



MAYOR'S update 2026



A message from Mayor Carolyn Parrish

As Mayor, I have a responsibility to balance the needs of our community while managing your taxpayer dollars responsibly. Each year, tough decisions are made to ensure we deliver the services you depend on.

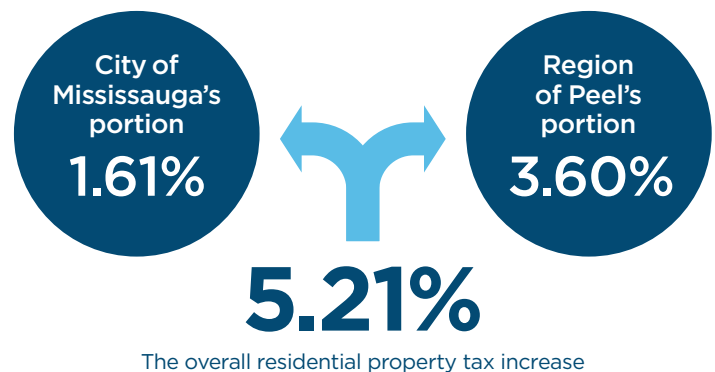
2026 City Budget

This year has been a difficult one with rising costs, economic uncertainty, and global pressures that continue to affect us all. Despite these challenges, I'm pleased to tell you that the increase on the City portion of the residential property tax bill was below the rate of inflation. This was no small feat. The City's portion of the property tax increase for 2026 is 1.61 per cent. When combined with the Region of Peel's 3.6 per cent increase, the total property tax increase for 2026 is 5.21 per cent. This required careful budgeting, strong cost controls, and difficult choices, all of which were made with taxpayers in mind.

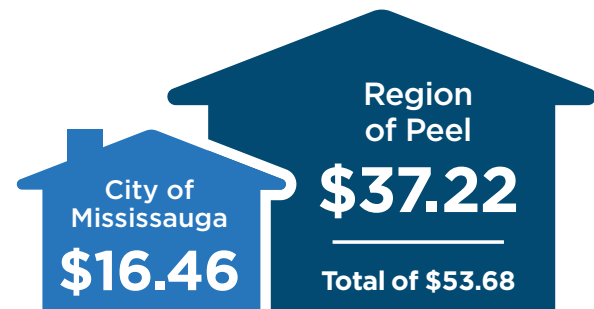
Staff across all departments were tasked with finding ways to reduce the budget. A total of \$17.4 million in savings was identified by deferring expenses, cutting discretionary budgets, and increasing revenue. This represents a 2.3 per cent reduction to the budget. The efficiencies include:

- \$1.8 million saved due to lower fuel consumption for hybrid buses compared to diesel buses.
- \$1.7 million saved through a diesel price reduction.
- \$711,700 saved through IT software rationalization and contract expirations.
- \$572,765 saved due to the reduction of temporary and contract positions.

We're delivering important services this year, including citywide residential driveway windrow and sidewalk clearing, additional by-law enforcement officers and enhanced support for seniors including free fitness memberships and free fares for seniors and children up to age 12 who use PRESTO on MiWay.



The overall residential property tax increase



Tax increase based on \$100,000 of assessed home value

Peel Regional Police funding

Fairness is central to our call for change to the Peel Regional Police funding formula which is based on MPAC assessment values. Mississauga taxpayers currently pay 62 per cent of the police budget, or \$519 million (based on 2026 Peel Police budget), under a formula that is more than 50 years old. In comparison, Brampton pays 38 per cent, or \$318 million, despite having a larger population. If the formula were based on population, Mississauga's share would be 50 per cent or lower. This imbalance is not sustainable, and we are pressing the provincial government to modernize the formula to share costs more equitably.

Transferring Regional Services

Waste collection services, including garbage, organics, and yard waste, will transfer from the Region to the City on October 1, 2027. This timing aligns with a new City contract and creates opportunities for long term savings. Regional roads are also being transferred to the City as of July 1, 2027. The Regional roads transition could save local taxpayers an estimated \$25-30 million every year.

Living Arts Centre and Downtown Precinct

We're also planning for Mississauga's future. In March, City staff presented Council with a long-term vision for 12 acres of City-owned land in Mississauga's downtown, including the Living Arts Centre. Council endorsed the vision, which sets out a guiding framework. This is not a final design, but a necessary step to allow staff to move forward with further analysis, business case work, and public engagement. Anchored by a convention centre, hotel, and a state-of-the-art music hub, the vision also explores new office and rental housing, active retail and vibrant public spaces to help strengthen

Mississauga's downtown as a cultural and economic destination. These are the only City-owned lands in the downtown large enough to support destination-scale cultural and convention uses. So, we must think strategically now while ensuring residents and community partners help shape the next steps.

As we continue to plan for today and our future, I, along with my colleagues on Council, will continue to be fiscally responsible as we balance long-term vision with the day-to-day services and programs residents rely on.

In this newsletter, you'll find more information about where your tax dollars go, how we're managing costs, and how we're building a stronger, more sustainable Mississauga, today and for the future.



Carolyn Parrish
Mayor of Mississauga

'Once in a generation' vision for downtown core

City Council has endorsed a bold new vision to reimagine 12 acres of City-owned land next to City Hall, transforming Mississauga's downtown into a vibrant, walkable urban destination that drives economic growth and attracts residents and visitors.

The vision aligns with Council-approved strategies including the City's Music Strategy, Tourism Master Plan and Economic Development Strategy.

The endorsed vision provides a guiding framework for further analysis. Next steps include developing a project plan that includes detailed studies and a financial strategy. Public input will be an important part of the process. Residents, businesses and community partners will be invited to shape the vision as the project moves forward.



Delivering value with purpose

Property taxes fund more than 200 City programs and services that residents rely on. In developing the 2026 Budget, the City focused on keeping taxes as low as possible while maintaining essential services. The City also reduced the Capital Infrastructure & Debt Repayment Levy from three to one per cent and put a one-year pause on the Public Safety Fire Program. This allowed the City to protect core services while continuing to invest in priorities that matter to residents.

Investing in services residents rely on

The 2026 Budget supports:

- Citywide driveway windrow and sidewalk clearing.
- Additional By-law Enforcement Officers in high-priority areas.
- Road, bridge, trail, park and stormwater maintenance across the city.
- Roadway rehabilitation across the city including the Ninth Line widening project.
- Design of new fire stations in Lorne Park and North Lakeview. (estimated opening: 2029)
- Recreation programs for all ages, including free fitness memberships for residents 65+ and free PRESTO fares on MiWay for seniors and children 12 and under.

- Construction of the new Glenforest Youth Hub. (estimated opening: Q1 2028)
- Renovation of South Common Community Centre and Library. (estimated opening: Q4 2027)
- Parkland and hybrid bus acquisitions (78 buses planned).
- Flood prevention and relief assistance.



New funding for housing and safer streets

The City continues to advocate for funding from other levels of government to reduce the pressure on taxpayers. The federal government has provided \$28.2 million through the Housing Accelerator Fund to help Mississauga get homes built faster and make them more affordable. This is the third round of funding the City has received under the program, bringing total federal housing funding to more than \$84 million. A fourth installment is anticipated in 2027, subject to the City achieving its housing growth target.

The City also received provincial funding for road safety after automated speed enforcement cameras were terminated. Through the Road Safety Initiatives Fund, Mississauga will receive \$2.2 million in interim funding for improvements in school zones and community safety zones.

The City is also eligible to get \$8.9 million from the federal government to be reimbursed after costs are incurred.

Strategic Plan – *Imagine Mississauga (2026-2031)*

Mississauga's first Strategic Plan was adopted by Council in 2009, but Council recognized that it needed a refresh. Residents, businesses, community partners, staff and Indigenous and equity-deserving communities all provided their ideas and input throughout the process.

The refreshed Strategic Plan, *Imagine Mississauga (2026-2031)*, reflects lived experiences, is informed by evidence, and guided by a shared vision for Mississauga's future.

It will be used to help address the challenges the City is currently facing, including affordability, climate change, economic competitiveness, and the need for transparent and accountable governance. Through the process, a new strategic pillar of Trust was introduced to reinforce the City's commitment to integrity, value for money, and transparent decision making.

Regional services coming to the City

The City will transition waste collection services from the Region of Peel on October 1, 2027. This includes residential garbage, organics and yard waste collection and services for multi-residential buildings. This will help create a service that better aligns with residents' needs and existing City programs. The transition was originally planned for January 1, 2026. The new date aligns with the City's new waste collection contracts. City staff will bring a detailed implementation plan to City Council this year.

As of January 1, 2026, the Province changed who is responsible for recycling collection across Ontario. The service is provided by Circular Materials, and residents can call 1-877-268-4351 for service-related inquiries.

The City is also set to take over the responsibility for regional roads and associated stormwater infrastructure, saving the City an estimated \$25-30 million every year. This is scheduled for July 1, 2027.



Expanded snow clearing keeps residents moving

This winter, the City successfully delivered expanded snow clearing services and helped residents move around more safely. Crews cleared windrows from residential driveways across the city when Mississauga got at least five centimetres of snow, at an average 2026 cost per property for windrow removal of \$52. A windrow is the pile of snow left at the end of a driveway after a plow clears the road. The City also cleared all sidewalks, making it easier for pedestrians and people using mobility devices.

In the spring, residents were asked to report sod damage caused by snow clearing to the City by calling 311 or reporting it online. Staff investigated the damage and repairs are being completed.



- 34 winter events with five plow events (more than five centimetres of snow accumulation).
- 134,000 driveway windrows cleared during every plow event.

- 1,550 kilometres of priority sidewalks and 900 kilometres of secondary sidewalks cleared.
- 3,916 fines issued for street parking during citywide winter parking restrictions.

For more information about the City's budget, visit mississauga.ca/budget

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