



# Message from the Mayor

Dear Victorians,

I'm pleased to share highlights of Budget 2026, the final annual budget from this Mayor and Council.

Despite ongoing global economic pressures and rising costs, we have worked closely with staff to find savings and make our services more lean and efficient, to limit the 2026 property tax increase to 7.28 per cent – 5.06% for police services and 2.22% for all other City services – on average 9.34% for residents and 4.78% for businesses.

Our goal is to deliver high-quality programs and services you can rely on every day while keeping Victoria safe, connected and livable. We are also planning for the future, which means investing in maintaining aging infrastructure and creating new facilities to meet community needs.

In 2026, Council will invest \$394.1 million on operating expenses to deliver over 200 services and programs and \$160.1 million on capital improvements.

We know that housing remains a priority for Victorians, and our investments in 2025 have approved 2,509 homes for Victorians. This year, we are investing \$3.3 million in city-wide and area planning, and a variety of housing and tenant supports.

Community safety and wellbeing remains a key concern, so we continue to invest in a range of programs and services that make our neighbourhoods safer and more livable. For example:

- \$4.3 million in community-driven initiatives and economic activity with the City's grant programs that include Direct Award Grants, Festival Project Grants, Community Garden Volunteer Grants and My Great Neighbourhood Grants.
- \$785,000 for the City's OUR DWTN revitalization program to invest in the downtown core with a focus on beautification, programming and family-friendly activities such as Summer at Ship Point.
- \$500,000 for streetlight replacement and increased public space cleaning and enhancements.
- \$2.7 million to upgrade and make public washrooms more accessible.
- \$1.1 million to expand the City's pedestrian network of accessible sidewalks and pathways to support a welcoming experience for walking and rolling, with an additional investment of \$836,000 to create new crosswalks and upgrade crossing locations, and another \$508,000 to replace and widen existing sidewalks.
- \$450,000 for traffic calming measures; installing speed humps, prioritizing installations on streets adjacent to schools, parks

and streets with higher speeds and volumes – this investment also supports curb extensions or medians to enhance pedestrian crossings and safety.

- \$1.22 million to community partnerships aimed at supporting vulnerable residents and enhancing overall wellbeing.
- \$78.05 million to Victoria Police (accounting for 69.5% of the total increase in property taxes).
- \$24.8 million to fire services and \$9.1 million to community safety and bylaw services.

A sustainable, supported city needs investment in infrastructure, climate action, Reconciliation and recreation, so we have dedicated:

- \$44.7 million to rehabilitate Victoria's underground infrastructure, including replacing and upgrading water, stormwater and sewer mains.
- \$15 million for road restoration and rehabilitation, resulting in approximately seven kilometres of road paving, including segments of Blanshard Street, Cook Street and Richmond Road.
- \$2.3 million to advance the City's low-carbon fleet to meet the municipality's greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, including installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure and building out the EV charging network.
- \$200,000 for the annual Reconciliation Grant for the Songhees Nation and the Xwsepsum Nation; the City's Reconciliation Contribution Fund also continues – please see the back page on how to contribute to this voluntary Fund.
- \$209.2 million for ongoing design and construction of the Crystal Pool Replacement Project.
- \$8.6 million to upgrade and improve accessibility to Royal Athletic Park's seating and washrooms.
- \$750,000 for a new off-leash dog park in Harris Green.

Our 2026 budget illustrates ambitious attention to the demands of our diverse, growing city. It is an honour to serve as your mayor and a privilege to work alongside you as we continue to address social challenges and create an intentional, thriving community for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marianne Alto".

Marianne Alto  
Victoria Mayor

# What you need to know to pay your taxes

TAXES DUE:



The City offers many convenient payment methods to pay your property taxes.

## Ways to pay your taxes



### Online Banking:

Online banking is encouraged. You can pay through your financial institution's online banking system using the Folio Number located at the top left of your tax notice as the account number.

Check your institution's local cut-off time to ensure payment is received by **July 2, 2026**.

### By Mail

Mail your cheque (including post-dated cheques to the due date) and the bottom portion of your tax notice to:

**1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6**

Payment must be received by **July 2, 2026** to avoid a penalty.

### Financial Institutions

Contact your financial institution for additional details and hours of operation.

### Drop Box

There is a drop box located at the Pandora Avenue entrance of City Hall. The drop box is open 24/7 for non-cash payments.

### Through Your Mortgage Company

If your mortgage company will be remitting payment to the City of Victoria on your behalf, confirm details of your tax payment with your mortgage company directly.

### In Person

The Public Service Centre located in City Hall is open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., excluding statutory holidays. Payment methods include cash, cheque and debit. Credit cards are not accepted.

### Pre-authorized Payments

Pre-authorized payments offer a convenient method to make monthly payments towards your 2027 property taxes. For further information visit [victoria.ca/propertytax](https://victoria.ca/propertytax).

## Claim Your Home Owner Grant

A reminder that eligible property owners can apply for their Home Owner Grant through the **Province's online system**. **Municipalities are no longer accepting applications**. To avoid penalties and interest, apply before the property tax due date of July 2, 2026. Learn more at [gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](https://gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant) or call **1.888.355.2700** to speak with someone over the phone.

## MyCity Online

Want one-stop 24-hour access to your City accounts? Register at [victoria.ca/mycity](https://victoria.ca/mycity) today. Create a profile, register your accounts and access all your information.

- Review property tax accounts (payments, assessments, levies)
- Obtain information for income tax purposes
- Sign up to view your Property Tax Notice online

## Property Tax Calculator

View your property assessed value change compared to the average assessed value for your property class and total property tax change by entering your Folio Number into the Property Tax Calculator at [victoria.ca/taxcalculator](https://victoria.ca/taxcalculator).

## Say Hello to eBilling and Goodbye to Paper Bills

### Sign up at MyCity Online. It's easy!

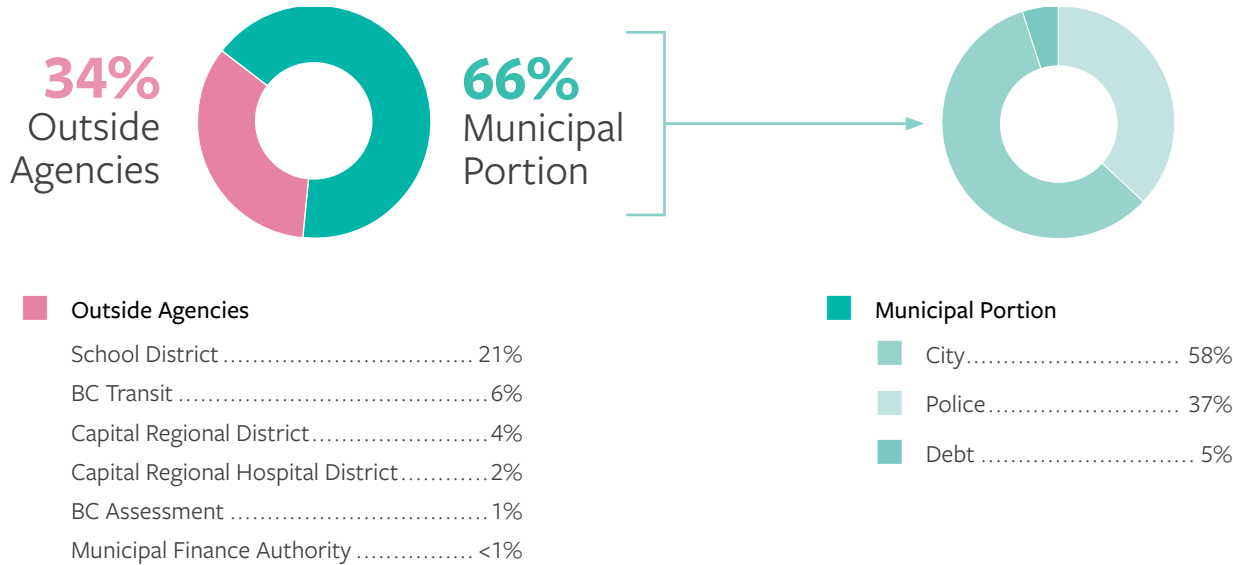
Receive next year's property tax notice by email and have less paper to worry about.

- 1 Log in or register at [victoria.ca/mycity](https://victoria.ca/mycity).
- 2 Register your property tax account. If you own multiple properties, you can sign up each property for eBilling. Use your eight-digit Folio Number and your six-digit Access Code from your Property Tax Notice.
- 3 Select to receive your Property Tax Notice by email.

# Your City Budget

The City Budget pays for essential services, programs and infrastructure – everything from roads, underground utilities, parks, recreation and garbage collection to climate adaptation, arts and culture, facilities, fire protection, community wellbeing – and policing.

A portion of your property tax bill goes to support outside agencies. Here's the breakdown.



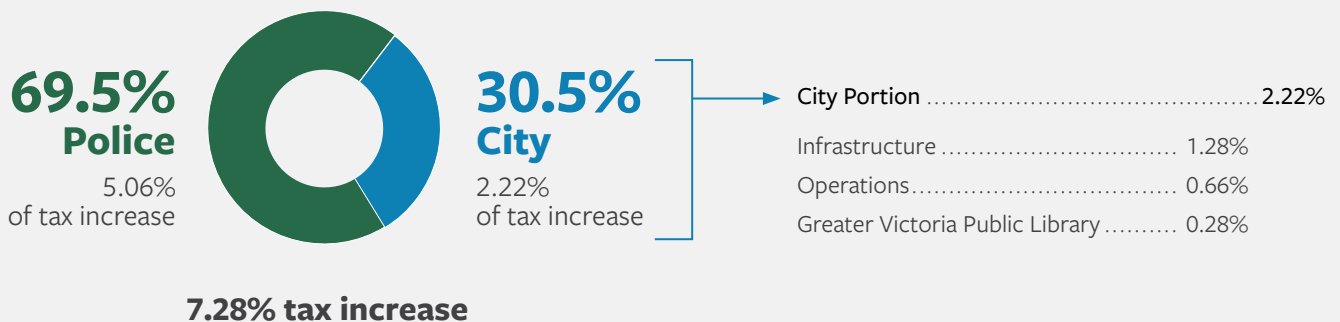
## Your 2026 Property Tax

In 2026, the increase in revenue needed from property taxes is \$14.185 million over 2025, resulting in an overall tax increase of 7.28%.

Council has distributed this increase at 9.34% to residential properties and 4.78% to business properties.

This will result in an average property tax increase of \$323 for an average residential property assessed at \$1,015,000 and an average increase of \$427 for a typical business property assessed at \$721,000.

Please note that these are estimates only and each property will vary based on a number of factors. If your property assessment change (determined through BC Assessment) is equal to the average in its property classification your property tax change will be close to the average. If your property assessment increased or decreased at a greater or lower rate than the average, your property tax will adjust accordingly.



# Reconciliation Contribution Fund

In 2015, the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada made clear that municipalities like the City of Victoria have a key role to play in reconciliation, and that reconciliation is about more than words, it must also include actions.

## What is the Reconciliation Contribution Fund?

In 2022, the City of Victoria established the Reconciliation Contribution Fund to create an opportunity for residential and commercial property owners to contribute a voluntary amount to the Songhees Nation and Xwsepsəm Nation alongside their City of Victoria property taxes.

Your voluntary contribution will be provided to the Songhees Nation and Xwsepsəm Nation, in addition to the City's annual \$200,000 Reconciliation Grant. Both programs are an effort to start recognizing that the wealth generated by our City and its residents – including in the form of property ownership and associated taxes – is rooted in the lands and waters of the Ləkʷəŋən (Lekwungen) peoples.

## Why is the Reconciliation Contribution Fund needed?

The City's Reconciliation Contribution Fund was developed based on public input. People asked for a tangible way for Victoria residents and businesses to make a meaningful contribution towards reconciliation. The Fund will be used by the Songhees Nation and Xwsepsəm Nation to achieve the goals and aims of their communities.

## How does the program work?

Your voluntary contribution is to be made in addition to, and separately from, your annual property tax payment. The full value of your voluntary contribution will be provided directly to the Xwsepsəm Nation and Songhees Nation.

Some Victoria property owners have opted to contribute an amount equal to five or 10 per cent of their property taxes. You may contribute any amount – every dollar is welcome.

**Learn more at:** [victoria.ca/ReconciliationContribution](http://victoria.ca/ReconciliationContribution)

## Ways to Contribute

**Anyone can contribute to the Reconciliation Contribution Fund.**

### Interac e-Transfer:

You can contribute by e-Transfer. Set up the e-Transfer through your financial institution's online banking system and e-Transfer the City of Victoria using email address: [reconciliation@victoria.ca](mailto:reconciliation@victoria.ca).

No password is required. You do not need to submit the Remittance Form when you contribute by e-Transfer.

### In Person:

You can make a contribution to the Reconciliation Contribution Fund by cash, debit, credit card or cheque at the Public Service Centre at Victoria City Hall, weekdays from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (except on Statutory Holidays).

You do not need to submit the Remittance Form when you contribute in person.

### By Mail:

You can contribute by mailing a cheque payable to: **City of Victoria**.

**REMINDER:** Include your completed Remittance Form along with your cheque and mail to: City of Victoria, 1 Centennial Square, Victoria, BC V8W 1P6.

### Reminder

Your voluntary additional contribution to the Reconciliation Contribution Fund **must be made as a separate payment** from your Property Tax payment. The two amounts **cannot** be combined into one payment.

At this time an official donation receipt for tax purposes will not be issued for your contribution to the Fund.

*The personal information collected by this remittance form will only be used for the purpose of processing your contribution. Section 26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act is the legislative authority for collection. If you require further information, please contact [publicsrv@victoria.ca](mailto:publicsrv@victoria.ca).*



## Reconciliation Contribution Fund Remittance Form (for mail-in payments by cheque only)

**NOTE:** You do not need to complete this form if you are contributing by e-Transfer or in person at City Hall.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Contribution Amount:

5% of property tax amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Other amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

10% of property tax amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail to:

City of Victoria  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Thank you for your contribution.



**For more information:**  
250.361.0228  
[propertytax@victoria.ca](mailto:propertytax@victoria.ca) | [victoria.ca/propertytax](http://victoria.ca/propertytax)

1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 1P6