



The Corporation of the Town of Milton

Report To: Council

From: Glen Cowan, Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer

Date: September 8, 2025

Report No: ES-042-25

Subject: 2026 Budget Call Report

- Recommendation:**
1. THAT the Mayor be requested to consider the following when preparing the 2026 Budget for Council consideration:
 - a. That the 2026 Capital and Operating Budgets and Forecasts be prepared in alignment with the Town's Council-approved strategic plans and long-term studies (example: Strategic Plan, Official Plan, Asset Management Plan, Fiscal Impact Studies, Master Plans etc.)
 - b. That the 2026 Operating Budget be presented with a local residential property tax increase of 7.94% (estimated to result in a total tax rate increase of 5.20% including the regional and education portions of the levy).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- After various forms of mitigation, the estimated budget pressure for 2026 is equivalent to an increase in local property taxes of 7.94% (or \$28.16 per \$100,000 of assessment). Combined with estimated Regional and Education portions of the tax levy this would result in a total estimated tax pressure of 5.20% (or \$42.94 per \$100,000 of assessment) which falls within the range of targeted property tax increases outlined in the multi-year strategy report (ES-016-24).
- Key areas of investment that are expected for the Town in 2026 include Fire and Transit Services, in line with the Town's strategic goals.
- The Town's total tax levy is lower than surrounding local municipalities by an average of 18.8% for the average 2-storey home, and Milton property taxes as a percentage of household income remains lowest in the GTA and third lowest in the Province.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The 2026/27 forecasted budget pressures that are presented in this Budget Call report are based on data and information currently available. As the detailed budget is developed this forecast will continue to be refined to include additional information that is identified.

REPORT

Background

Section 290 (1) of the Municipal Act requires municipalities to prepare and adopt an annual budget. Section 284.16 of the Municipal Act, 2001 (as amended by Bill 3) identifies that the duty of preparing a proposed budget for a municipality and providing the proposed budget to the council for consideration is the responsibility of the head of council.

To support the 2026 budget process, and consistent with prior years, staff will prepare budget reference material following the principles outlined in Financial Management - Financial Principles Policy No. 110 and the direction provided by Council. The budget process continues to be an avenue to prioritize and balance the allocation of available resources to achieve the various targets and priorities.

The Budget Call report provides background, context and financial considerations related to the 2026 budget.

Discussion

Milton has experienced steady population growth since 2001 and has consistently ranked as one of Canada's fastest growing communities. With a population of 145,291 residents at the end of 2024 and projections showing that figure approximately doubling over a 15-year period, the Town continues to be faced with a number of financial challenges and opportunities. Within this context, the budget serves as a financial plan that provides guidelines and direction to staff for the allocation of resources and the provision of services and infrastructure.

Public Input

The budget development process considers public feedback collected throughout the year. This includes engagement from Town initiatives such as master plan updates, planning processes and the 2022 Citizen Engagement Survey.



Discussion

An excerpt from the survey is included as Appendix A. It highlights results related to property taxes, value for tax dollars and infrastructure funding.

In addition to these ongoing engagement opportunities, residents and business owners were invited to provide input on the prioritization of services and investments for the 2026 budget. This input was collected between June 2 and August 24, 2025 through the Let's Talk Milton platform. The opportunity was promoted through a news release, social media posts, public newsletters and the Town's website.

As of August 24, 2025, the Let's Talk Milton budget page had 2,194 total visits, including 1,890 unique visits (representing individual users, not repeated visits from the same person or device). Of these, 136 participants submitted feedback using the "Ideas" tool. While the platform will remain open for comments through November 27, 2025, feedback received by August 24 is provided in Appendix B.

Additional comments submitted between August 25 and November 27, 2025, will be shared with Council before the December 1, 2025, budget meeting.

Growth Forecast

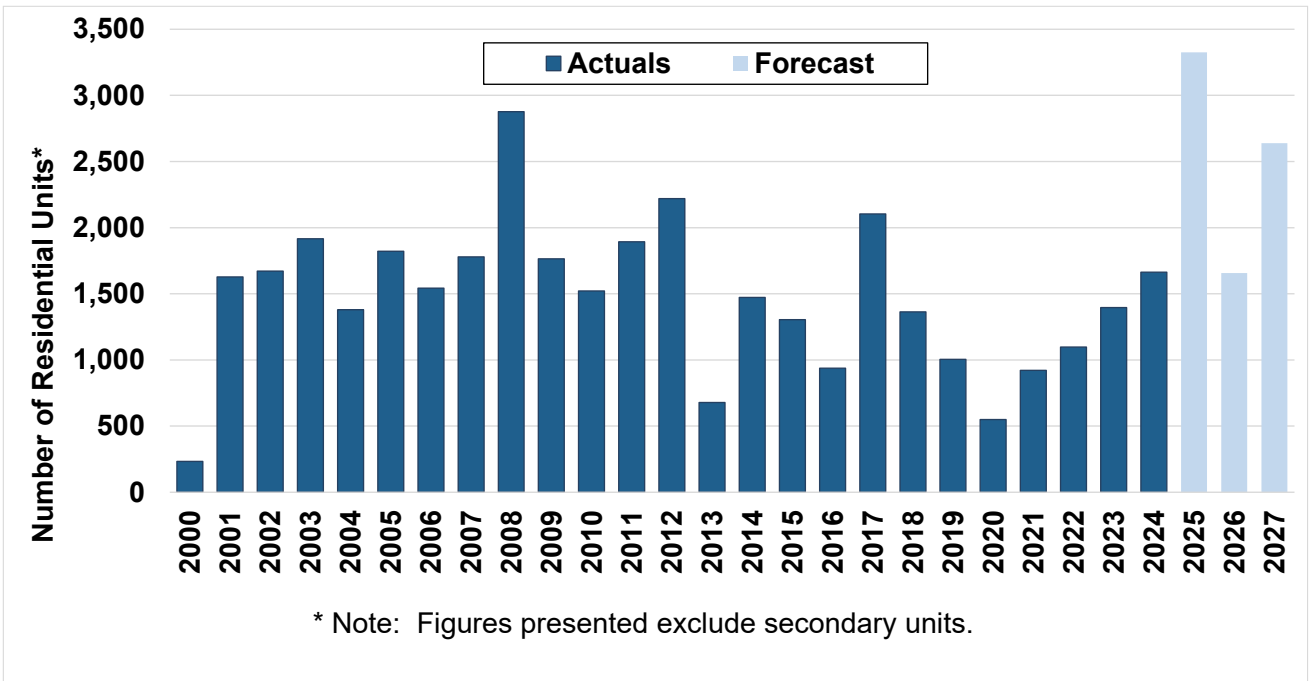
An important consideration in the preparation of the budget is estimating the rate of growth expected in the community which affects both revenues and expenses in the capital and operating budgets. Growth in the community will result in incremental tax revenues from assessment growth. It also drives the requirement to expand services and infrastructure such as roadways, parkland and facilities to the growing community.

The taxes raised from residential growth do not currently cover the costs of services provided and therefore balancing growth between the residential and non-residential sectors is critical to financial stability. Over recent years, residential growth has outpaced non-residential with the mix of assessment (unweighted) changing from 71.8% residential in 2001 to 82.9% residential in 2025.

Over the next several years, residential building activity is anticipated to be higher than previous activity experienced by the Town as illustrated in the following graph.

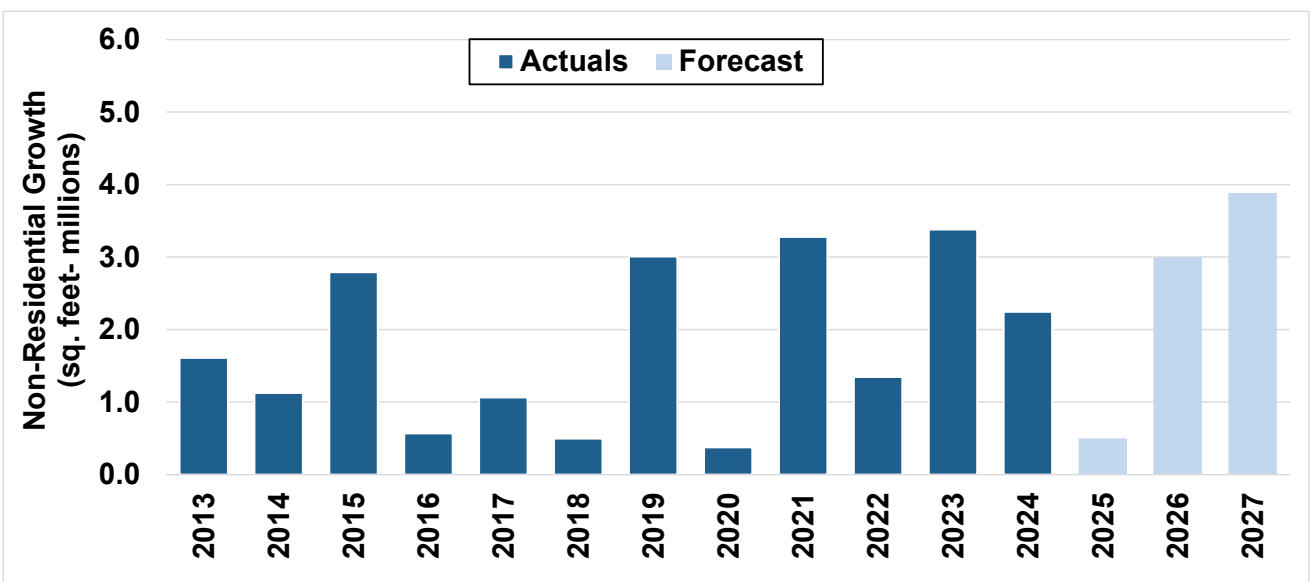
Discussion

Figure 1 - Town of Milton Residential Growth



Non-residential activity is also expected to remain strong with 3.0 million square feet of development anticipated in 2026.

Figure 2 - Town of Milton Non-Residential Growth



Discussion

The projected levels of residential and non-residential growth will impact levels of annual assessment growth revenues that will be considered as part of budget processes in future years. Assessment growth for the current budget year will be influenced by prior volumes and is estimated at 3% for 2026.

Capital Budget and Forecast

A 10-year capital budget and forecast will be prepared that will identify the investment required to support the anticipated growth in the community as well as the Town's infrastructure maintenance and rehabilitation needs. The starting point for preparing the 2026-2035 budget and forecast will be the 2026-2034 forecast presented through the 2025 budget process. The forecast estimated that the capital investment for 2026 would be approximately \$186.6 million, with a 9-year investment totaling \$1.5 billion. The budget and forecast will be updated to reflect revised construction timelines, updated cost estimates (including inflation) and current corporate priorities.

Operating Impacts from Capital

Investing in new and expanded infrastructure has a significant financial impact on future operating budgets and tax levies. Capital investment in local infrastructure that is constructed by developers and assumed by the Town through new developments (including local roads and stormwater assets) also results in ongoing incremental costs. Capital budgets will continue to identify the operational impacts resulting from investment in new or expanded services including the maintenance of newly constructed roads and parks, expanded transit services, new facilities and information technology infrastructure. Future capital investment to maintain or replace assets is also required and as such, contributions to reserves for the long-term rehabilitation and/or replacement of new assets will be identified.

Infrastructure Funding Deficit & Asset Management Plan

The Town's Corporate Asset Management Plan (AMP) was updated in 2025 through staff report ES-031-25 to consider proposed levels of service and resulting updated lifecycle management and financial strategies.

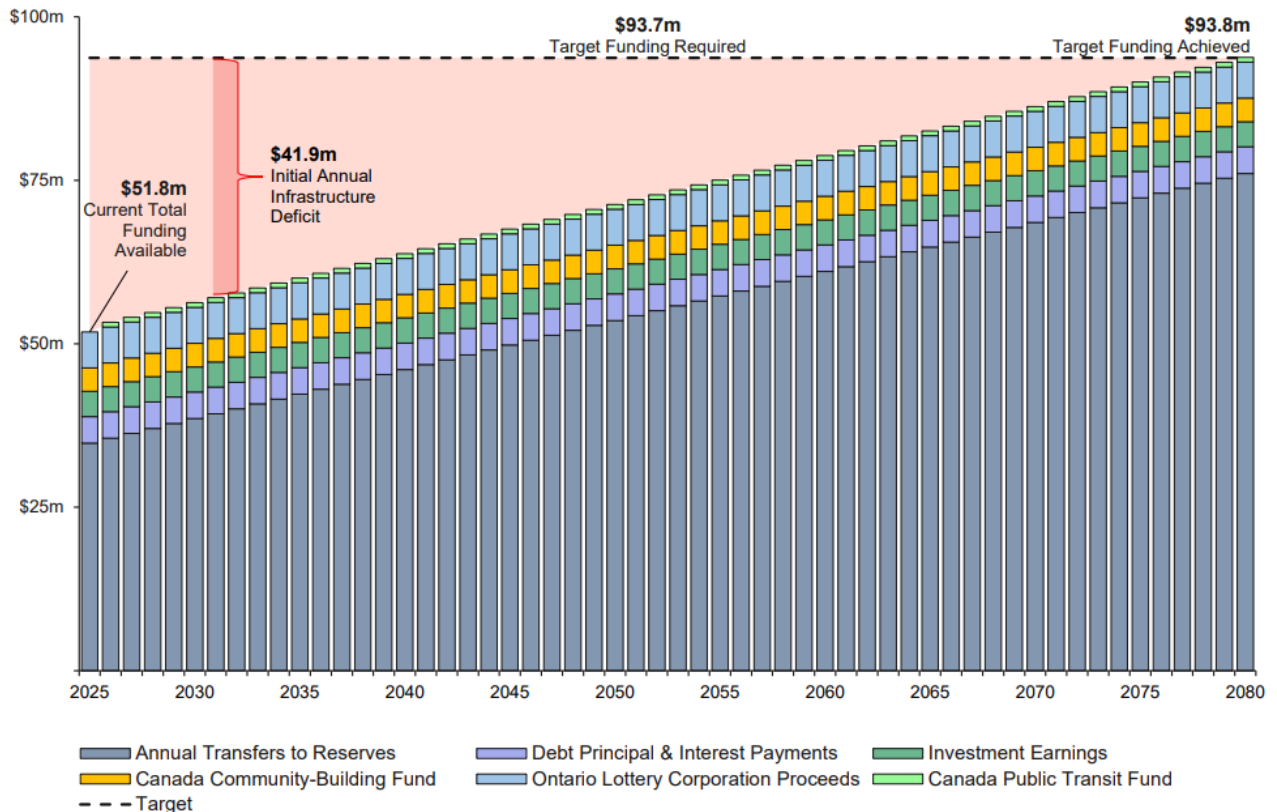
The study estimated that approximately \$93.7 million in annual capital lifecycle funding is required to support the Town's existing infrastructure. By comparison, the amount of sustainable funding available to the Town each year amounted to approximately \$51.8 million, resulting in an annual funding deficit of approximately \$41.9 million for the Town. In order to

Discussion

sustain current services and service levels, a gradual reduction to the funding deficit will be required.

As illustrated in the graph below, if the Town continues contributing incremental annual lifecycle funding in the amount of \$750,000, which is the level included in the 2025 budget, the deficit would be eliminated in approximately 56 years. By comparison, should the Town contribute an incremental annual funding amount of \$1,500,000 the deficit would be eliminated in approximately 28 years.

Figure 3 - Impact of Net New Annual Transfers of \$750,000 on Closing Annual Deficits



It should be noted that amounts presented exclude both inflation and future acquisitions of additional assets. During this period, the Town's asset base will continue to grow through assets constructed by the Town or assumed from the development community. Should the Town continue its existing policies of adding sustainable funding sources for the future lifecycle costs of those new assets at the time of acquisition, and of increasing the funding base each year with consideration for inflationary rates, this will also further contribute to the growth of the annual funding sources that are available during the period. Similarly the Town

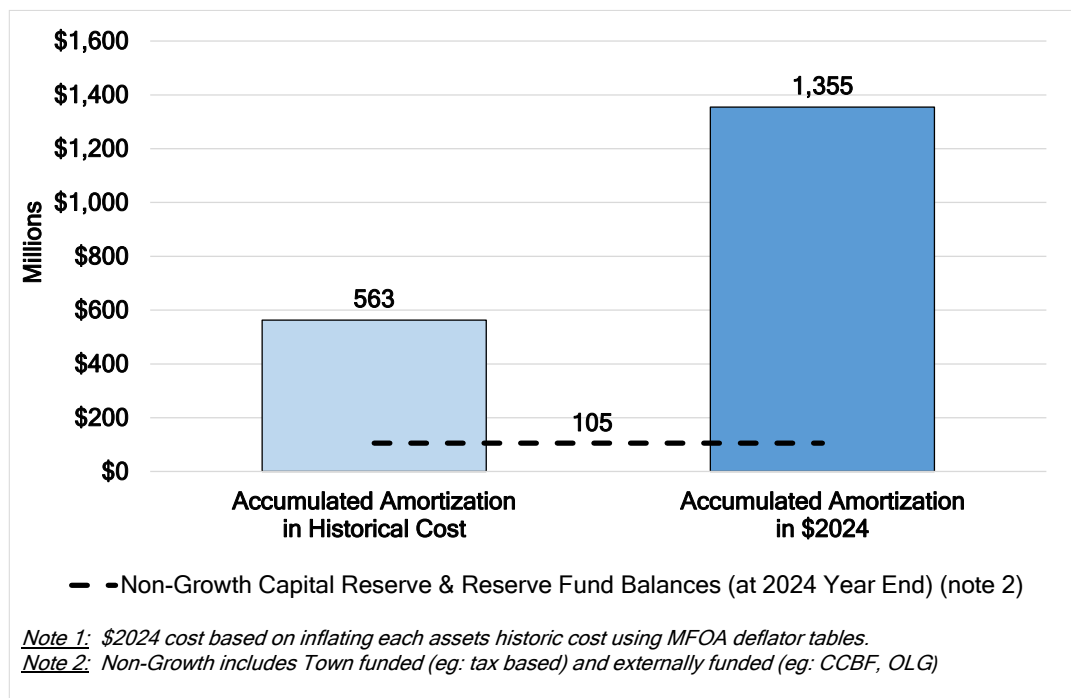
Discussion

will see the introduction of the baseline allocation from the Canada Public Transit Fund in 2026, which will result in annual funding of \$723,253 that may be used to fund asset renewal on a sustainable basis.

Another way in which the deficit is being reduced is through asset maintenance strategies that may extend the useful life of infrastructure. Through the 2026 Budget Process the Town will update the forecast to reflect the recent transition towards an 18-year lifecycle for the transit fleet (from 12 years). This approach lowers the overall cost of ownership and service delivery, and reduces the annual lifecycle contribution that is necessary to sustain service levels in the future.

Another method of reviewing the degree to which the Town is setting aside funds for future rehabilitation is to compare the capital replacement reserve and reserve fund balances to the accumulated amortization on the Town's assets (i.e. the degree to which existing assets have aged). These figures are depicted on the following graph and suggest that additional contributions to capital reserve are required for the Town's existing assets based on the service levels currently provided. Although other financing tools (example debt or future contributions) will be available as a part of the funding strategy, the differences noted below exceed the current Provincially mandated and Council established debt capacity limits.

Figure 4 - Measure of Infrastructure Renewal Funding Status



Discussion

2023-27 Strategic Plan

A Strategic Plan for the years 2023-2027 was approved through report ES-009-23. The plan identifies the following priorities for this term of council and will drive progress towards the long range vision of Milton in 2051:

- Invest in People
- Innovate in Technology & Process
- Quality Facilities & Amenities
- Connected Transit & Mobility
- Planned Community Growth

Due to the multi-year nature of several of the growth-related initiatives included in the plan, budget approval has already occurred or the financial impacts have been incorporated into the operating and capital budget forecasts for several items. Additional or new funding requests will be presented where required as the various initiatives proceed to finalization or when the scope and expected outcomes have been further defined.

Workforce Planning

Staffing level requirements are reviewed annually, with consideration for Town goals and priorities as well as existing service levels and pressures. Performance measures are also assessed in relation to new staffing needs. In recent budget years due to financial pressures, a limited number of positions have been added, and previously forecasted needs have been deferred. The 2026 operating budget forecast presented herein includes a provision to address some of the highest priority staffing requirements, however, this leaves a number of pressures outstanding and could have implications on the service levels that are available to the community.

Other Revenue Sources

Aside from property taxes, user fees and service charges provide a significant portion (20%) of the Town's operating revenues each year. Other sources of revenue that the Town of Milton proactively pursues to help manage the overall tax pressure include items such as, but not limited to: external grants, investment income and cost recovery agreements with external organizations. As these sources may not increase with inflation and growth, the Town faces ongoing pressures in trying to meet the requirements of a growing community.

Discussion

Through effective management of Town user fees, which includes indexing annually by the Municipal Price Index (MPI), fees are charged to the direct users of many Town services to cover part or all of the costs of providing these services.

Aside from annual inflation, comprehensive studies are also undertaken periodically to compare the effective rates to the related cost (via activity based costing), as well as to benchmark the Town's rates to its peers. The latest comprehensive study on the Town's user fees, excluding recreation and transit, was completed in 2022 (staff report CORS-058-22). Internal reviews of Recreation and Facility fees were completed through recent budget processes in advance of a future planned comprehensive review. Transit fees were reviewed in 2024 as part of the Transit 5-Year Service Plan and Master Plan Update.

The majority of rates and fees within the forecast will be indexed in 2026 using the MPI for expenditures of 2.72% as presented in staff report ES-036-25.

2026 Operating Budget and Forecast

Through the 2025 Operating and Capital Budget staff completed an operating budget forecast for the pressures anticipated in 2026 and 2027. Based on the assumptions at the time, staff were projecting a tax levy pressure to the Town portion of the tax bill in those years of 13.05% in 2026 and 8.90% in 2027 that was largely driven by:

- Inflationary impacts to maintain existing levels of service.
- Funding to gradually reduce the Town's funding deficits.
- Extending services to new growth areas including the Boyne Secondary Area.
- Investment in service areas due to higher density growth.
- Phased reduction of non-sustainable reserve funding.

Staff have adjusted the forecast to reflect new information and analysis undertaken through the first two quarters of 2025 and then the following measures were then taken to achieve the presented number of 7.94% for 2026:

- Reduction of planned staffing increases;
- Reduction of planned funding to gradually reduce the infrastructure deficit from \$1.5 million to \$750,000;
- Continue to rely on \$1.4 million of funding from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve to mitigate budget pressure rather than eliminate this funding from the budget as planned prior to the end of this term of Council;
- Eliminate the planned \$100,000 increase in funding for tax write offs;



The Corporation of the Town of Milton

Report #:
ES-042-25
Page 10 of 17

Discussion

- Deferred the \$502,673 in lifecycle contribution funding for planned 2026 buses acquisitions to 2027 when the buses would be received;
- Added \$1,000,000 in new investment income revenues associated with the introduction of investments in the equity fund as outlined in ES-033-25.

These steps resulted in a projected pressure equal to a 7.94% local tax rate change in 2026 and 9.85% in 2027. Put another way, the revised forecast is currently projecting a tax pressure equivalent to \$28.16 per \$100,000 of residential assessment in 2026 and a further \$37.70 in 2027. These amounts are relative to the existing annual cost of \$355 per \$100,000.

The following table provides a summary of the primary drivers impacting the 2026 and 2027 forecast (with further detail provided in Appendix C).

Discussion

Component	Net Levy Impact \$ (000's)	2026		Net Levy Impact \$ (000's)	2027	
		Residential Tax per \$100K of Assessment*	% Change		Residential Tax per \$100K of Assessment*	% Change
Prior Year Tax Levy	\$111,340	\$354.63		\$123,898	\$382.79	
Inflation and Base Adjustments:						
Inflation (MPI)	\$3,273	\$10.11	2.85%	\$3,952	\$11.73	3.06%
Non-recurring & Reversal of One-Time Transfers	\$211	\$0.65	0.18%	\$1,365	\$4.05	1.06%
Service Enhancements	\$0	\$0.00	0.00%	\$108	\$0.32	0.08%
Infrastructure Deficit	\$750	\$2.32	0.65%	\$1,500	\$4.45	1.16%
Investment Income	(\$1,000)	(\$3.09)	-0.87%	\$0	\$0.00	0.00%
Other Base Adjustments	\$561	\$1.73	0.49%	\$673	\$2.00	0.52%
Total Inflation and Base Adjustments	\$3,795	\$11.73	3.31%	\$7,598	\$22.55	5.89%
Growth Related:						
State of Good Repair for Constructed & Assumed Assets	\$3,774	\$11.66	3.29%	\$3,541	\$10.51	2.75%
Expanded Service Delivery to Growth Areas	\$2,682	\$8.29	2.34%	\$4,533	\$13.45	3.51%
Other Growth-Related Impacts	\$2,307	\$7.13	2.01%	\$2,141	\$6.35	1.66%
Total Growth Related	\$8,763	\$27.07	7.63%	\$10,215	\$30.31	7.92%
Total Increase in Levy	\$12,558	\$38.80	10.94%	\$17,813	\$52.86	13.81%
Total Tax Levy	\$123,898	\$393.43		\$141,711	\$435.64	
Estimated Assessment Growth (net of reductions)**	(\$3,444)	(\$10.64)	-3.00%	(\$5,111)	(\$15.16)	-3.96%
Forecasted Net Tax Levy Increase	\$9,114	\$382.79	7.94%	\$12,702	\$420.48	9.85%

* Based on 2025 CVA values per 2025 Final Tax Levy By-law, ES-017-25. Through the annual tax setting bylaw tax rates are re-calculated each year using current year assessment values.

** This is the amount net of anticipated losses from Assessment Review Board appeals, Request for Reconsiderations, and Section 357 Applications (tax class changes, properties razed by fire, etc.).

Discussion

When potential changes to the Region and Educational portion of the property tax bill are considered, the total potential impact to ratepayers is estimated as follows:

		2026	2027
Town Tax Rate Pressure	\$ Change	\$28.16	\$37.70
	% Change	7.94%	9.85%
Overall Tax Rate Pressure*	\$ Change	\$42.94	\$51.02
	% Change	5.20%	5.87%

* Includes estimated Town, Regional and Educational portion of the property tax bill. Estimated Regional change in 2026 is based on Region report FN-17-25, estimated Educational portions are held constant consistent with reports FN-10-25 and ES-017-25.

Budget vs Actual Variance Trend

As shown in the table below, over the previous five years the year-end operating expenditures have been within 2.8% of the approved net budget and 1.4% of the approved gross budget.

Figure 5 - Five Year Historical net Budget Variance Trend

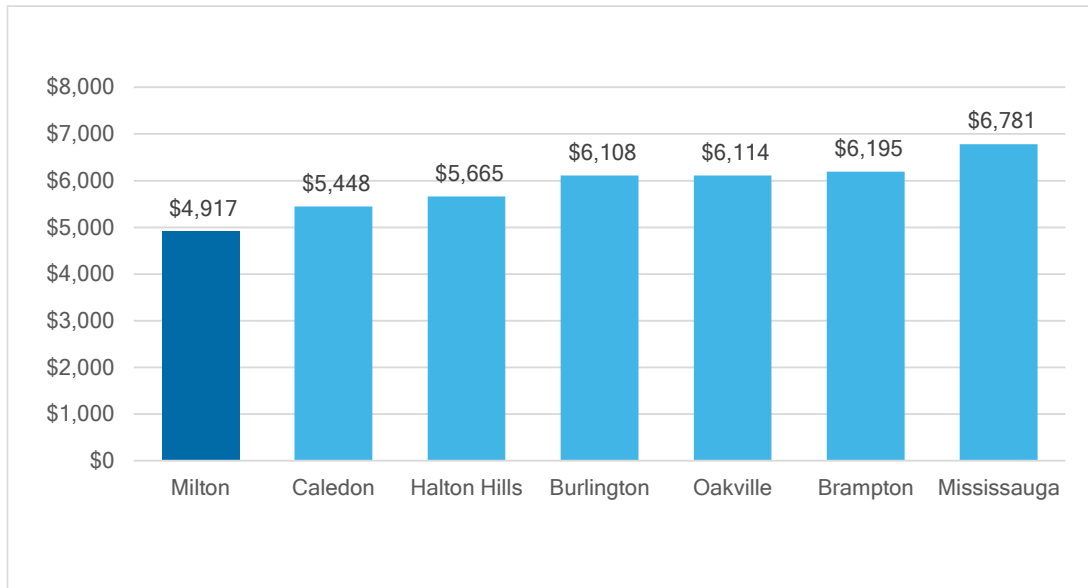
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Average
Variance (\$Millions)	\$1.85	\$4.45	\$0.45	\$(0.23)	\$5.79	\$2.5
% Variance to Net Budget	2.7%	6.0%	0.6%	(0.3)%	5.8%	2.8%
% Variance to Gross Budget	1.3%	3.0%	0.3%	(0.1)%	3.0%	1.4%

*Positive variance represents a surplus to budget and a negative variance represents a deficit to budget.

Comparing Milton's Taxes to Other Local Municipalities

When comparing Milton's overall residential tax bill (including Town, Region and Education portions) to surrounding municipalities, Milton continues to have the lowest tax rates. The following graph shows that Milton's total residential property taxes for a 2 storey home are 18.8% lower than the comparator group average.

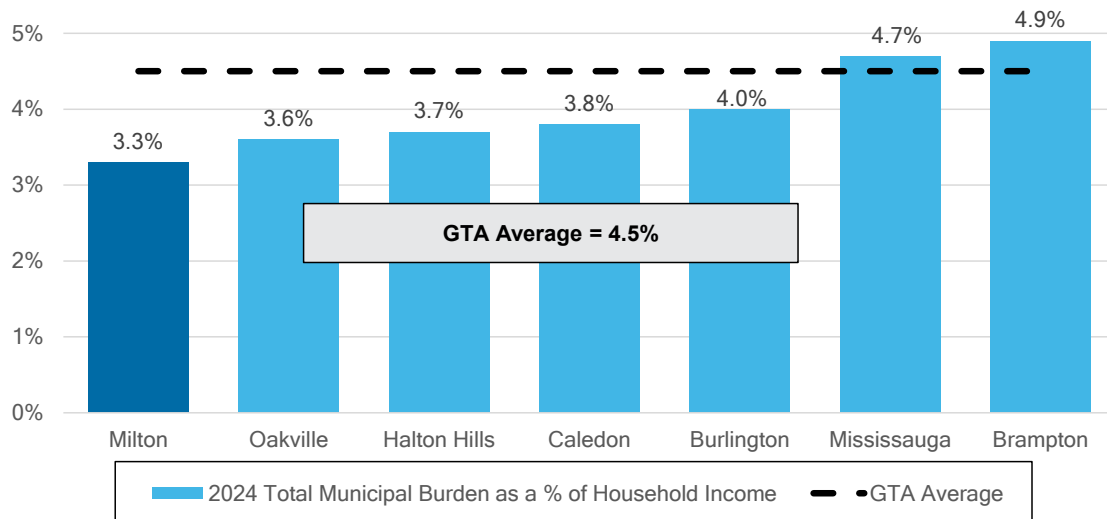
Figure 6 - 2024 Residential Property Taxes for a 2 Storey Home



Affordability

Each year BMA Management Consulting completes a municipal comparative study on behalf of over 100 participating Ontario municipalities. Included in the study are various indicators and metrics to help evaluate a municipality's financial condition including an analysis of affordability where the municipal burden (property taxes and water/wastewater rates) is calculated as a percentage of household income. Milton is third lowest when compared to the other participating Ontario Municipalities and is the lowest in the GTA.

Figure 7 - 2024 Total Municipal Burden as a % of Household Income



Source: BMA Management Consulting Inc. Municipal Study 2024

Multi-Year Financial Strategy

Through ES-016-24 Council endorsed a Multi-Year Financial strategy wherein the annual target for the total property tax rate increase (inclusive of the Town, Region and Province) be established between 4.5% and 7.0% until such time that the following outcomes are achieved:

- The Town has eliminated the use of non-sustainable funding sources (such as the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve) for on-going operating costs
- Further progress towards reducing the annual infrastructure deficit has been achieved, and other annual funding deficits (such as development charge exemptions and property tax write-offs) have been eliminated
- The Town's property tax rate falls within the range of the comparator municipal group, while remaining lower than the average of those peer municipalities.

Included as Appendix D is a scorecard being used to track the progress that the Town is making relative to the three measurable criteria identified in staff report ES-016-24. It shows that in the first year of implementing the strategy, the Town reduced the various funding deficits by 2% to 20%, that the reliance on stabilization reserve was reduced by 10%, and that the Town did not reduce the difference in property taxes relative to comparator municipalities.

Recommendations

In consideration of the forecasted operating pressures in 2026, it is recommended that the Mayor be requested to consider preparing the 2026 budget presented with a local residential property tax increase of 7.94%. At this level some progress may occur towards the elimination of non-sustainable funding sources as well as the annual funding deficits. Strategic investments may also be possible in the transit and fire services, although at a slower pace than was originally forecasted in their respective master plans (with consideration to changes in the pace of growth within the Town, as well as the Town's funding pressures). This recommendation is expected to result in an overall blended tax increase of 5.20% assuming a tax rate increase of 4.64% for the Region, based on Regional Council's 2026 Budget Direction, and 0% for the School Boards.

Should Council want to reduce the tax impact further, options that could be considered include the elimination of the remaining incremental infrastructure deficit funding of \$750,000 from within the 2026 budget and the amount of funding from the Tax Rate Stabilization budget used to support the 2026 budget could be increased to a full \$1.5 million, consistent with the 2025 Budget. These steps would result in a local tax rate pressure of 7.16% and an estimated blended tax rate increase of 4.86% including the Region and School Boards. Neither of these options have been recommended by staff as it would mean that no progress

would be made in the 2026 operating budget towards the targets established in the Multi Year Financial Strategy.

As a part of the budget process annually, staff look to identify opportunities to manage the tax rate pressure, including but not limited to the following potential strategies:

- defer service enhancements and new capital projects;
- review other revenue sources;
- reduce or modify existing service levels or delivery methods;
- consider alternative financing strategies (example - utilization of reserves).

Several of these methods have already been reflected in the forecasted budget pressures noted above, and these methods will continue to be considered as the detailed 2026 Budget is developed.

Timetable and Process

Staff across the organization are preparing detailed estimates for the capital and operating budgets and forecasts. Budget information is scheduled to be available for Council and the public in November. In accordance with the approved Council meeting calendar for 2026, a Council workshop on the budget is scheduled for November 24. Public delegations and Council deliberations on the budget will occur on December 1 (and December 2 if necessary). A summary timetable with important budget deadlines is included as Appendix E to this report.



The Corporation of the Town of Milton

Report #:
ES-042-25
Page 16 of 17

Financial Impact

Current estimates suggest that the cost to maintain existing service levels and make incremental progress on the existing deficits would result in a tax pressure of 7.94% on the Town portion of property taxes.

As the budget is developed, detailed program and service estimates will be refined as information becomes available and further analysis is undertaken. Opportunities to manage the timing of the pressure on the tax levy will also be identified.

As shown in the table below, the recommendations contained in this report would potentially increase the total property tax bill by 5.20% or \$42.94 per \$100,000 of assessment.

Potential Pressure on the Total Tax Bill per \$100,000 of Residential Assessment*

	Share of Tax Bill	2025 Taxes	2026 Increase	2026 Taxes	\$ Impact on Total Tax Bill	% Impact on Total Tax Bill
Milton Services	36.28%	\$ 294.92	6.90%	\$ 315.28	\$20.36	2.46%
Fire Services	7.77%	\$ 59.75	13.06%	\$ 67.55	\$7.80	0.94%
Total Milton	44.06%	\$ 354.68	7.94%	\$ 382.84	\$28.16	3.41%
Regional Services	22.59%	\$ 187.59	3.49%	\$ 194.14	\$6.55	0.79%
Police Services	15.74%	\$ 130.73	6.31%	\$ 138.98	\$8.25	1.00%
Total Region of Halton**	38.33%	\$ 318.32	4.64%	\$ 333.11	\$14.79	1.79%
Education***	17.61%	\$ 153.00	0.00%	\$ 153.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Total	100.00%	\$ 826.00	5.20%	\$ 868.95	\$ 42.94	5.20%

* Cost per \$100,000 of residential assessment are derived using the assessment values & tax rates from the 2025 tax by-law (ES-017-25). These values will be re-stated following budget approval using the finalized 2024 assessment figures from the returned assessment roll.

** Per Region of Halton 2026 Budget Directions approved by Council through resolution FN-17-25 (includes enhanced waste service for urban area).

*** Consistent with recent experience, the 2026 education rate is presented in alignment with the prescribed rate currently outlined in O.Reg 400/98 and is subject to change through the approval of final 2026 rates by the Province.

Milton's tax rates and affordability are currently amongst the lowest in the GTA and province and well below the Town's neighbouring municipalities.

Respectfully submitted,

Glen Cowan
Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer



The Corporation of the Town of Milton

Report #:
ES-042-25
Page 17 of 17

For questions, please contact:

Jennifer Kloet, Manager,
Financial Planning & Policy

Phone: 905 878 7252
ext 2216

Attachments

Appendix A - 2022 Citizen Engagement Survey Results
Appendix B - Public Input Results
Appendix C - 2026 and 2027 Operating Budget Pressure Details
Appendix D - Multi-Year Financial Strategy and Key Indicators
Appendix E - 2026 Budget Timetable

Approved by CAO
Andrew M. Siltala
Chief Administrative Officer

Recognition of Traditional Lands

The Town of Milton resides on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also recognize the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee people. The Town of Milton shares this land and the responsibility for the water, food and resources. We stand as allies with the First Nations as stewards of these lands.

Appendix A - ES-042-25 2022 Citizen Engagement Survey

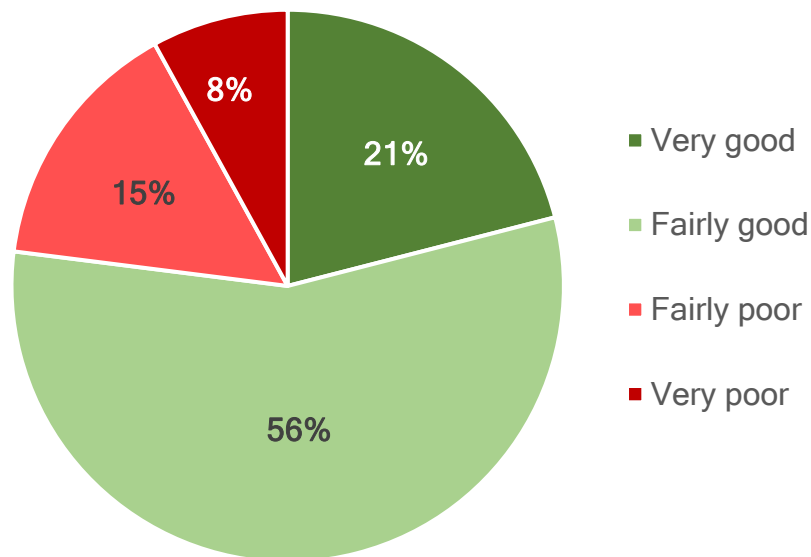
In the fall of 2022 staff worked with a third party consultant, Forum Research, to conduct a community wide, statistically valid Citizen Engagement Survey. The scope of the engagement required 600 randomized telephone responses to achieve a high degree of statistical validity.

Following is an excerpt of results from the 2022 Citizen Engagement Survey specific to to questions asked about property taxes, value of tax dollars and infrastructure funding. The full survey results identifying satisfaction levels with services offered by the Town can be found [here](#).

Value for Tax Dollars

Question: Thinking about programs and services you receive from the Town of Milton, would you say that, overall, you receive very good, fairly good, fairly poor, or very poor value for tax dollars?

The majority of respondents say they receive good value for their tax dollars.

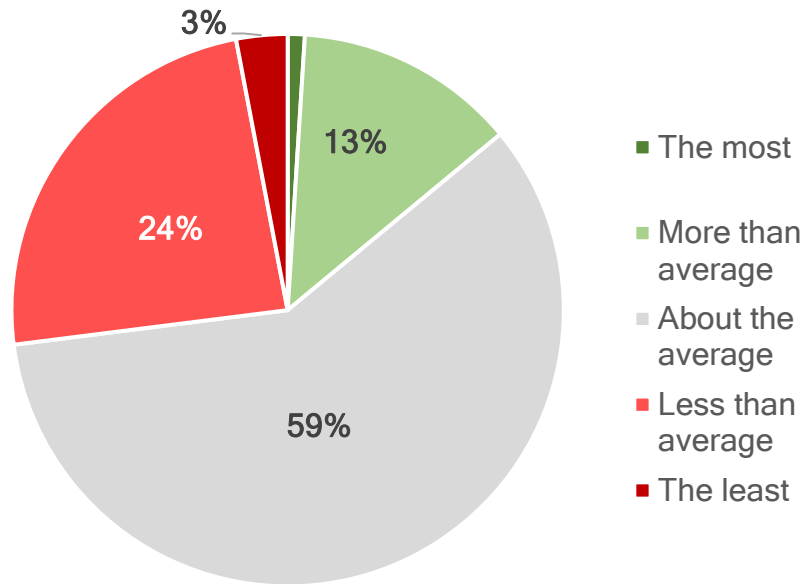


Property Taxes

Question: Assuming there is a direct relationship between property taxes and service levels, that is the more taxes you pay the more services will be provided, compared to other GTA municipalities, how much do you think the Town of Milton residents should pay with respect to property taxes per household?

The majority of respondents think Milton residents should pay about the average with respect to property taxes compared to other GTA municipalities.

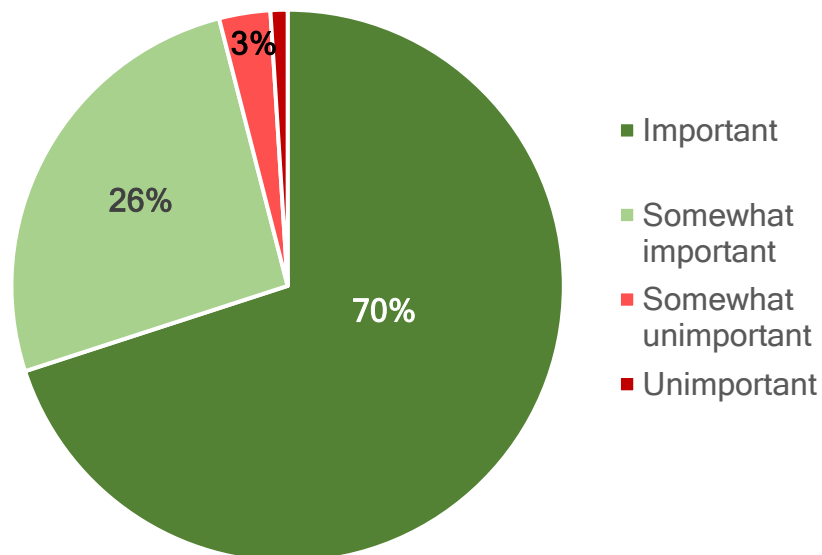
Appendix A - ES-042-25
2022 Citizen Engagement Survey



Funding for Infrastructure

Question: How important is it to you that funding be set aside to replace infrastructure such as roads and buildings to ensure existing levels of service can be provided in future years?

The vast majority of respondents think it is important that funding be set aside to replace infrastructure to ensure existing levels of service can be provided in future years.

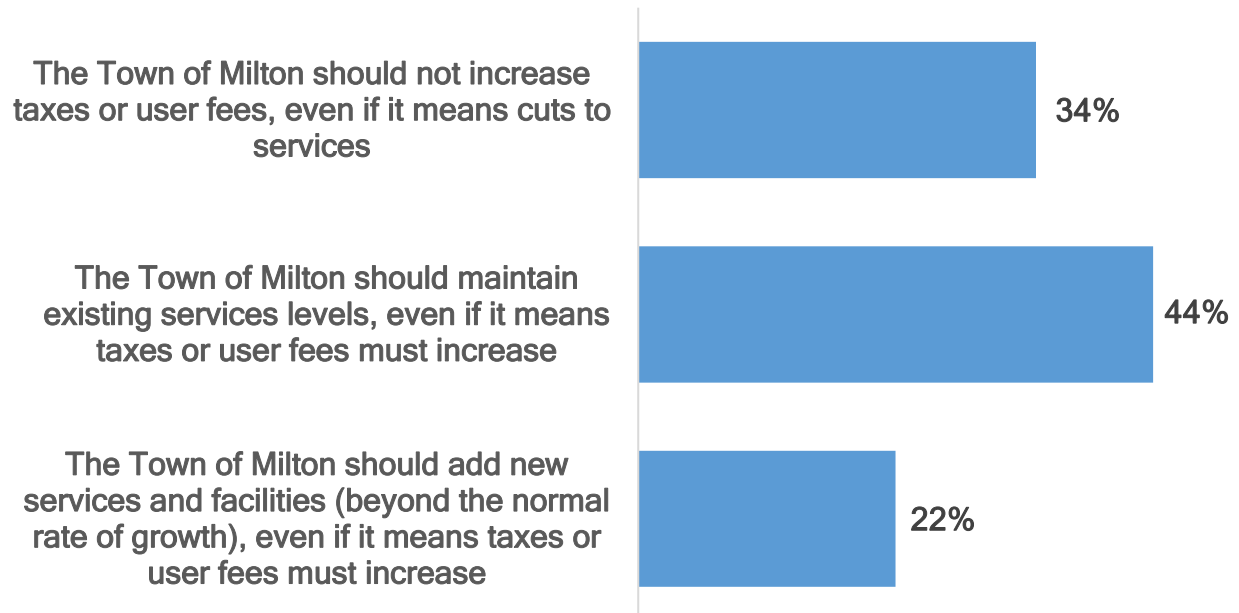


Appendix A - ES-042-25
2022 Citizen Engagement Survey

Balancing Services and Taxes/Fees

Question: Which of the following comes closest to your view?

Respondents were most likely to say that the Town of Milton should maintain existing service levels, even if it means taxes or user fees must increase.



Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 02 25 10:13:57 am	Community Spaces and Landscaping	<p>Would love to see better landscaping in public spaces - especially parks. Garden design concepts should better leveraged, creating calm and peaceful spaces, with sitting areas and water bodies.</p> <p>Creating more walkable spaces around retails spots adds a lot of value. Let's try to get past our car-obsessed culture.</p> <p>Tree plantations along medians on all major roads (Derry, for e.g. has a wide median between Thompson and Bronte, but there are barely any trees)</p>	5	17
Jul 02 25 01:30:13 pm	Full service fire station within Ward 3 boundaries.	Ward 3 the fastest growing ward in Milton and is the only ward that has no fire protection situated in its boundaries. Time to fix this problem now.	2	6
Jul 02 25 01:56:43 pm	Improve cycling infrastructure	<p>'- Add bicycle traffic signals</p> <p>- when repaving roads add separated cycle lanes (with a barricade/bollards)</p> <p>when repaving multi-use paths, give them priority (don't make curbs at every entrance - such as the frontage roads on Thompson between Derry and Louis St. Laurent)</p> <p>- Improve connectivity - right now you can't even get to Downtown without travelling on a road with many cars</p> <p>- Ensure there are bike racks everywhere - especially downtown, I see a lot of bikes without racks.</p> <p>Milton has a large cycling community - we have one of the only velodromes in Canada, one of the best BMX tracks, and many mountain bike trails, but road infrastructure is lacking.</p>	4	6
Jul 02 25 02:16:12 pm	plant wildflowers instead of grass on road shoulders / medians / etc.	<p>Doing this has several benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - better looking city - potentially slows traffic - better for wildlife - less maintenance costs - feels safer / more inviting when walking on sidewalk 	7	10
Jul 02 25 04:44:40 pm	Reduce the number of Town/city maintenance employees. WAY to many pick up trucks driving around with nowhere to go. Council knows about this		1	24
Jul 02 25 05:30:27 pm	Concrete / stone steps at entrance to Indian Creek trail opposite Sherwood CC	At the entrance to Indian Creek Trail, opposite Sherwood community centre, there is a steep & muddy slope that is used a lot by walkers & cyclists. (While there is a gently sloping path aswell, the muddy slope is a well-used shortcut.) PLEASE introduce some proper steps at that location.	0	6

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 02 25 05:33:48 pm	Benches & seating along Indian Creek Trail	The path between Sherwood CC and Derry Road is about 2.8 kilometres long. Some park benches and armoustone seating opportunities along the route would be most welcome.	0	6
Jul 02 25 05:41:51 pm	Shade trees along all walking trails	There are many walking trails where it is unbearably hot to walk in summer, and windy in winter, because there are no shade trees for protection. In particular, the walking path along the east edge of the community park between the MSC and St.Laurent / Hwy 25; the length of the Union Gas trail; and all the paths at Coates neighbourhood park. Also, do you need to keep mowing ALL that grass?	5	11
Jul 02 25 07:25:03 pm	pedestrianize downtown	close down main street to personal vehicles where the farmers market is for the whole summer. replace parking spaces with trees / bike parking Downtown has nice, close together shops/restaurants but walking next to the traffic there is miserable.	7	15
Jul 02 25 08:51:21 pm	Simple Accommodations	Please create a designated walking lane on Main Street for my pet giraffe, Gary. There have been many times where we are walking downtown and there is not enough room on the sidewalk for Gary. Also it would be nice if there could be buckets hung off the streetlights that contain leafy greens for Gary to eat. Until these changes are accounted for in the budget, I cannot be a proud Miltonian.	0	49
Jul 03 25 07:51:28 am	A zero based budget with aim for no property tax increase.	All departments must justify every dollar in budget and every employee every year.	5	8
Jul 03 25 09:12:03 am	Sports courts in Clarke neighborhood	Pickleball / tennis courts are lacking in the Clarke neighborhood / Trudeau north of derry area	4	11
Jul 03 25 09:47:31 am	Parks and amenities - bicycle friendly	Add more parks, splash pads, and grocery stores in the new development areas. We need more of these to support the massive development that is occurring in Milton. Make more bicycle friendly pathways. Let's connect Milton via bicycle.	4	12
Jul 03 25 09:55:55 am	Dedicated right turn lanes on all major intersections	Traffic is only going to get worse once all the condo towers are completed. At the minimum, Milton needs dedicated right turn lanes on all major intersections. Bronte street between Derry and Louis doesn't even have dedicated left turn lanes which increases the risk of car accidents significantly.	6	10
Jul 03 25 10:05:28 am	Community batting cages at Sports Complex. Revitalize neglected baseball diamonds	Support Milton Baseball. Build batting cages for organizations and the community alike to enjoy and utilize. Several baseball diamond around Milton could use a sprucing up.	4	7
Jul 03 25 10:09:19 am	Open Gordon Krantz Ave to Tremaine to allow traffic to enter from both directions.	Having to enter the roundabout at Britannia just to backtrack to Gordon Krantz creates needless extra traffic in an already busy roundabout.	3	2

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 03 25 10:12:39 am	Finish painting a Zebra Crossing on Savoline & Main	There already is a crosswalk light, but no zebra crossing. Seems an easy fix.	1	4
Jul 03 25 10:49:05 am	Parking enforcement that actually works	I call parking enforcement after 5pm and have to leave a message, and they don't show. I email online and they respond the next business day. If that's a Friday they respond Monday. That's NOT parking enforcement. They should be available 24/7 in a such a fast growing community. My neighbourhood looks like a used car lot most of the time.	7	23
Jul 03 25 10:49:39 am	Better Public Transport	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Need frequent buses across all routes in Milton 2. Need service during holidays and weekend 3. Need service after hours 4. Need Milton transit integration with Presto 	9	10
Jul 03 25 10:52:23 am	Improve Park Sports Infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More Public Tennis Courts across the area to reduce reliability on expensive membership 2. Equip Courts with Flood lights to play in evening during late summer (Example: Optimist Park tennis courts) 	4	11
Jul 03 25 10:54:51 am	Alternate Public Transport	1. Milton can take note from Mississauga and Vaughan's approach towards introducing e-Scooter and e-Bikes across the town for better mobility.	1	23
Jul 03 25 11:00:01 am	Protect Green Spaces & Local Wildlife	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protect and prioritize green spaces such as farmland and forests 2. Actively protect conservation areas in Milton 3. Limit warehouse development! 	6	7
Jul 03 25 11:10:45 am	Fix and Smooth Martin Street Railway Crossing	The railway crossing on Martin Street just south of Holy Rosary is extremely bumpy and making the crossing smooth would benefit the local traffic and pedestrians crossing.	3	7
Jul 03 25 11:16:35 am	Garbage Bins at Bus Stops	<p>There are a few stops where I always note litter. Some examples: Thompson / Derry GO Bus Stop Derry / Commercial Milton Transit Bus Stop</p> <p>Can we add bins here to avoid constant litter, or post signs informing passengers about availability of littler bins on the bus</p>	12	7
Jul 03 25 11:26:41 am	Review traffic light logics. I have seen advance green turning on for zero traffic		10	2
Jul 03 25 11:51:57 am	Clean up Gleave terrace walking path	That path is constantly over run with garbage. Never gets cleaned up. All the way down to Derry.	1	3

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 03 25 11:56:54 am	Better public transportation	Public transportation should be developed to the point where getting to neighbouring cities and towns is not a hassle. Presto is also long overdue	7	16
Jul 03 25 11:58:48 am	Incentivize businesses to be in Milton	The young population of Milton is growing, there needs to be more jobs and third spaces available for young people to have access to within Milton, so that they do not need to leave the town	12	25
Jul 03 25 12:34:40 pm	Better infrastructure planning.	Town needs to do better when it comes to where it puts the condo developments. Too many of them are close to areas that have traffic congestion as it is.	11	28
Jul 03 25 12:37:44 pm	More rental apartments.	There's no reason nearly every town/city with similar population to us has much more access to apartments. Young adults in town will eventually move en masse due to cost of living.	5	24
Jul 03 25 03:33:40 pm	Eliminate empty busses and public transit. Widen Derry Rd before condos finished.		7	15
Jul 03 25 07:26:50 pm	Improved waste management bins	Any time it's even slightly windy, bins are flying, garbage everywhere. I think we have an opportunity to look at recycling bins with lids or another solution that is cost effective.	7	11
Jul 03 25 07:28:29 pm	More public garbage/recycling bins	Let's have more bins in public spaces to help keep the area clean. Enforce littering by-laws.	8	21
Jul 03 25 09:37:36 pm	Lights at Optimist tennis court.	Only tennis court in the town without lights. Please install it.	2	2
Jul 04 25 01:08:09 pm	MORE GYMS	Add more gyms in Milton, there's only 2 decent gyms and most of the time they are packed	3	17
Jul 04 25 06:44:05 pm	Upgrade the fair grounds to host annual festivals such as Rib Fest, European style Christmas Market etc		6	1
Jul 05 25 07:30:16 am	Improve traffic light logics.	Traffic lights should be adjusted according to traffic densities.	4	2
Jul 05 25 11:37:21 am	Parking enforcement is not good enough	No enforcement on the weekends or after 5. Since people know this they exploit it and park overnight on the street.	3	12
Jul 05 25 11:43:02 am	Improve infrastructure with increasing population	'With new condos and housing being built there is a lot of strain on the infrastructure. - widen roads and better monitor traffic - add commercial complexes that cater to this population - increase amenities like parks and sports complexes	3	7

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 05 25 12:55:06 pm	Add pickleball courts in Campbellville or @Sherwood		0	2
Jul 05 25 05:56:06 pm	Better traffic light co-ordination that prioritizes flow. Dedicated right turn lane by default to help with flow.	The traffic light co-ordination and road planning is horrendous in this town. This all needs to be fixed with minimal cost and more common sense. I don't think traffic co-ordinators live in Milton. Halton shouldn't manage our regional roads, we need to manage it all together and fix the flow of traffic. That is much cheaper than spending money on expanding roads. Just fix the flow! Thompson is a horrible example of really bad traffic light timing btw.	6	8
Jul 05 25 06:25:22 pm	Milton's 2026 Budget Must Prioritize Fire Safety	<p>It's time for Milton to invest in the safety of its growing community. We need a minimum of four full-time firefighters assigned to each fire truck, with at least one fully staffed truck per station at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Station #1 (Steeles Ave) •Station #3 (HQ Savoline Rd) •Station #4 (James Snow Pkwy) •Station #5 (Louis St. Laurent Ave) <p>Campbellville Station #2 can remain volunteer-based, but all other stations must be staffed with full-time coverage.</p> <p>That means at least 16 full-time firefighters on duty at all times, 24/7. If Milton Fire & Rescue Services is unable to staff a truck with four firefighters, then they must be required to call in overtime staff to meet that minimum. Anything less puts public safety at risk.</p> <p>Milton is growing rapidly—we cannot afford to fall behind on emergency services.</p> <p>Hire more full-time firefighters now. Protect our community before it's too late.</p>	5	11

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 05 25 06:32:26 pm	Is Milton Fire Prepared for a High-Rise Emergency?	<p>With more than a dozen high-rise buildings currently under construction, the Town of Milton must act now to ensure our fire and rescue services are equipped to respond effectively.</p> <p>According to NFPA 1710 standards, a minimum of 42 firefighters are required to respond to high-rise structure fires to ensure proper rescue, evacuation, and fire suppression efforts. This is the recognized standard for community safety—and Milton is far from meeting it.</p> <p>Right now, during overnight hours (7 p.m. to 7 a.m.), Milton often has as few as 6–8 full-time firefighters on just 2 trucks available to respond town-wide. That's a dangerous gap between what we have and what we need.</p> <p>Milton's population is growing. Our skyline is rising. Our fire department's staffing levels must rise with it.</p> <p>The 2026 budget must include funding to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Dramatically increase full-time firefighter staffing •Expand overnight and weekend coverage •Create a realistic deployment plan for high-rise incidents <p>Let's not wait for a tragedy to expose these vulnerabilities. Milton must meet NFPA 1710 standards—starting now.</p>	5	19
Jul 05 25 08:43:41 pm	Bus Tickets Crazy Cost and the State of our Bus System	<p>If the town would like more people to take advantage of our bus system in order to make its expansion worth the cost, tickets should not be so expensive! For high school students, it's now \$70 per person after multiple increases! Additionally, there is hardly any affective Presto integration and it depends on which bus driver you ask. When there is a job crisis and an economic crisis, how are we meant to pay for bus tickets to take advantage of our town? Furthermore, busses are often inconsistent and unreliable, even at high traffic times; our GO station is never open, making it hard to ask any questions we might have; plus, the app doesn't specify certain things like which side of the road to wait on or which 2 (EB or WB) we are meant to take. Many people rely on public transportation, but the town does not make it very easy to do so.</p>	2	13
Jul 06 25 11:44:17 pm	Improve Transit and Ease Traffic Congestion With Milton's population growing fast, traffic and transit delays are getting worse.	<p>Upgrades will make daily travel easier and reduce pollution.</p> <p>Allocate budget to invest in better public transit, road widening, and traffic flow improvements—especially on Derry Rd, Trafalgar Rd, and Main St.</p>	1	7
Jul 06 25 11:47:53 pm	Support Youth Mental Health and Community Wellbeing. More young people are struggling with mental health.	<p>Early support can build a healthier community and lower future health costs.</p> <p>Allocate budget to fund youth wellness centres, mental health programs, and local support services with help from Halton Region and community partners.</p>	1	7

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 07 25 11:12:26 am	Speed Up building Playground Parks around the community	It's hard to keep kids inside the house during summer. Construction of playground parks needs to be established sooner as more new homes are being built. Currently I need to travel to take my kid to a nearby park. There is none in walking distance . This needs to be addressed as part of the growing young population in Milton	0	14
Jul 07 25 01:09:21 pm	Plough out windrows for all citizens after snowfall. This would be a service to the citizens of Milton.		1	4
Jul 07 25 02:38:25 pm	Bike Lanes and parking	Would like to see adoption of protected bicycle lanes instead of just painted lines. Bicycle parking should be installed at all plazas and shops	1	7
Jul 10 25 01:06:38 pm	Path paving in poor condition	The walking/bicycle path, from Sam Sherratt School to Laurier Street, the asphalt paving is deteriorating and needs to be repaved. It is becoming a hazard to bicycle in several spots.	1	4
Jul 10 25 01:16:31 pm	Christmas Decorations at Town Hall and on Main Street	Christmas decorations around the Town Hall are old-fashions and mediocre. Same story on Main Street. Let's be proud of our Town and install beautiful displays.	4	14
Jul 15 25 10:41:09 am	Trails along creeks	We have some beautiful creeks, but very little access to them. The town should establish some gravel trails so people can enjoy the nature that is so close to them. Oakville offers a great example of this.	3	12
Jul 18 25 08:11:07 am	Mill rate increase should be limited to the cost of living and preferably much less.	During Mississauga's growth period in the 70s and 80s Mississauga was able to go 10 consecutive years with ZERO mill rate increase! Make growth pay for itself. Existing taxpayers should not have to pay for the expanded services required by new growth.	1	30
Jul 25 25 08:15:52 am	Improve traffic logistics, improve litter	For traffic: dedicated right turn lanes on busy streets such as Derry, enforcement of traffic laws (e.g.: red light cameras on more intersections), adding pedestrian walkways across streets where pedestrians are more likely to cross (safer for everyone!). For litter: there is a real problem on many of our streets of people not properly securing their garbage and recycling. Covered bins could help with this.	2	11
Jul 25 25 08:51:59 am	Where are the By-law enforcement officers?	Our trails and parking need the By-law enforcement officers out in full force everyday, checking our city for violations. People are ignoring the rules and destroying the trails with garbage and the parking enforcement is a joke in this town. Even when you call, no one shows up!	1	9
Jul 25 25 08:54:58 am	Illegal U-turns	Many drivers are now just making up their own rules when driving and making illegal U-turns on busy intersections, increasing the probability for accidents. The City needs to address this issue ASAP!!	2	10
Jul 25 25 10:45:13 am	What about speed cameras to eliminate race track mentality on main by savoline , Derry and Tremaine?		3	3

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 29 25 09:01:56 pm	Transit fare must b reduced & Seniors should be able to travel free.Presto fare integration policy is encouraging riders to cheat the System		0	0
Jul 30 25 11:01:37 pm	Go train to union station on weekends	The people of Milton shouldn't need to catch a go train in other towns and cities just to go to Toronto to watch a sporting event. This town has been asking for this for years now	7	8
Jul 30 25 11:40:51 pm	Increase healthcare budget to reduce delays and get access to good specialists. A healthy community always flourishes.		0	7
Jul 31 25 07:47:42 am	Improve Milton go connectivity to Union go. Increase frequency and also start express train. 1hr commute from Milton go to union go is much		6	5
Jul 31 25 02:02:18 pm	Stop letting builders get away with the bare minimums! Create strong laws to protect Milton		2	6
Aug 02 25 04:11:48 pm	Additional Crosswalks	Particularly by schools there should be more convenient crosswalks to increase safety for our kids while also reducing last minute break checking. Just putting a "no jay-walking" sign is not going to stop anyone.	1	5
Aug 05 25 03:07:30 pm	More soccer pitches, that people can permit and use. Not allowing some groups to rent and leave empty. Parks not doing enough!!!	Too many empty soccer fields because groups book and leave empty. Parks and Town are aware chose to turn a blind eye. Loss of revenue	1	5

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 06 25 06:06:38 pm	More lit Pickleball courts outdoors and indoor court times	<p>Free outdoor pickleball is more than just a game.</p> <p>It builds community. It promotes physical and mental health. It's accessible to all ages and skill levels. It encourages active living for seniors, adults, and youth. It's inclusive, social, and affordable. It reduces healthcare costs by keeping people moving.</p> <p>But right now, demand far exceeds capacity. With over 32 players regularly waiting at public courts, Milton urgently needs 16 dedicated, lit outdoor pickleball courts.</p> <p>We also need more indoor court time during the winter months — to ensure year-round access and support the fast-growing demand for this inclusive sport.</p> <p>Let's invest in health, connection, and a sport that brings our community together.</p>	4	7
Aug 06 25 07:50:06 pm	A Central Pickleball complex with 12-16 courts where courts are lit and low divider fences separate individual courts is needed	This facility would attract tournaments from all over south west Ontario adding money to the local economy	1	6

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 06 25 08:24:33 pm	New Cricket field in Milton	<p>I am writing to formally request that the town consider allocating funding for the development of a dedicated cricket field equipped with floodlights.</p> <p>Cricket is rapidly growing in popularity in our community, especially among youth and families from diverse backgrounds. However, our current recreational infrastructure does not adequately support this demand. Local teams often struggle to find appropriate and safe places to play, and the absence of floodlights further limits evening practice and game times, especially during shorter daylight seasons.</p> <p>A cricket field with proper floodlighting would provide multiple benefits to our town:</p> <p>Encourage youth participation in sports, promoting physical health and teamwork.</p> <p>Strengthen community inclusion by supporting a sport loved by many cultures.</p> <p>Provide a safe and well-lit space for evening recreation, reducing park misuse after dark.</p> <p>Open up opportunities to host local tournaments, which can boost community pride and generate economic activity through visitors and events.</p> <p>We believe that investing in this facility would not only meet a current community need but also align with the town's goals of inclusivity, recreation, and healthy living. We are open to discussing possible locations, phased development plans, and potential partnerships to help with maintenance and community programming.</p>	17	205
Aug 06 25 08:27:53 pm	Expand Go Train service outside of commuter hours	When my kids want to visit on the weekend, they have to take a Go Train from Toronto to Oakville and be picked up, when there's a station five minutes from my house! As our population has grown, transit services have been cut. It makes NO SENSE!	3	6
Aug 06 25 08:40:04 pm	Add lighting to all outdoor pickleball courts and provide more gym time for pickleball year round.	This sport has exploded in Milton and facilities are not keeping up with the demand. Drop in slots fill up within a minute of opening up for registration. For outdoor play, it is not unusual to have 20 or more people waiting on the sidelines.	0	4

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 06 25 08:41:27 pm	PROPER BADMINTON COURTS	<p>As residents and passionate members of the local sports community, we would like to bring to your attention the growing need for a proper badminton facility in Milton. Currently, there are no dedicated courts that meet standard requirements, and it has become increasingly difficult for enthusiasts, families, and youth players to find suitable places to train or play regularly.</p> <p>Badminton is one of the fastest-growing sports in Canada, and Milton's population—especially among youth and newcomers—has shown tremendous interest. Despite this, the lack of dedicated space is limiting opportunities for skill development, community programming, and organized tournaments.</p> <p>We respectfully request that the Town of Milton consider developing a facility with proper badminton courts that can serve both recreational and competitive players. Such an investment would support healthy living, community engagement, and make Milton a more inclusive and active place to live.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention and continued efforts in supporting local sports and recreation.</p>	6	124
Aug 06 25 09:26:30 pm	I am a great supporter for Milton pickleball initiatives and would like to see more funds being allocated to this sport in Milton	Ever since I became a member of Milton pickleball association, I have witnessed such great interest in this sport which transcends across various communities. I can see people coming together, elders creating great friendships, teenagers picking up great values and discipline, families enjoying and playing together. This is a universal sport which needs nurturing and support of the entire Milton community. The number of courts at present is not enough to the growing popularity of this sport. I would strongly recommend more budget allocated to the development of pickleball in Milton. It will be an investment which has the power of getting diverse communities together and make Milton a great place to live and enjoy.	1	7
Aug 06 25 10:46:19 pm	Rail underpass on west side, a nightmare and unsafe when Steeles Ave and Martin street blocked with a stopped train.		0	1
Aug 06 25 11:03:42 pm	I would like to see more well lit outdoor courts and more indoor Pickleball courts in Milton		0	2
Aug 07 25 09:29:04 am	Add parking on the street on Whitlock Ave	No place for delivery drivers to stop on Whitlock Ave between RR25 and Thompson Road. Its absolutely ridiculous planning.	2	1
Aug 07 25 11:30:55 am	Add new public transit route to Tremaine & Britannia / Tremaine & Gordon Kranz ave		0	0

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 07 25 01:11:30 pm	Need more badminton slots in community centers. Pls add ladies only sessions during weekdays after 6pm	Badminton sessions are filled out easily within few seconds of booking opening window. We are traveling to Burlington to get slots.	0	0
Aug 07 25 01:15:00 pm	I would like to see more well lit outdoor pickleball courts and more indoor pickleball courts/gym time (specially on winter)in Milton		1	0
Aug 07 25 02:23:41 pm	Need more badminton slots	I would kindly request to add more slots for badminton. Also coaching sessions for the adults during summer and winter.	0	0
Aug 07 25 05:54:48 pm	I would like to find more outdoor lit Pickleball courts and more indoor gym slots for Pickleball in winter.		1	0
Aug 07 25 07:41:42 pm	We could use more pickleball time slots and please ensure lights are installed on outdoor courts so that we can make the best use of them		1	0
Aug 08 25 12:20:22 am	Improve sidewalks around highway exits	<p>The business sector sits around the major intersections which has made access into these areas hard or even dangerous without a car.</p> <p>The side walks around highway 25 and the 401 are not equipped to handle the student population in that area. Similarly the residents in the Main and James Snow area also cannot safely access Walmart plaza or the industrial park along James Snow. Foot traffic is instead pushed to Thompson and Steeles.</p> <p>In both areas pedestrians and cyclists come dangerously close to local and industrial traffic on narrow and sometimes unpaved areas.</p> <p>It's time to let residents successfully work and study in Milton without having to rely on vehicles in our already congested streets.</p>	0	4
Aug 08 25 04:03:50 pm	More Pickleball courts needed	Pickleball popularity is skyrocketing in Milton! We need more courts to keep our players playing! Wait times are increasing and court availability is decreasing. Please help us stay active as we play the sport we love!	0	4
Aug 08 25 09:30:04 pm	Pickleball	Milton needs more pickleball courts and swimming pools as both of these sports are extremely popular and with a growing number of participants.	0	7

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 09 25 09:44:24 am	E-Bikes menace needs to be managed well. There needs to be code on how to share the road with motorised vehicles and gear to be used.		3	1
Aug 11 25 08:25:34 pm	Push digital transformation for better online services. Enforce bylaws strictly & use venues to boost revenue via events.	<p>The Town of Milton has done an excellent job keeping property taxes low, but it's time to modernize how services are delivered. Investing in digital transformation will allow residents to pay taxes, permits, and penalties online—reducing congestion at Town Hall and improving accessibility.</p> <p>To strengthen civic understanding, the municipality should also provide clear online information about the responsibilities of municipal, provincial, and federal governments, especially in light of recent budget feedback.</p> <p>Enforcement of local bylaws—such as parking, fireworks, and noise—should be more consistent, with strict rules and penalties to maintain public order. Finally, Milton should explore ways to generate revenue from existing infrastructure. The Mattamy National Cycling Centre already hosts national events and could be leveraged further for community programming and corporate rentals. Bring better events to First Ontario Arts Centre. Oakville hosted the Canadian Tenors—why can't Milton have high-profile concerts and shows too. Operate efficiently, but treat facilities as business assets.</p>	1	10
Aug 12 25 10:34:27 pm	Stop tearing down our basketball courts!	<p>There seems to be a theme this year- tearing down basketball courts to build pickleball courts, which sends a troubling message of exclusion to our children of colour. Given the size of our parks and the availability of open spaces, I urge the town to consider alternatives that allow for both basketball and pickleball to coexist, rather than replacing one with the other. This approach would better reflect our commitment to diversity, inclusion, and equal access to recreation for residents of all backgrounds. At the moment, there seems to be some ill intent tearing down these nets.</p> <p>I respectfully request transparency on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The decision-making process and criteria used for choosing these specific courts. 2. Whether community consultation took place and whose voices were included. 3. What steps will be taken to ensure all recreational activities are supported equitably. 	0	15
Aug 13 25 08:39:07 am	Review Bus Routes	<p>Review the current bus route and optimize were they are actually needed. Seeing an empty bus fly down the street every 30 minutes during the day makes no sense. That bus could be used else were to add more frequency to a other route. An example is the bus that goes down Tupper Dr. It would make more sense for it to go down Thompson and then turn down Laurier. Thought out the day that bus is empty. Maybe make it a rush hour route. There needs to more route analysis done and it could probably save Milton money by not running empty routes.</p>	0	2

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 14 25 11:57:15 am	City-run outdoor skating rink in the winter that is a sports court in the summer (basketball/pickleball/tennis)	Milton has no city-run outdoor rinks. The community created ones are often not well maintained or extremely crowded and only open for a very limited time of the year.	1	4
Aug 14 25 03:32:42 pm	More funding to law enforcement and speed control measures	Would love a space that is no-cost for families to be able to go for an activity in the winter.	2	0
Aug 14 25 07:14:02 pm	Bike Lanes Needed	Add speed bumps to boulevards in Dorset Park and more police presence to deter speeding and reckless drivers	1	2
Aug 15 25 03:19:25 pm	Improve traffic management	Right now there are no bike routes north to south or Steeles to Britannia except for Bronte St. And Tremaine. We desperately need some safe routes to the west of Bronte. Ontario needs one, as does Thompson which has a multi use trail which disappears after Derry. Also James Snow has not through bike lane. Multi use paths are great but bikes going. 25k/hr don't belong there. they belong on bike lanes. Britannia is brilliant now.	0	1
Aug 16 25 09:58:24 am	I would love to see a large sports complex, that includes at least 8 dedicated Indoor pickleball courts	consider road widening in areas where the town is creating congestion by putting condos.	3	4
Aug 18 25 11:45:51 am	Walking Path Extension Needed	Pickleball is exploding and the lineups are prime time are frustrating. Also, as mixed use gyms are understandable pickleball is much more enjoyable on the proper surface and easier on older players knees :).	1	2
Aug 18 25 06:58:48 pm	We need more indoor Pickleball court time for colder months November through April	I believe we need the walking path extended between Trudeau Drive and Fourth Line which is just south of Derry Road.	0	1
Aug 20 25 09:22:32 pm	We need a proper baseball/softball complex	Considering the fact that the sport of Pickleball has been growing in rapid popularity and all walks of life through ages 8 to 88 are playing the sport, there needs to be more indoor court time.	1	2
Aug 22 25 10:19:58 am	Additional Inclusion Services	I see a lot of comments about pickleball and badminton but we have zero indoor facilities that can accommodate baseball indoor. All current options for baseball are very limited and required too many restrictions. Milton has a huge youth population and I believe we are not keeping up with the sports demand. Many families leave Milton sports teams and play with other towns because we don't have the facilities.	0	0

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 23 25 04:41:12 pm	Security Staffing for Milton Sports Centre	<p>Dear Mayor and Council,</p> <p>I am writing to request that the 2026 budget include funding for dedicated security personnel at the Milton Sports Centre (MSC). As a parent who regularly brings my children to the facility for hockey, I have serious safety concerns that need immediate attention.</p> <p>Current Situation: The MSC currently operates with no on-site security guards despite being the largest recreation centre in Halton. This has resulted in: Groups of teenagers loitering at entrances, blocking access and intimidating families, Property damage and vandalism going unchecked, Dangerous behavior including bikes and e-scooters being driven inside the facility, Reckless driving of e-scooters in the parking lot, creating hazards and damaging vehicles, Physical altercations occurring without intervention, Extremely limited camera coverage (only 7 cameras for this massive facility) with no active monitoring, Staff have confirmed that police response to MSC incidents is often minimal or significantly delayed, leaving them unable to manage these situations effectively.</p> <p>Proposed Solution:</p> <p>I recommend the town allocate budget for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Two full-time security guards covering 7am-10pm daily -One stationed in a security monitoring room -One actively patrolling the facility and grounds -Expanded camera system (30-40 cameras) with active monitoring capabilities <p>Budget Justification:</p> <p>This investment in security infrastructure would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensure the safety of families and children using the facility -Protect the town's significant investment in the MSC from vandalism -Reduce liability risks from preventable incidents -Improve the facility's reputation and increase usage by families who currently feel unsafe -Potentially reduce long-term costs from property damage and insurance claims <p>I strongly urge Council to prioritize this critical safety issue before a serious incident occurs. The Milton Sports Centre should be a safe, welcoming space for all residents, especially the children who use it for sports and recreation programs.</p>	0	7
Aug 07 25 11:52:56 pm	Comment response to "Community Spaces and Landscaping"	<p>I agree! This echos another post about adding more diversity to the patches of grass by the road. There is a large amount of people who bike and run in Milton along the deep sidewalks of major roads.</p> <p>I think it's time to invest more in the trails and walkways in a similar way that Oakville does</p>	0	0

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 03 25 09:53:47 am	Comment response to "Reduce the number of Town/city maintenance employees. WAY to many pick up trucks driving around with nowhere to go. Council knows about this"	I don't think you know how necessary the town workers are and how much work they do	0	0
Jul 03 25 09:20:02 am	Comment response to "Simple Accommodations"	My bet is you will never be a proud Miltonian. I hear Toronto has what you are looking for and lots of cheap Condos for sale.	0	0
Jul 03 25 09:18:10 am	Comment response to "Sports courts in Clarke neighborhood"	*outdoor specifically	0	0
Jul 03 25 08:19:46 pm	Comment response to "Parking enforcement that actually works"	100% agree they never show up when needed.	0	0
Jul 03 25 12:45:07 pm	Comment response to "Better Public Transport"	Completely agree with all these points! Also note that there are many areas in Milton that are not effectively serviced by public transport (I.e. Tremaine as well as Britannia)	0	0
Jul 03 25 12:32:09 pm	Comment response to "Alternate Public Transport"	We had e-scooters from other cities dumped off in parts of Milton not too long ago. Bringing our own in would just make that issue work. Our bus system should be upgraded instead.	0	0
Jul 04 25 09:11:16 am	Comment response to "Better public transportation"	Unfortunately the millions of annual dollars spent on Milton transit is not being used by enough people to warrant continuation or expansion. Milton would need 7-8,000 paid riders per day. That only represents 5% of population.	0	0
Jul 05 25 05:50:55 pm	Comment response to "Better public transportation"	Or make Transit useful. Connect it to other cities and to GO hubs.	0	0
Jul 03 25 12:53:38 pm	Comment response to "Better infrastructure planning."	Condos should be put where it is busy / dense - we need more alternatives to driving. when Condos are being built, we should ensure they are connected by bike lanes / paths, and close to transit.	0	0
Jul 04 25 06:37:31 am	Comment response to "Better infrastructure planning."	I just don't understand the logic of placing condos near congested areas. This seems like an idea people just repeat. We're already seeing the results on intersections like Derry and Ontario, and those condos aren't even fully built/populated yet.	0	0
Jul 05 25 05:49:38 pm	Comment response to "Eliminate empty busses and public transit. Widen Derry Rd before condos finished."	Transit is not funded enough to be useful. Eliminate it and expand Derry!	0	0

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 05 25 08:46:48 pm	Comment response to "Eliminate empty busses and public transit. Widen Derry Rd before condos finished."	Instead of eliminating our accessible public transportation that many people use, expand it and make it affordable so more people use it!	0	0
Jul 05 25 05:50:17 pm	Comment response to "More public garbage/recycling bins"	This makes no sense. Most people who throw our garbage wouldn't even throw it in a bin.	0	0
Jul 05 25 06:16:12 pm	Comment response to "More public garbage/recycling bins"	Agreed. All of the garbages are always overflowing where I live near the Beaty Library. I have asked the town for more but there are not putting more out. CK high school kids need to have a lot of garbage can options available to them to keep the streets litter free. I feel that more litter is probably due to recycling bins and wind causing their contents to blow away. We need these new recycling and garbage bins from the town ASAP, but rules need to be made for these so that they are not all in front of everyone's home and alleys at all times. Garbage cans belong in the garage.	0	0
Jul 05 25 06:48:08 pm	Comment response to "More public garbage/recycling bins"	I understand what you mean however that's why the latter part of my post said "enforce littering by-laws". We should fine those who litter otherwise this behaviour will continue.	0	0
Jul 15 25 11:19:04 am	Comment response to "More public garbage/recycling bins"	People Need to be fined now. Seen garbage next to a bin or seems to be over filling large bins which seems to be home garbage in these bins. Time to fine people! clean up the bins with fines.	0	0
Jul 05 25 06:13:18 pm	Comment response to "MORE GYMS"	I agree to a certain extent but I feel that this is not a town budget issue.	0	0
Jul 15 25 11:28:45 am	Comment response to "MORE GYMS"	This is a franchise and private sector. LA Fitness, Good Life, Fit for less, Anytime Fitness. all depend on budget and time you go to the gym.	0	0
Jul 05 25 06:12:14 pm	Comment response to "Parking enforcement is not good enough"	People are parking on the streets for more than the allowed time as well. Also parking horizontal on the end of their driveways should not be allowed. All drivers that do this are either hanging off into the road or onto the sidewalk and destroy the town's grass and tree's on the boulevard in the process. This is also causing blindspots for neighbouring motorists leaving their driveways on either side of this boulevard parking. Needs to stop. This isn't downtown Toronto. There is a solution.	0	0
Jul 05 25 08:50:38 pm	Comment response to "Bus Tickets Crazy Cost and the State of our Bus System"	I've already spoken quite a bit, but to add on, busses are also not in sync! Some busses leave too early or arrive too late for one to be able to get from one bus to another. I am not certain whether or not this is a budget issue, but it relates to many issues with transit. Thank you.	0	0
Jul 07 25 11:15:58 am	Comment response to "Speed Up building Playground Parks around the community"	There are no parks near Louis St Laurent/ Fourth Line in the Milton Sports Dome side of road. The nearest is Meighen Park which is not walkable. There are a lot of kids on the Whitlock avenue area.	0	0

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Jul 31 25 02:08:00 pm	Comment response to "Mill rate increase should be limited to the cost of living and preferably much less."	100% Agree!!!	0	0
Aug 05 25 03:03:19 pm	Comment response to "Mill rate increase should be limited to the cost of living and preferably much less."	Agreed, too many giveaways. Look for efficiencies. Giving groups discounts while taxes are going up is backwards. Not to mention allowing groups to resell, costs the town money. More transparency on how much the town subsidizes groups annually.	0	0
Jul 31 25 02:06:37 pm	Comment response to "Illegal U-turns"	Twice last week.. drivers slammed on there breaks on HWY 25 just north of Derry almost causing accidents, just so they can do a U turn.	0	0
Jul 31 25 02:03:43 pm	Comment response to "Increase healthcare budget to reduce delays and get access to good specialists. A healthy community always flourishes."	Unfortunately this is Provincial, not Municipal.	0	0
Jul 31 25 06:21:22 pm	Comment response to "Increase healthcare budget to reduce delays and get access to good specialists. A healthy community always flourishes."	An online property tax portal to track & pay. Paper based should be a choice only.	0	0
Aug 06 25 09:17:59 pm	Comment response to "A Central Pickleball complex with 12-16 courts where courts are lit and low divider fences separate individual courts is needed"	Many Milton residents are forced to play in Mississauga, Burlington or Hamilton since there are not enough Pickleball courts in Milton	0	0
Aug 06 25 09:17:34 pm	Comment response to "New Cricket field in Milton"	A new cricket ground with lights can be beneficial for both town and cricket players. Milton only have 2 cricket grounds currently and there are about 100+ teams wants to play cricket day and night.	0	0
Aug 07 25 12:27:19 am	Comment response to "New Cricket field in Milton"	Cricket is one of the famous and interesting game in the world and it is getting famous in this part of the world. Canadian national team is already participated in few international cricket events. Although we have a couple of facilities to play cricket but they are not of any standard. I would suggest a proper cricket ground with floodlights, it would provide an opportunity to play even after the sunset.	0	0

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 07 25 02:35:14 am	Comment response to "New Cricket field in Milton"	We need a proper cricket field where we can play with a hard ball (standard cricket ball). A well-sized ground with lights would also accommodate softball cricket. The existing fields in town are not suitable for hosting proper cricket matches.	0	0
Aug 07 25 05:23:37 am	Comment response to "New Cricket field in Milton"	<p>Request for a Cricket Field in Milton/Halton Region</p> <p>To: City of Milton,</p> <p>We, the cricket enthusiasts and residents of Milton, respectfully request the development of a dedicated cricket field within our community. Cricket is a popular sport that promotes physical fitness, teamwork, and community engagement. A cricket field would provide a safe and suitable venue for local teams and individuals to practice and compete.</p> <p>Key Features Requested:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *Dedicated Cricket Pitch:* A regulation-sized cricket pitch with a high-quality playing surface. 2. *Floodlights:* Installation of floodlights to enable evening and night matches. 3. *Spectator Facilities:* Basic amenities such as seating, pavilions, or shelters for spectators. 4. *Safety Features:* Proper fencing and safety measures to protect players, spectators, and nearby properties. <p>*Benefits:*</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *Promote Physical Activity:* Encourage youth and adults to engage in physical activity and sports. 2. *Community Building:* Foster community spirit and social connections among residents. 3. *Talent Development:* Provide a platform for local talent to develop and compete at higher levels. <p>We believe that a cricket field would be a valuable addition to our community's recreational infrastructure. We look forward to discussing this request further and exploring ways to make it a reality.</p> <p>Thank you for considering our request.</p>	0	0
Aug 07 25 11:24:15 am	Comment response to "New Cricket field in Milton"	A proper cricket field with lights to support hard ball cricket is long pending. There are multiple teams from Milton who are playing leagues around GTA but do not have a proper ground to practice or play games in Milton.	0	0

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 11 25 02:07:59 pm	Comment response to "New Cricket field in Milton"	<p>Request for a Cricket Field in Milton/Halton Region</p> <p>To: City of Milton,</p> <p>We, the cricket enthusiasts and residents of Milton, respectfully request the development of a dedicated cricket field within our community. Cricket is a popular sport that promotes physical fitness, teamwork, and community engagement. A cricket field would provide a safe and suitable venue for local teams and individuals to practice and compete.</p> <p>Key Features Requested:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *Dedicated Cricket Pitch:* A regulation-sized cricket pitch with a high-quality playing surface. 2. *Floodlights:* Installation of floodlights to enable evening and night matches. 3. *Spectator Facilities:* Basic amenities such as seating, pavilions, or shelters for spectators. 4. *Safety Features:* Proper fencing and safety measures to protect players, spectators, and nearby properties. <p>*Benefits:*</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. *Promote Physical Activity:* Encourage youth and adults to engage in physical activity and sports. 2. *Community Building:* Foster community spirit and social connections among residents. 3. *Talent Development:* Provide a platform for local talent to develop and compete at higher levels. <p>We believe that a cricket field would be a valuable addition to our community's recreational infrastructure. We look forward to discussing this request further and exploring ways to make it a reality.</p> <p>Thank you for considering our request.</p>	0	0
Aug 07 25 11:27:16 am	Comment response to "Expand Go Train service outside of commuter hours"	Please add express train in morning and evening peak hours.	0	0

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 06 25 09:00:04 pm	Comment response to "PROPER BADMINTON COURTS"	<p>I am writing on behalf of many residents in our community who are passionate about badminton and are finding it increasingly difficult to access proper indoor facilities in Milton. Currently, the town lacks a dedicated badminton court, and existing sports complexes are often fully booked or not adequately equipped for the sport.</p> <p>Badminton is not only a popular recreational activity but also promotes fitness, community engagement, and youth development. With Milton's growing population and increasing demand for indoor sports, we strongly believe that the addition of a dedicated badminton facility (or even shared use courts with proper markings and nets) would benefit a wide range of residents — from children to seniors.</p> <p>We kindly urge the Town of Milton to consider developing or allocating space for badminton in current or upcoming recreational projects. Community centers, schools, or multi-sport complexes could offer shared access with scheduled timings.</p> <p>We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and explore possibilities for collaboration or community support.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.</p>	0	0
Aug 06 25 09:01:37 pm	Comment response to "PROPER BADMINTON COURTS"	<p>Thank you for sharing this. We urgently require proper badminton courts, as the existing ones are not designed for badminton and are causing knee injuries. Badminton-specific courts should have a non-slippery, shock-absorbent wooden or synthetic surface to reduce joint strain, proper lighting to avoid eye strain, and adequate space around the court for safe movement. The current flooring and setup are not only affecting our performance but also putting players at risk of long-term injuries.</p>	0	0
Aug 06 25 10:13:06 pm	Comment response to "PROPER BADMINTON COURTS"	<p>I would like to bring to your attention the need for a proper badminton court in our town. Badminton is a growing sport in our community, especially among the youth, but unfortunately, we lack a suitable facility where people can play in a safe and organized environment.</p> <p>Currently, players either travel to other towns or play in unsuitable spaces, which are not ideal for the sport. Having a dedicated court would promote physical activity, support local talent, and provide a healthy recreational outlet for people of all ages.</p> <p>I kindly request the authorities to consider building or allocating space for a proper indoor badminton court with standard flooring, lighting, and safety measures. It would be a great investment in the well-being and development of our community.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and support.</p>	0	0

Share your thoughts on the 2026 Budget!

02-Jul-25 to 24-Aug-25

Date of contribution	Ideas		Votes	Visitors
	Title	Description		
Aug 06 25 11:36:01 pm	Comment response to "PROPER BADMINTON COURTS"	Yes , indeed it will be great if town can address this growing need . Today we play badminton on hard surfaces in Milton , which are not good for knees . Neighboring cities like Mississauga have a number of good facilities with much better playing conditions. Hope Milton town listens to this need and addresses it at the earliest	0	0
Aug 18 25 08:12:10 pm	Comment response to "Walking Path Extension	I agree. The path should continue straight across to fourth line where it turns into gravel.	0	0

Appendix C - ES-042-25 - 2026 and 2027 Budget Pressure Details

Component	2026 Net Levy Impact \$ (000's)	2026 Residential Tax per \$100K of Assessment*	2026 Residential Tax % Change	2027 Net Levy Impact \$ (000's)	2027 Residential Tax per \$100K of Assessment*	2027 Residential Tax % Change	Comments
Prior Year Tax Levy	\$111,340	\$354.63		\$123,898	\$382.79		
Inflation and Base Adjustments:							
Inflation (MPI)	\$3,273	\$10.11	2.85%	\$3,952	\$11.73	3.06%	Inflation is based on the Municipal Price Index (MPI) and other miscellaneous adjustments.
Non-recurring & Reversal of One-Time Transfers	\$211	\$0.65	0.18%	\$1,365	\$4.05	1.06%	Primarily relates to the planned elimination of funding from Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve (\$0.15M in 2026 and \$1.4M in 2027).
Service Enhancements	\$0	\$0.00	0.00%	\$108	\$0.32	0.08%	Transit improved weekday and weekend frequency, as well as extending Saturday Service to 10:30pm.
Infrastructure Deficit	\$750	\$2.32	0.65%	\$1,500	\$4.45	1.16%	Funding to gradually reduce the infrastructure deficit outlined in existing asset management plan.
Investment Income	(\$1,000)	(\$3.09)	-0.87%	\$0	\$0.00	0.00%	Additional investment income from Income Fund strategy.
Other Base Adjustments	\$561	\$1.73	0.49%	\$673	\$2.00	0.52%	Firefighters' progression through ranks and backfill of staff on leave (\$0.66M in 2026 and \$0.67M in 2027), additional staff gapping (\$0.1M in 2026).
Total Inflation & Base Adjustments	\$3,795	\$11.73	3.31%	\$7,598	\$22.55	5.89%	
Growth Related:							
State of Good Repair for Constructed & Assumed Assets	\$3,774	\$11.66	3.29%	\$3,541	\$10.51	2.75%	Lifecycle contributions to reserves based on budgeted and assumed assets in order to prevent a further increase in the infrastructure funding deficit.
Expanding Service to Growth Areas	\$2,682	\$8.29	2.34%	\$4,533	\$13.45	3.51%	Costs (staffing, materials, contracts etc.) of expanding service to growth areas (\$0.5M in 2026 and \$1.9M in 2027) in addition to expansion of Transit service based on Transit Master Plan recommendations (\$1.5M in 2026 and \$2.0M in 2027) and increase in Firefighters (\$0.69M in 2026 and \$0.65M in 2027).
Other Growth-Related Impacts	\$2,307	\$7.13	2.01%	\$2,141	\$6.35	1.66%	Funding for legislated development charge exemptions (\$0.5M in each of 2026/2027), growth related increase to reserves (\$1.1M in 2026, \$1.7M in 2027), annualization of operating impacts from 2025 approved capital projects (\$0.06M in 2026, \$0.03 in 2027), operating impacts from 2026 forecasted projects (\$0.55M in 2026, \$0.03M in 2027), changes in subdivision revenue (\$0.08M in 2026, \$(0.2M) in 2027), increase in tax write-offs (\$0.1M in 2027).
Total Growth Related	\$8,763	\$27.07	7.63%	\$10,215	\$30.31	7.92%	
Total Increase in Levy	\$12,558	\$38.80	10.94%	\$17,813	\$52.86	13.81%	
Total Tax Levy	\$123,898	\$393.43		\$141,711	\$435.64		
Estimated Assessment Growth (net of reductions)**	(\$3,444)	(\$10.64)	-3.00%	(\$5,111)	(\$15.16)	-3.96%	Forecast assessment growth based on updated residential growth forecast and expected industrial/commercial development.
Forecasted Net Tax Levy Increase Required)	\$9,114	\$382.79	7.94%	\$12,702	\$420.48	9.85%	

* Based on 2025 CVA values per 2025 Final Tax Levy By-law, ES-017-25. Through the annual tax setting bylaw tax rates are re-calculated each year using current year assessment values.

** This is the amount net of anticipated losses from Assessment Review Board appeals, Request for Reconsiderations, and Section 357 Applications (tax class changes, properties razed by fire, etc.).

Appendix D - ES-042-25

Multi-Year Financial Strategy and Key Indicators

Through ES-016-24 Council endorsed a Multi-Year Financial strategy wherein the annual target for the total property tax rate increase (inclusive of the Town, Region and Province) be established between 4.5% and 7.0% until such time as the three outcomes identified in the following table are achieved. This table tracks the progress being made towards the achievement of those outcomes.

Outcomes	Key Indicator	Baseline *	2025 Budget	Cumulative Progress Towards Outcome	Outcome Achieved
The Town has eliminated the use of non-sustainable funding sources (such as the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve) for on-going operating costs.	Amount of Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve Funding included in Budget for on-going operating costs	\$1,692,240	\$1,515,260	10%	✗
Further progress towards reducing the annual infrastructure deficit has been achieved, and other annual funding deficits (such as development charge exemptions and property tax write-offs) have been eliminated.	Infrastructure Renewal - Annual Funding Deficit (see ES-017-24)	\$41,900,000	\$41,150,000	2%	✗
	DC exemptions - Annual Funding Deficit	\$3,142,078	\$2,788,147	11%	✗
	Property Tax Write-offs - Annual Funding Deficit	\$506,493	\$406,493	20%	✗
The Town's property tax rate falls within the range of the comparator municipal group, while remaining lower than the average of those peer municipalities. **	Residential Property Taxes for a 2 Storey Home in Milton (per BMA Management Consulting Inc. Municipal Study)	\$4,659	\$4,917	0%	✗
	Range of Comparator Group (Oakville, Mississauga, Caledon, Halton Hills, Burlington, Brampton)	\$5,139 to \$6,135	\$5,448 to \$6,781		
	Average of Comparator Group (Oakville, Mississauga, Caledon, Halton Hills, Burlington, Brampton)	\$5,705	\$6,052		

*Baseline amounts for Non-Sustainable Funding included in the Budget and Annual funding deficits is the 2024 budget. Baseline for the Tax Rate Comparisons is the 2023 BMA Management Consulting Inc. Municipal Study.

** Due to the timing of the release of comparator data there will always be a lag in the timing of updated information.

2026 Capital and Operating Budget Timetable

