



*Hazel McCallion, C.M.*

# *Mayor's Update*



*To Businesses – Spring 2009*

This update contains important information on the 2009 City budget detailing our commitment to maintaining City service levels and how it impacts your taxes.

City Council works diligently to ensure those living and operating businesses in Mississauga receive the best value for their property tax dollars. To this end, we have successfully completed a city-wide Business Plan and Budget for 2009/2010. Building upon input received from residents and priorities established through comprehensive planning processes, our 2009/2010 City Business Plan and Budget places priority on:

1. Enhancing transit and easing traffic congestion
2. Ensuring our infrastructure remains in a state of good repair
3. Implementing strategic projects
4. Protecting and preserving our environment
5. Managing our tax rate and continuous improvement

Council approved a 0.7 per cent increase on the total property tax bill for 2009. The increase represents:

- 0.54 per cent for operating costs
- 0.16 per cent for our infrastructure to ensure it remains in good repair

In 2009, the City will spend \$541.9 million to provide services to residents and businesses and \$195.8 million in capital construction and maintenance for a total City budget of \$737.7 million. This budget focuses on managing our tax rate responsibly and adding resources for top priorities like transit and the environment

as well as maintaining quality services and programs that residents and businesses have come to depend on.

Our operating and capital budgets for the year support initiatives that include: improved snow clearing; serving our growing community with new roads, parkland and transit; major road and bridge improvements; constructing a new Fire Training and Mechanical Centre and a new Transit Campus facility; renovating our community centres and upgrading our branch libraries. As well, we will be undertaking a number of planning studies on the environment, recreation and parks, and fire and emergency services to ensure we support the needs of our community in the future.

We continue to focus on transit and relieving traffic congestion as a top City priority. Our plan is to expand citizen and business access to reliable and convenient transit service, improve transit services to employment areas to attract /retain businesses, and continue to improve the road network. The BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) roadway along the Highway 403/Eglinton corridor will assist greatly in moving people and goods to and from home and work.

Despite our best planning, we are very aware of the increasing pressures that we face this year and beyond. Labour, utility, vehicle fuel and winter maintenance costs continue to cause budget challenges. Like other municipalities, Mississauga's infrastructure deficit is growing. It is estimated at \$1.5 billion over the next 20 years. That means we need, on average, an additional \$75 million more per year to be able to maintain our roads, structures and buildings into the future. Last year, we added \$2.5 million to address the deficit

gap and in 2009, we added \$2.7 million. It's a small step, but one we think is very important to the future of this City.

Council will continue to impress upon both the Federal and Provincial Governments the real and immediate need that cities have for infrastructure funding. Now more than ever, all levels of government must work together to stimulate the economy with infrastructure projects that create jobs and prosperity.

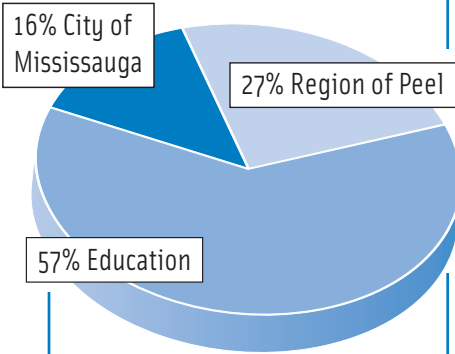
The City has received significant infrastructure funding over the last year. Recently, we received capital contributions from the Province of Ontario towards roads (\$9.5 million), transit (\$10.2 million) and general infrastructure needs (\$24.9 million) through the Investing in Ontario Act. This funding will assist the City in clearing its infrastructure backlog. The City has also applied for projects totalling almost \$190 million in Infrastructure Stimulus Funding, with 1/3 funding from provincial, federal and municipal levels of government.

Mississauga City Council will continue to review its business plans and budget responsibly with the input of businesses, staff and the community. Together, we will strive to find efficiencies in program delivery and explore new revenue sources to help keep taxes low.

Hazel McCallion, C.M.  
Mayor

## Breakdown of Your Tax Bill

Your property taxes pay for City of Mississauga services, Region of Peel services and provincial education costs. Only 16% of your taxes go to the City of Mississauga.



Commercial Tax Bill Breakdown

## Mississauga Budget

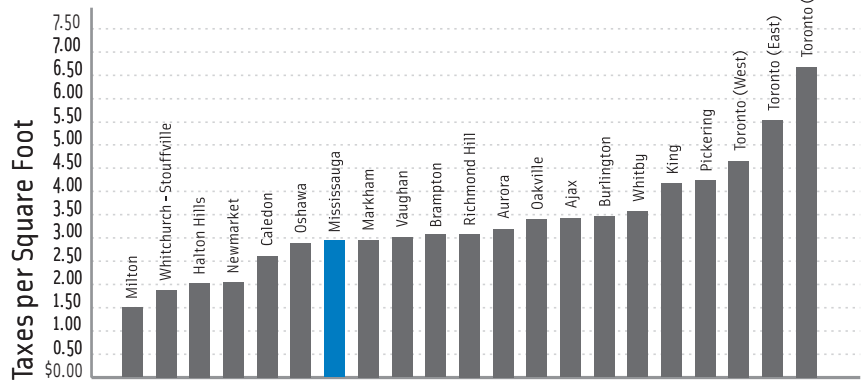
The 2009 City budget includes a gross operating budget of **\$542 million** and a gross capital budget of **\$196 million**.

Highlights of the 2009 budget are available at

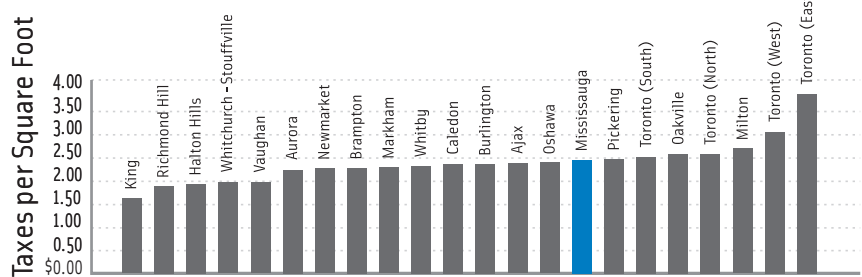
[www.mississauga.ca/finance](http://www.mississauga.ca/finance)

## 2008 Municipal Taxes Across the GTA

Prime Office Buildings – 2008



Standard Industrial – 2008



## 2009 Commercial Tax Impact

Assessment Value	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000
City-Operating	\$66 0.54%	\$131 0.54%	\$263 0.54%	\$657 0.54%
City-Infrastructure	\$19 0.16%	\$39 0.16%	\$77 0.16%	\$193 0.16%
Region	\$173 1.4%	\$346 1.4%	\$692 1.4%	\$1,730 1.4%
Education	- 0.0%	- 0.0%	- 0.0%	- 0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$258 2.1%</b>	<b>\$516 2.1%</b>	<b>\$1,032 2.1%</b>	<b>\$2,580 2.1%</b>

Does not include capping calculations

Your 2009 commercial tax bill consists of three separate components which are calculated individually. The City portion increased by 0.7 per cent (0.54 per cent relates to ongoing operations and 0.16 per cent relates to the Infrastructure Levy) and the Region's portion increased by 1.4 per cent over the total tax bill and there was no change in the education portion. If you compare your 2008 tax bill to your 2009 tax bill, you will see that your total commercial tax bill has increased overall by **2.1 per cent**.