) rate changes, to come into effect July 1, 2025.
- The consumptive rates are charged based on volume consumed.
- The water and sewer base rates are fixed and charged with each quarterly bill.

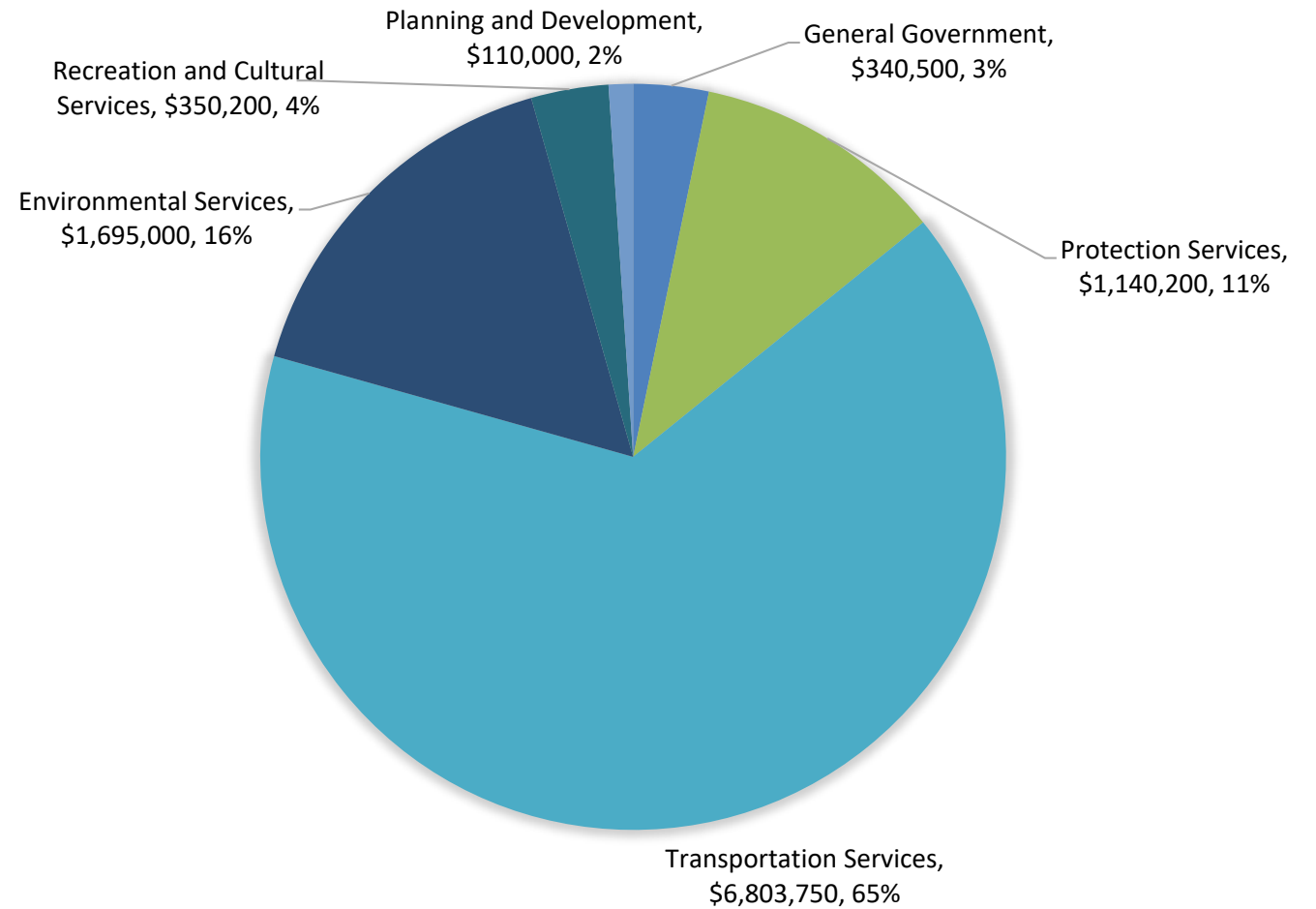
	July 2025	Current
Water Consumptive (per m ³)	\$ 1.81	\$ 1.71
Sewer Consumptive (per m ³)	\$ 2.09	\$ 1.97
Water Base	\$ 50.87	\$ 47.99
Sewer Base	\$ 117.26	\$ 110.62

Impact of Proposed Water & Wastewater Rates

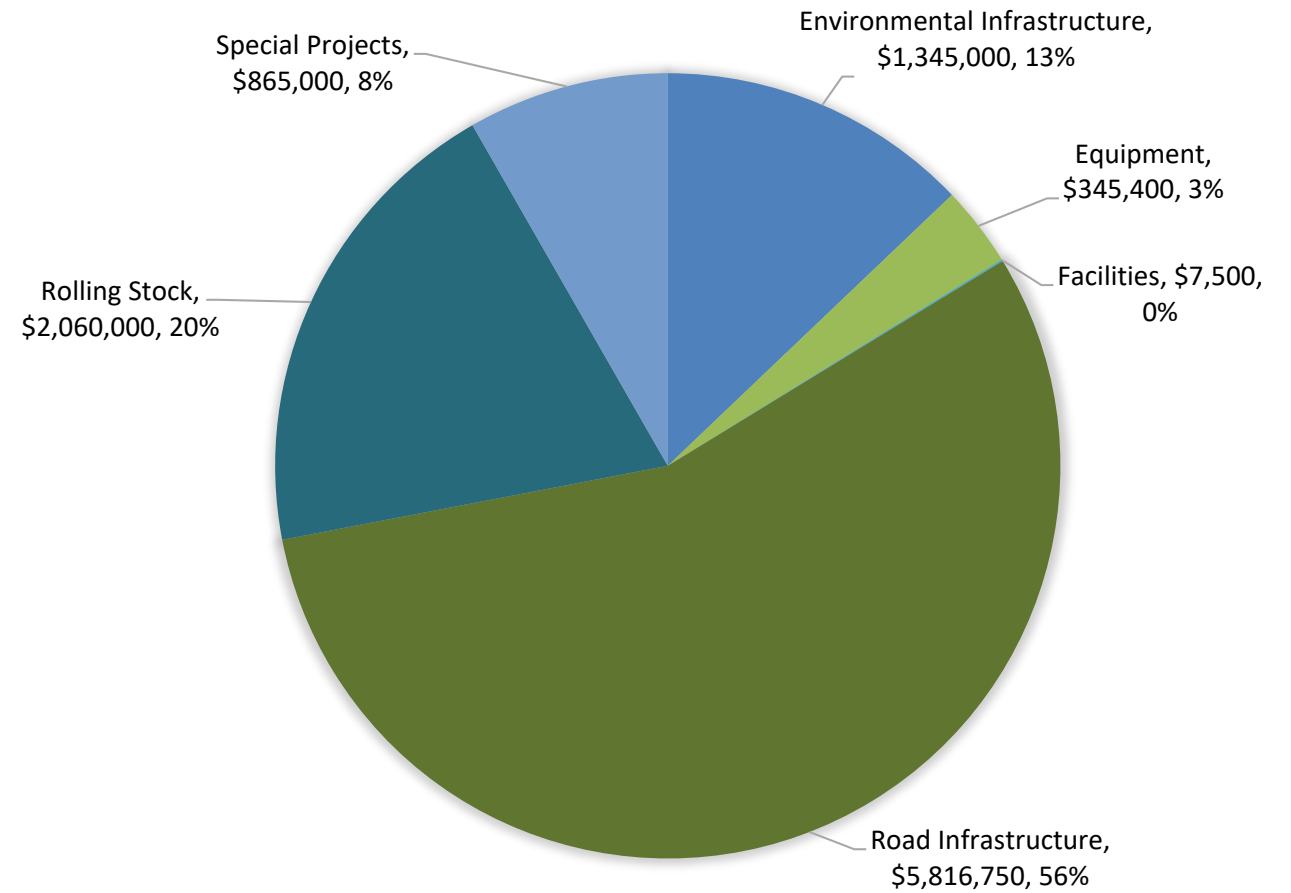
- Based on an average consumption of 45 cubic meters per quarter, or 180 cubic meters annually:
 - Quarterly Bill increasing by \$19.42
 - Impact in 2025 is \$38.84

	Quarterly Charge	
	July 2025	Current
Water Consumptive	\$ 81.45	\$ 76.95
Sewer Consumptive	\$ 94.08	\$ 88.65
Water Base	\$ 50.87	\$ 47.99
Sewer Base	\$ 117.26	\$ 110.62
Total	\$ 343.63	\$ 324.21

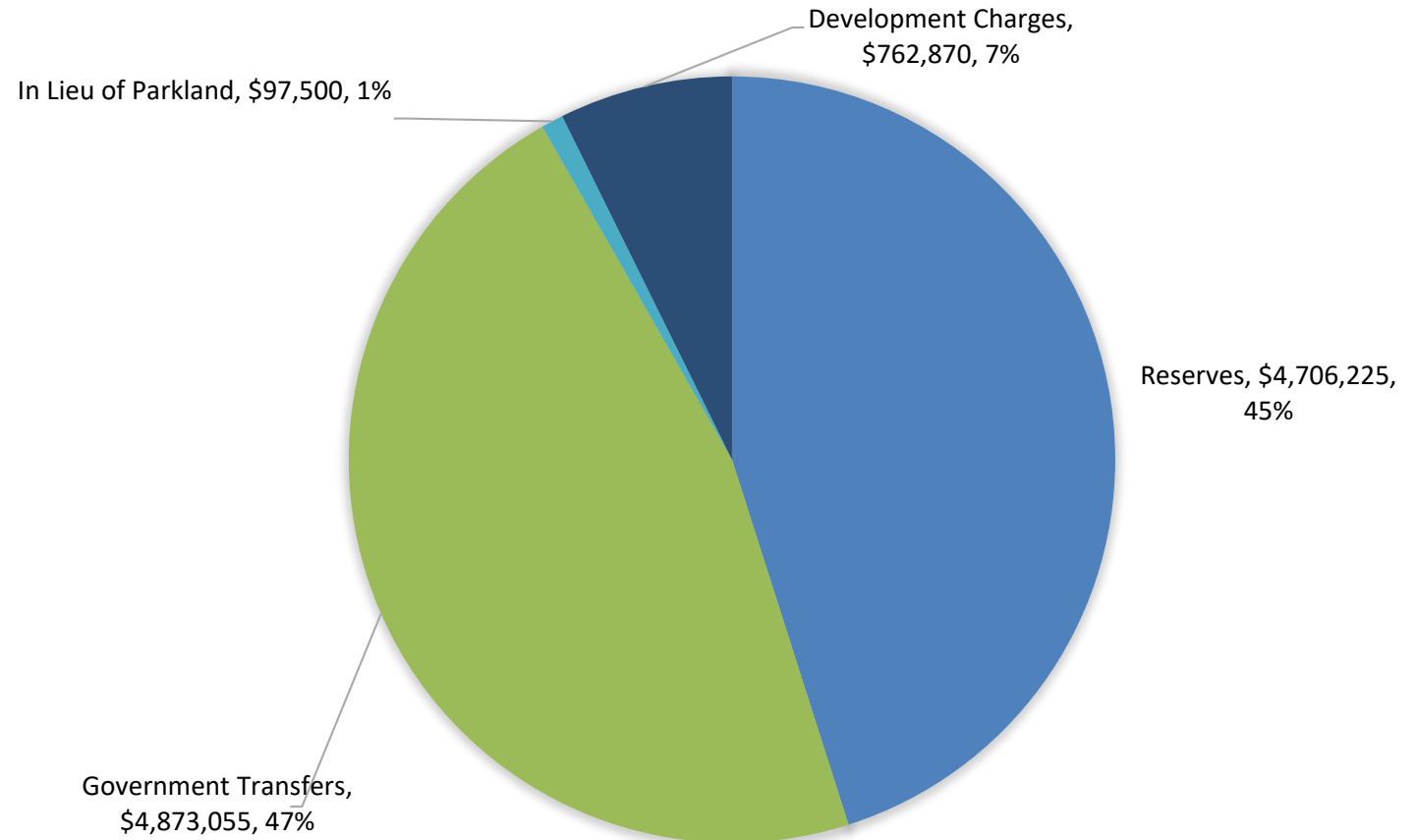
2025 Capital & Special Projects by Department



2025 Capital Projects by Asset Type



Funding of 2025 Capital & Special Projects



2025 Corporate Services Projects - \$340,500

Project	Rehabilitation/Renewal	Compliance	Growth	Service Improvement
1217 - Council Chambers Tech Upgrades	\$ 30,000			
1267 - Growth Fiscal Impact Study			\$ 70,000	
1271 - M365 Migration		\$ 100,000		
1277 - Townhall Security Cameras				\$ 7,500
1278 - Information Technology Masterplan				\$ 75,000
564 - Information Technology Network Hardware and Computers	\$ 52,500			
833 - Miscellaneous Corporate Management Equipment and Furniture	\$ 5,500			
	\$ 88,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 70,000	\$ 82,500

2025 Fire Services Projects - \$1,140,200

Project	Rehabilitation/Renewal	Compliance	Growth	Service Improvement
1088 - Miscellaneous Fire Equipment	\$ 10,000			
1120 - Station 2 SBCA Cylinder Compressor and Filling Station			\$ 90,000	
1214 - Tablets for Fire Vehicles				\$ 5,200
56 - Fire Bunker Gear		\$ 35,000		
689 - Replacement of Pumper Station # 1	\$ 1,000,000			
	\$ 1,010,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 5,200

2025 Transportation Services Projects - \$6,803,750

Project	Rehabilitation/Renewal	Compliance	Growth	Service Improvement
1185 - Silverdale Road Resurfacing; from Twenty Mile Rd to Regional Road 20	\$ 1,500,000			
602 - Spring Creek Rd Extension - From Hornak Rd to SG Rd 5			\$ 300,000	
976 - St. Ann's Road Reconstruction - From: Twenty Mile Rd to RR 20	\$ 3,148,750			
14 - TWL-ID-B46 St. Ann's Bridge, 0.2 km South of Twenty Mile Rd.	\$ 650,000			
169 - Pickup - To replace 2015 GMC Pickup Truck TR# 10018	\$ 70,000			
237 - Miscellaneous Road Equipment	\$ 7,000			
484 - Tandem Axle Dump Truck and Plow Unit - To replace 2015 International TR# 20036	\$ 400,000			
485 - Replace 1 Tonne Dump Truck - To replace 2015 GMC TR# 25017	\$ 110,000			
642 - Tandem Dump Truck and Plow Unit - To replace 2016 International TR# 20037	\$ 400,000			
1036 - St. Ann's Road Reconstruction - Sidewalk Portion	\$ 200,000			
713 - Signs - New & Replacement	\$ 18,000			
	\$ 6,503,750	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ -

2025 Environmental Services Projects - \$1,695,000

Project	Rehabilitation/Renewal	Compliance	Growth	Service Improvement
1252 - Dufferin Street Watermain Replacement	\$ 60,000			
324 - Water Rate Study and Financial Plan		\$ 60,000		
325 - Cube Van - To replace 2007 Chevrolet Van TR# 12004	\$ 80,000			
420 - Water Meter Replacement Program	\$ 35,000			
723 - Miscellaneous Water Equipment	\$ 5,000			
743 - Water Meters - New Installation			\$ 25,000	
1250 - Dufferin Street Sanitary Sewer Replacement	\$ 60,000			
430 - Urban Boundary Expansion - WW-SL-004B - Wastewater Servicing (Stage 3A)			\$ 200,000	
500 - Inflow & Infiltration Reduction Program	\$ 200,000			
733 - Miscellaneous Wastewater Equipment	\$ 5,000			
1032 - St. Ann's Road Reconstruction - Storm Sewer Portion	\$ 700,000			
1182 - Townline Storm Water Management Pond		\$ 265,000		
	\$ 1,145,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 225,000	\$ -

2025 Parks and Recreation Projects - \$163,500

Project	Rehabilitation/Renewal	Compliance	Growth	Service Improvement
1159 - Miscellaneous Recreation Program Equipment	\$ 5,000			
1181 - New Wellandport Park & Shoreline Enhancements				\$ 150,000
138 - Miscellaneous Parks Equipment	\$ 8,500			
	\$ 13,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000

2025 Library Services Projects - \$186,700

Project	Rehabilitation/Renewal	Compliance	Growth	Service Improvement
1004 - Non Network Replacement Computers - Library Branches	\$ 3,000			
1077 - Revitalization of Caistorville Branch	\$ 100,000			
1171 - Library Furniture Replacement	\$ 6,100			
1173 - Addition to Makerspace			\$ 10,000	
775 - Addition to Audio Visual Collection - All Library Branches			\$ 15,600	
776 - Addition to Printed Collection - Smithville Library Branch			\$ 18,200	
777 - Replacement Computers - Library Branches	\$ 12,000			
779 - Addition to Printed Collection - Caistorville Library Branch			\$ 9,700	
780 - Addition to Printed Collection - Wellandport Library Branch			\$ 12,100	
	\$ 121,100	\$ -	\$ 65,600	\$ -

2025 Planning Projects - \$110,000

Project	Rehabilitation/Renewal	Compliance	Growth	Service Improvement
1213 - Affordable Housing Community Improvement Plan				\$ 15,000
1221 - Trees for All				\$ 10,000
188 - Official Plan Update		\$ 85,000		
	\$ -	\$ 85,000	\$ -	\$ 25,000

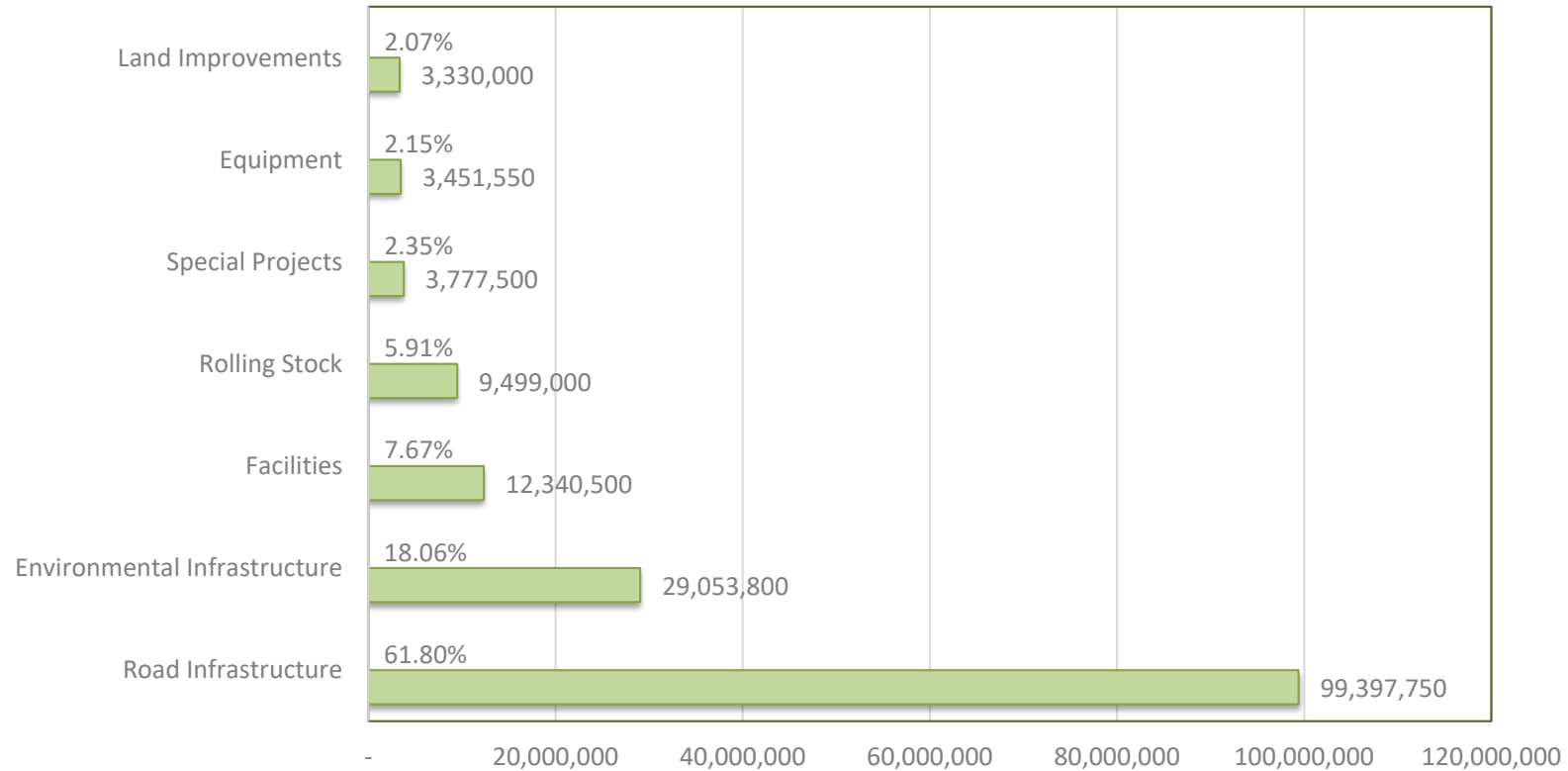
2025 Base Operating and Capital Budget Levy – Township Portion

	2024 Total Taxes	2025 Total Taxes (Proposed)	\$ Change	% Change
Assessment	\$390,400	\$390,400	\$0	0.00%
Municipal	\$1,657.99	\$1,782.37	\$124.38	7.50%
Hospital	\$38.68	\$34.98	-\$3.70	-9.57%
TOTAL	\$1,696.67	\$1,817.35	\$120.68	7.11%
Urban Service Area	\$72.60	\$76.83	\$4.23	5.83%
TOTAL WITH URBAN SERVICE AREA	\$1,769.27	\$1,894.18	\$124.91	7.06%

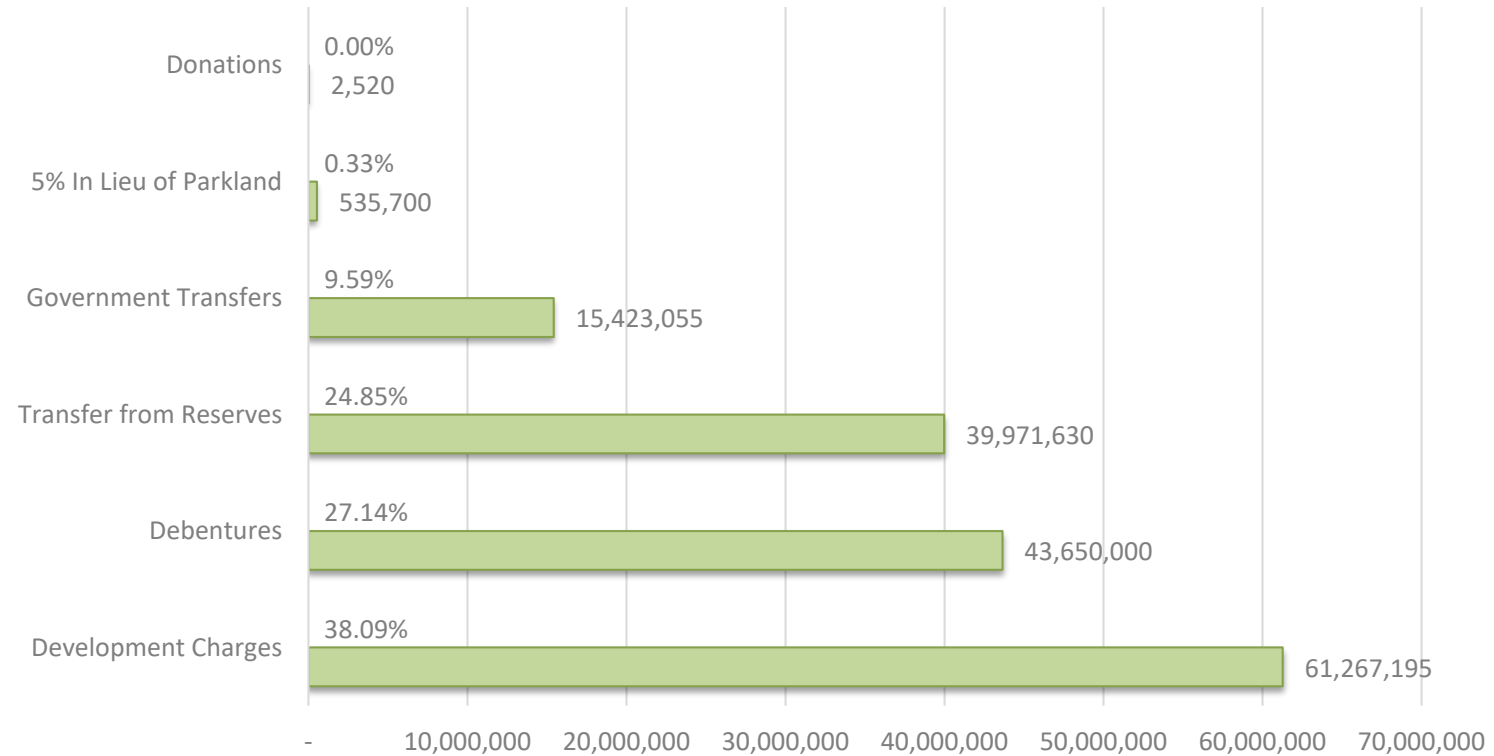
2025 Base Operating and Capital Budget Levy – Blended Rate

	2024 Total Taxes	2025 Total Taxes (Proposed)	\$ Change	% Change
Assessment	\$390,400	\$390,400	\$0	0.00%
Municipal	\$1,657.99	\$1,782.37	\$124.38	7.50%
Hospital	\$38.68	\$34.98	-\$3.70	-9.57%
Total Township	\$1,696.67	\$1,817.35	\$120.68	7.11%
Region	\$2,889.18	\$3,128.40	\$239.22	8.28%
Education	\$597.31	\$597.31	\$0.00	0.00%
TOTAL	\$5,183.16	\$5,543.06	\$359.90	6.94%
Urban Service Area	\$72.60	\$76.83	\$4.23	5.83%
TOTAL WITH URBAN SERVICE AREA	\$5,255.76	\$5,619.89	\$364.13	6.93%

Ten Year Capital Plan - Expenditures



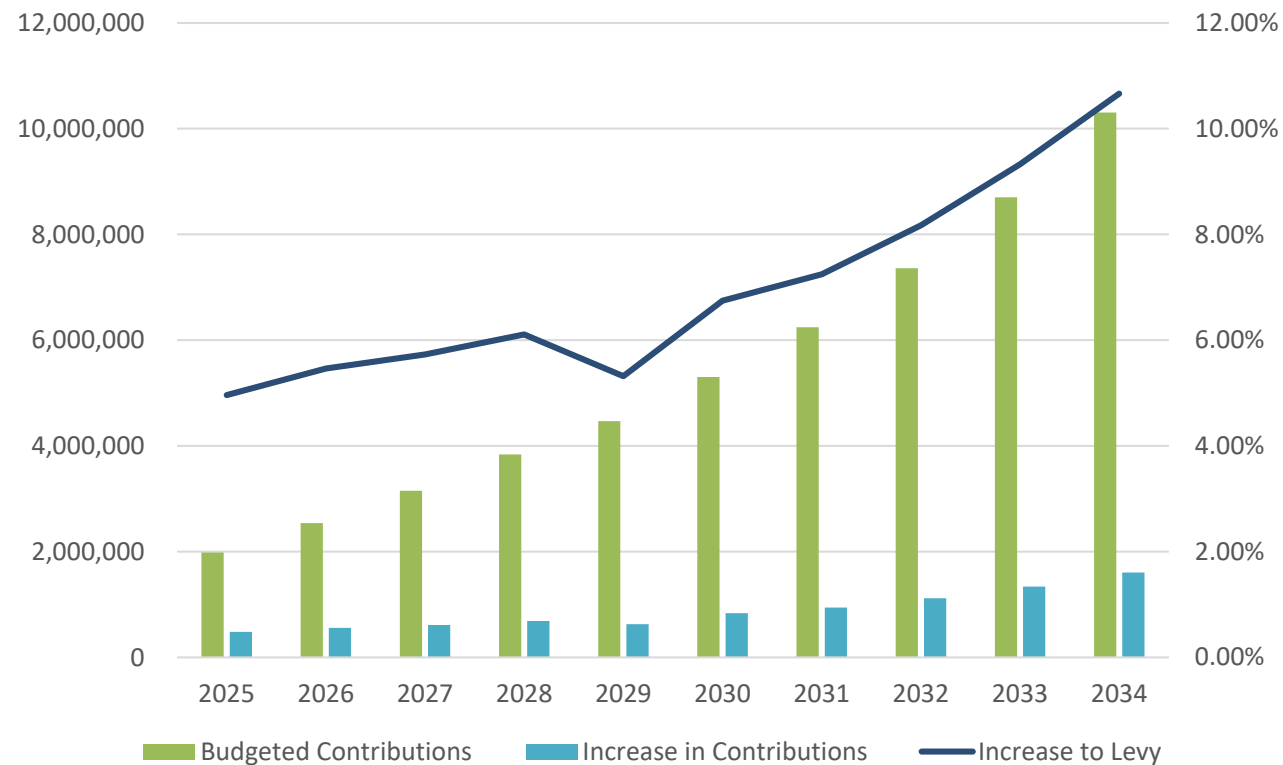
Ten Year Capital Plan - Funding



Forecast of Levy-Supported Reserve Closing Balances over Ten Year Capital Plan

Reserve	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034
Capital	1,358,800	153,860	466,210	680,910	1,792,110	1,511,810	1,780,560	852,460	1,341,660	2,036,460	5,722,460
Fire	1,368,200	732,000	1,158,800	(240,040)	340,352	1,128,822	2,012,987	2,997,184	4,308,621	5,988,745	8,074,894
Planning	311,950	288,370	237,120	173,720	196,820	151,520	127,020	159,745	228,245	310,445	397,045
Bridges	261,900	367,645	197,145	180,495	210,550	783,212	571,691	574,327	272,851	1,255,778	2,118,792
Facilities	284,600	272,100	157,100	206,100	234,700	210,300	74,900	193,400	438,500	414,200	561,600
Equipment	214,900	(205,600)	(39,300)	558,200	860,800	1,661,200	1,358,100	2,071,300	2,385,200	2,827,300	3,191,800
Cemetery	111,400	131,390	156,390	162,690	166,790	215,690	36,790	53,190	148,690	268,090	417,390
Library	475,200	362,600	368,100	368,300	268,250	191,690	58,240	37,410	60,960	94,400	36,620
Sidewalks	122,600	127,600	(41,900)	(35,800)	(29,100)	(21,700)	(13,600)	(4,700)	5,100	15,900	27,800
Technology	121,500	94,020	89,520	79,770	66,070	59,630	61,902	74,628	99,900	140,226	193,617
Closing	4,631,050	2,323,985	2,749,185	2,134,345	4,107,342	5,892,174	6,068,590	7,008,945	9,289,727	13,351,545	20,742,018

Estimated Reserve Transfer Related Levy Increases over Ten Year Capital Plan





Questions/Comments