



Town of Whitby Media Release

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
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For Immediate Release

Whitby Council Approves 2017 Budget

Whitby, April 12, 2017 – At tonight’s Special Council meeting, Town Council approved the 2017 Budget. The overall budgetary tax increase is 2.25 per cent or \$106 based on the average residential assessment value of \$500,000. The town portion is 1.3 per cent of the overall increase or \$61.

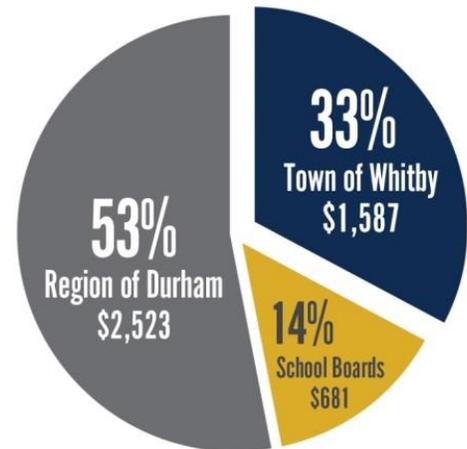
“It has been a particular challenge to address the costs of meeting the community safety needs identified through our Master Fire Plan, while focusing on taxpayer affordability,” said Mayor Don Mitchell. “Council and staff worked together to define priorities and find efficiencies in order to have the least impact on service levels.”

“The budget reflects Council’s Goals, responds to growth and inflationary pressures and will strengthen our town in the future,” he added.

The 2017 Budget highlights include:

- Expanded Fire and Emergency Services to support growth through the hiring of 20 new firefighters and a training officer, and investing in a new fire hall and training facility;
- Support for downtown initiatives such as façade grants, gateway features, the banner program and an updated Community Improvement Plan;
- Continued investment in trails including the link between Cullen Central Park to Ashburn Road through Heber Down Conservation Area;
- A new park, park improvements and redevelopment of the Country Lane tennis courts;
- More recreation at Cullen Central Park including the restoration of the Log Cabin as a community space, more bocce ball courts and new pickleball courts;
- Traffic management initiatives including the Transportation and Pedestrian Safety Action Plan and Parking Master Plan; and,
- Continued work on the Emerald Ash Borer action plan.

“The 2017 Budget is fiscally responsible and will help the Town address community safety and continue to provide the quality services and facilities that our residents value,” said West Ward Councillor and Budget Chair Chris Leahy.



Based on average assessment value of \$500,000, as identified by MPAC Property Notice Assessment (January 1, 2016).

The 2017 Budget is available online at: whitby.ca/budget.

For comments or questions about the budget, contact the Corporate Services Department by email at treasury@whitby.ca or by phone at 905.430.4300, ext 2233.

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