

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Building for the Future

The City’s 2017 proposed Budget continues to build for the future, investing in community priorities essential to Regina’s continued growth. The Budget goals were clear and straight-forward:

- Maintain services and service levels
- Continue to invest in infrastructure renewal
- Manage growth efficiently and effectively
- Leverage third party funding from the provincial and federal governments
- Maintain affordability for Regina residents

The City administration is proposing a 3.18% mill rate increase, in addition to the previously approved 1% for residential road renewal. The 2017 General Operating Budget totals \$437.3 million to fund the approximately 200 services the City delivers, ranging from managing

parks and open spaces to meeting basic needs – roads, traffic management, snow removal, water and drainage systems. The proposed 2017 Budget continues to make increased strategic capital investments to renew and build infrastructure. It also includes \$2.5 million in administrative savings – the first phase of a 2017 Core Services Review.

The pace of economic growth has slowed and with it the City’s revenue growth. In addition, the Revenue Sharing Grant from the provincial government is projected to be 5% lower or \$2.1 million less than last year as a result of reduced Provincial Sales Tax (PST) revenue. The City recognizes these new economic realities and by launching a core services review in 2017 will begin to find more innovative, creative ways to deliver services at lower cost to residents.

Where are your taxes going?

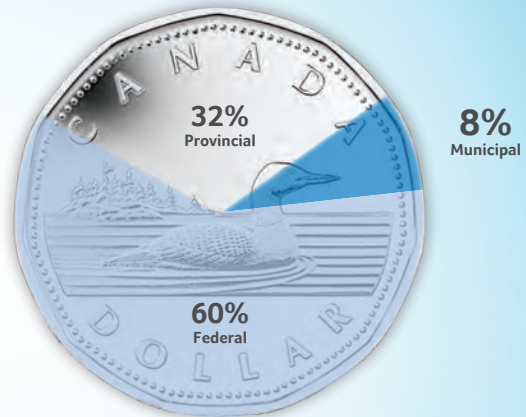
Fixing residential streets with a dedicated 1% property tax	\$7.5 million
Investing in major streets, bridges and sidewalks	\$24.0 million
Clearing snow from roads	\$9.3 million
Enhancing transit and paratransit services	\$11.2 million
Investing in community safety	\$84.5 million for Regina Police Services
	\$42.6 million for Fire & Protective Services
Maintaining and building infrastructure	\$77.9 million



Key Tax Facts

Where do your tax dollars go?

As a municipal government, the City has very limited options to raise revenue to fund all the services it delivers. It also receives the least amount of every tax dollar Regina residents pay. For every tax dollar collected from Regina residents, only about 8 cents goes to the City of Regina. The rest goes to the provincial and federal government.



How much will the proposed mill rate increase cost homeowners?

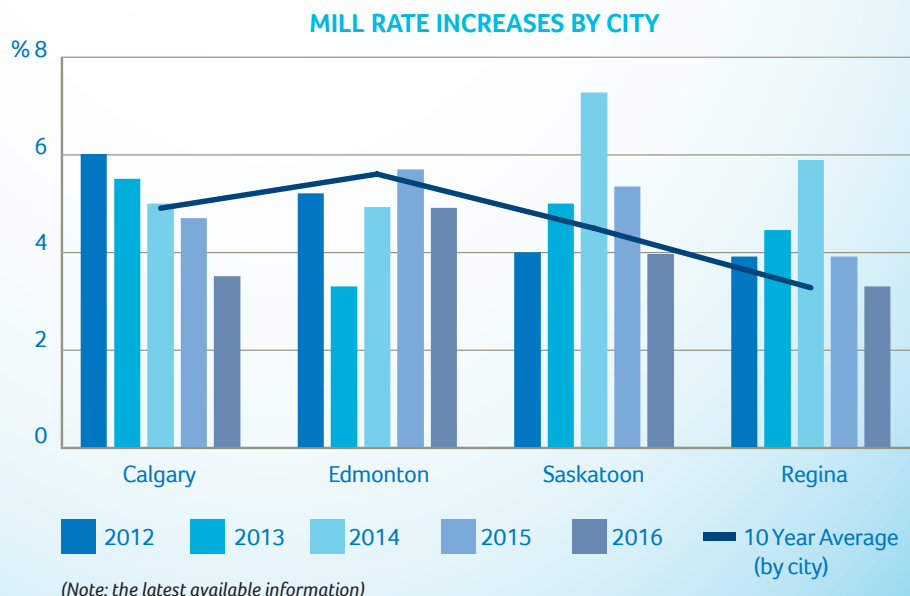
The proposed Budget includes a 3.18% municipal mill rate increase plus an additional 1% dedicated to the renewal of residential roads. The average homeowner with an assessed value of \$300,000 will pay an additional \$8.48 a month in property taxes to support and maintain all city services.

WHAT A 3.18% + 1% INCREASE REPRESENTS FOR TAXPAYERS

Current Assessed Value of Your Home	\$200,000	\$300,000	\$450,000
Monthly Cost of a 3.18% mill rate increase	\$4.30	\$6.45	\$9.67
Monthly Cost of a 1% for local streets	\$1.35	\$2.03	\$3.04
Total Monthly 2017 Property Taxes (Municipal Portion)	\$141	\$211	\$317

How does Regina's mill rate compare to our neighbours?

Even with this proposed increase, Regina will remain one of the most affordable places to live in Canada.



Key Investments in 2017

Roadway Network Improvements

The City continues to prioritize maintaining and building infrastructure. In 2017, the City will spend \$7.5 million fixing residential streets through a **dedicated 1% mill rate increase**. This special tax for the Residential Road Network Improvement Program means that over the five-year term the City's investment in residential roads has grown from \$1.6 million in 2014 to over \$10 million in 2019.

The record investment in the City's priority street system continues in 2017 with an \$18 million budget for Regina's major arterial streets – the same level as last year.

Bridge infrastructure renewal remains a priority – \$6.0 million will be spent to renew Regina's bridges.

Winter Road Maintenance

Snow clearing is a priority in Regina. This year, \$9.3 million is being allocated – a record investment.

Enhancing Community

Parks and open spaces are one of the best features in Regina. \$1.5 million will be spent making improvements in 2017. Some of the projects include recapping multi-use pathways, renewing playground equipment, improving outdoor rinks and repaving asphalt tennis courts.

The Mâmwêyatitân Centre officially opens in 2017. This fully integrated centre houses educational, cultural, social, recreation and community programs and services. The City will invest \$2.3 million in 2017. This fulfills the City's commitment to the development and building of the Centre. Ongoing operating funds will be provided.

Investing in Community Safety

In 2017, \$127.1 million will be provided to Regina Police and Fire & Protective Services to ensure we enjoy a safe community.

Community Grants

Funding of \$3.7 million to provide grants to various community associations and projects continues in 2017. This includes significant annual operating grants to many community organizations, like Mobile Crisis Services, Carmichael Outreach and the Globe Theatre. It also includes one-time funding for events and activities. In 2016, the City provided funding for Regina Canada Day celebrations, Mosaic: A Festival of Culture and National Aboriginal Day.

Enhancing Transit and Paratransit Services

A major investment of \$8.3 million will be made in transit and paratransit in 2017, to replace **13 transit and six paratransit buses**. An additional \$2.9 million will be spent on bus shelters, customer service enhancements and technology improvements. These program improvements leverage 50% funding from the federal government.



Key Utility Facts

Rates and Reserves

Regina's Water Utility operates on a full-cost recovery basis. All revenue collected through the City's utility bills is used to pay for all the costs of delivering the service on a daily basis and for building and maintaining the infrastructure required. In 2017, \$52 million will be transferred to build the Utility Reserve which funds the infrastructure needed to provide quality water, sewer and drainage systems now and in the future. The City recognizes this is a major capital investment that has required annual rate increases above the rate of inflation for the last ten years. This Utility rate strategy will be reviewed in 2017. Input from Regina residents will be important during this review.

How much will the utility rate increase cost homeowners?

The proposed Budget includes a Utility rate increase of 5% on March 1, 2017 and of 5% on January 1, 2018. The average homeowner will pay an additional \$7.52 per month or just over \$90 more in 2017.

2017 Rate Impact - Average Homeowner					
	2015 (\$)	2016 (\$)	2017 (\$) (Proposed)	Dollar Change (\$)	Per Cent Change (%)
Water					
Total Annual Water	\$882.00	\$929.00	\$975.45	\$46.45	5.0%
Wastewater					
Total Annual Wastewater	\$659.01	\$693.57	\$728.25	\$34.68	5.0%
Annual Drainage Infrastructure Levy	\$175.20	\$182.50	\$191.62	\$9.13	5.0%
Total Annual Utility Charges	\$1,716.21	\$1,805.07	\$1,895.33	\$90.26	5.0%

Note: Water and sewer rates are made up of a fixed rate, based on the service size, plus a variable rate, based on the volume of water used. Drainage rates are based on the size of the property served.

How do Regina's utility rates compare to our neighbours?

Unlike many of our neighbours who draw on water sources like rivers close to their city, Regina has to draw its water from Buffalo Pound Lake over 50 km away. Despite this challenge, Regina's utility rates are not significantly higher than our neighbouring cities.

SAMPLE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER - 2016 RATES

Utility Bill Details	Regina	Calgary	Edmonton	Saskatoon	Winnipeg
Water					
Annual Basic Charge	\$277.40	\$192.84	\$87.36	\$112.32	149.65
Annual Volume Charge	\$651.60	\$644.40	\$725.48	\$427.68	\$586.80
Total Annual Water	\$929.00	\$837.24	\$812.84	\$540.00	\$736.45
Wastewater					
Annual Basic Charge	\$215.35	\$287.86	\$156.00	\$112.32	\$0.00
Annual Volume Charge	\$478.22	\$471.60	\$613.91	\$250.56	\$864.00
Total Annual Wastewater	\$693.57	\$759.46	\$769.91	\$362.88	\$864.00
Annual Drainage Infrastructure Levy	\$182.50	\$158.78	\$222.68	\$299.30¹	\$0.00
Total Annual Utility Charges	\$1,805.07	\$1,755.48	\$1,805.43	\$1,202.18	\$1,600.45

Note: The latest available information

Note 1: Saskatoon's levy is for all infrastructure and not drainage alone.

Major Projects Update

Regina Revitalization Initiative

In 2016, the first phase of the Regina Revitalization Initiative (RRI) – Stadium Project was substantially completed. On October 1, 2016, a successful test game between the University of Regina Rams and the University of Saskatchewan Huskies football teams was played in front of a crowd of 16,500 people. The game was the first opportunity to test the multi-purpose facility and operational plans for new Mosaic Stadium. Additional testing of the facility and operational plans will take place ahead of the grand opening in summer 2017.

The second phase of the RRI – Railyard Renewal Project will continue in 2017. Further public consultation on options, work on the secondary and concept plan for the 17.5 acre site in the city centre and work on the business plan for the area which includes planning for infrastructure, remediation and site improvements will begin.

The study and work on the physical decommissioning of the current stadium will begin this year. Public

consultation on the third phase of the project – the Taylor Field Neighbourhood – will begin in 2017.

Water and Wastewater Utility Upgrades

In 2016, the Wastewater Treatment Plant was substantially completed. This \$181 million project was one of the largest capital projects in Regina's history. During construction, all substantial milestones were met, and the project was completed with an added \$6 million savings.

In 2017, the Water and Phase 1 of the Wastewater Master Plans will be completed. These plans outline capital upgrades required in Regina's water and wastewater systems and provide direction for capital investments required over the next 25 years.

Capital investment in water utility infrastructure will continue in 2017. Aging underground water, sanitary and drainage pipes will continue to be replaced. A third forcemain at the McCarthy Boulevard Pumping Station will be built to reduce the risk of wastewater and sewer backups during major rainfall events.

Waste Management Strategy

In 2016, the City delivered curbside recycling to over 63,000 single family residences. Curbside recycling, along with waste diversion depots, diverted over 15,000 tonnes of waste from the Landfill.

In 2017, the City will focus on rolling out additional residential services defined in Waste Plan Regina and developing diversion initiatives for non-residential properties. Landfill and recycling fees will be reviewed to ensure they meet the guidelines of the Official Community Plan, with the goal of transitioning all solid waste curbside services to full-cost recovery.

Core Services Review

In 2017, the City will be launching a core services review. Further details will be announced, but the first phase in the process is \$2.5 million in administrative savings in 2017.

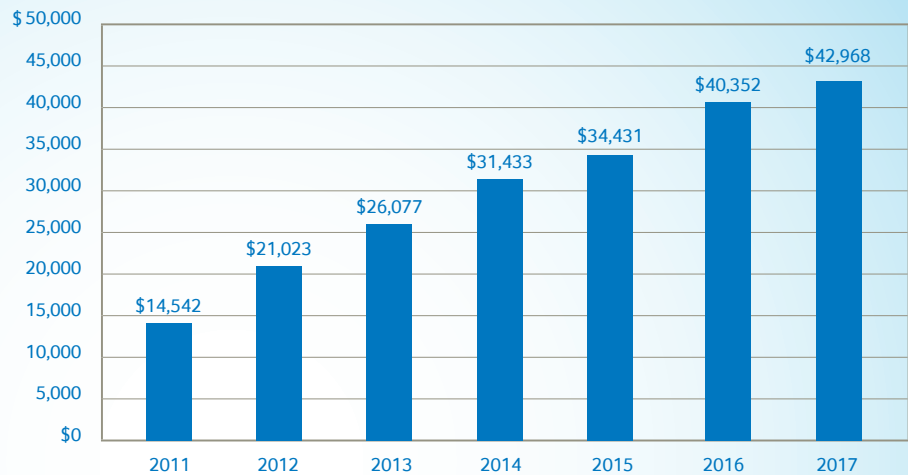
The review will examine services and service levels, balanced with affordability. Public engagement will be an important part of the review process.



Investing in Strategic Community Priorities

The proposed 2017 Budget increases capital investment in key strategic community priorities by \$2.6 million over 2016. This ensures the City continues to build and renew infrastructure while maintaining affordability for Regina residents into the future. This is an ongoing priority for the City which has tripled capital investment in the last five years.

GENERAL FUND OPERATING CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAPITAL 2011-2017



Get Involved

Residents are encouraged to go online at Regina.ca to review complete proposed 2017 Budget documents.

The proposed 2017 budgets and any amendments will be considered at the Monday, February 13, 2017 City Council meeting. Media and the public are invited to attend this meeting at 5:30 p.m. in Henry Baker Hall at City Hall.

Residents may appear as a special delegation by filing a written brief with the Office of the City Clerk, no later than noon on Thursday, February 9, 2017. These submissions will be made public on the website on Friday, February 10, 2017. Information on preparing a submission is available on Regina.ca, or contact the Office of the City Clerk at 306-777-7262.

