

**From:** "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**Date:** 12/12/2023 7:52:24 PM  
**Subject:** Information bulletin: Vancouver City Council approves 2024 Capital and Operating Budget (December 12, 2023)

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Good evening Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below information bulletin regarding the passage of the 2024 Budget. The placeholders highlighted will be confirmed once they are finalized by Finance staff and before issuance.

Maria will reply to this email with the relevant Vancouver.ca link and social media links, once these are live.

Best,  
Paul

**City of Vancouver**  
**Information bulletin**  
**December 12, 2023**

### **Vancouver City Council approves 2024 Operating and Capital Budget**

Vancouver City Council has approved an Operating Budget for 2024 totaling \$X billion and a Capital Budget totaling \$X billion.

The Operating Budget reflects an overall property tax increase of 7.5%, made up of XX per cent for additional infrastructure renewal X% for Vancouver Police Department (VPD) services, and XX% for funding across all City services.

For the 2024 Capital Budget, the City is prioritizing the delivery of \$1.25 billion in previously approved multi-year capital project budgets along with proposed additions of \$368 million. The 2024 capital expenditure budget of \$782 million represents a 7% increase compared to 2023.

The updated final budget documents will be made available at [vancouver.ca/budget2024](https://vancouver.ca/budget2024). In the meantime, the [2024 Draft Budget](#) can be viewed online.

#### **Projected average annual increases**

The average property tax increases for 2024 are as follows:

- \$98 for a median residential strata unit (assessed at \$804,000)
- \$168 for a median overall residential unit (assessed at \$1,371,000)

- \$260 for a median single-family home (assessed at \$2,124,000)
- \$472 for a median business property (assessed at \$1,272,000)

The actual tax notice for each property owner will differ from the above average amounts and will depend on the assessed value of the property, as well as the change in assessed value of that property relative to the average assessed value change in that property class. A property's assessed value is determined by BC Assessment.

These estimates reflect the City portion of taxes only. The amount due on a property owner's tax notice will also include utility fees, Provincial school taxes, and taxes levied by other taxing authorities including TransLink, Metro Vancouver, BC Assessment, and the Municipal Finance Authority.

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**Note to editors:** Please see amended motions below. This is a draft copy provided for your understanding and the published minutes are the official record of the meeting.

- A. THAT Council approve the following increases to the Vancouver Police Board (VPB) Operating Budget, as outlined in the 2024 Draft Operating Budget section of Appendix 1 of this report:
- a) \$16.4 million additional funding driven by estimated increases due to anticipated collective agreement settlements, salary and related benefit adjustments as well as fixed costs such as, fleet expenses, utilities and other expenditures;
  - b) \$7.9 million additional funding for full year costs of the council approved requisitioning and hiring additional police officers and civilian professionals; and
  - c) \$5.8 million increase for third party costs related to non-emergency call taking services provided by E Comm 9-1-1;
  - d) \$2.0 million Council directed investments for inflationary adjustment to fund Community policing centres, Coroner's inquest, Jail HVAC/Lighting, DEMS and Jail nursing/medical contract, additional funding for the pilot of body worn camera net of the reduction of the Vancouver police board budget.

FURTHER THAT the above constitutes Council's approval of the Vancouver Police Board 2024 Draft Operating Budget of \$441,973,687 in expenditures and transfers and \$30,266,454 in revenues as outlined in the operating budget section of Appendix 1 of this report and as amended.



- c. Plebiscite and Utilities Debenture borrowing \$82.2 million
- d. Special purpose reserves totalling \$7.6 million:
  - i. Fleet Reserve \$6.8 million
  - ii. Civic Theatre Reserve \$0.8 million
- e. Developer contributions totalling \$76 million:
  - i. Development Cost Levies \$63.0 million
  - ii. Community Amenity Contributions (Cash) \$13.0 million
- f. Other/External \$29.0 million
- g. User fees and levies \$0.6 million

I. THAT Council, subject to approval of recommendations G to H, and J to Q, or as amended, approve the 2024 Capital Expenditure Budget in the amount of \$782.0 million outlined in the capital budget section of Appendix 1 of this report with details in Appendix B.

J. THAT Council approve adjustments to the operating budget identified by staff subsequent to the publication of the Draft 2024 Operating Budget, to:

- a. Decrease the 2024 operating budget for VFRS by \$1.0 million to reflect the estimated timing of hiring and on boarding of new staff given current levels of attrition; the balance of funding would be budgeted in 2025.
- b. Decrease the 2024 operating budget line item for the Business and Economy office by \$0.5 million to reflect updated information that the office will be operational in mid-2024, therefore, full funding of \$1.0 million can be phased in partially in 2024 and the remainder in 2025.
- c. Increase in revenue budget line items of \$1.0 million to reflect the 6% cost recoveries from various fees that were identified subsequent to the 2024 Draft Budget.



- K. THAT Council approve an additional ongoing increase of \$80,000 in the City Clerks Department for 1 new FTE to provide administrative support to the Mayor's office funded by previous amendments to the 2024 Operating Budget.

FURTHER THAT Council approve an additional ongoing increase of \$100,000 for discretionary office expenses in the Mayor's office funded by the previous amendments to the 2024 Operating Budget.

- L. THAT Council refer the following amendments to staff and request a report back in the form of a memo by the end of Q1 2024.

THAT Council approve an additional one time investment of \$150,000, funded from the City's General Stabilization reserve, toward community consultation and implementation of Council directed work on protecting and expanding cultural food assets and intangible cultural heritage, including but not limited to the Punjabi Market, Joyce-Collingwood, Little Saigon and the Davie Village.

THAT Council approve an additional one time investment of \$0.4M, funded from the City's General Stabilization reserve, toward expanded work on transit priority corridors, in order to leverage available Translink funding to improve bus speed and efficiency on some of our busiest bus routes.

- M. THAT Council approve an additional ongoing increase of \$180,000 for opening of 2 Vancouver Public Library branches on Mondays to be funded by the previous amendments to the 2024 Operating Budget.

- N. THAT Council approve an additional ongoing increase of \$68,750 for the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) operating budget to provide an inflationary adjustment to the funding for Community Policing Centres, to be funded by previous amendments to the 2024 Operating Budget.

- O. THAT Council approve an additional increase of \$ \$49,075 for the Theatre Rental Grant Program to help cope with increased inflationary offsets to be funded by the previous amendments to the 2024 Operating Budget.

- P. THAT Council approve an additional ongoing increase of \$2.1 million for the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) operating budget to provide funding to support the following items that were approved by the Vancouver Police Board as part of the provisional 2023 VPD Budget, to be funded by previous amendments to the 2024 Operating Budget:

- a. \$374,000 Coroner's Inquest Recommendations (ongoing)

- b. \$508,000 Jail HVAC/Lighting (One-time)
- c. \$187,200 Digital Evidence Management System (ongoing)
- d. \$745,300 Jail Nursing/Medical Contract (ongoing)
- e. \$307,000 Additional funding for the pilot for Body Worn Camera (ongoing)

FURTHER THAT Council confirm approval of annual funding in the amount of \$297,000 to support the administration of the Vancouver Police Board, as reflected in the Vancouver Police Department operating budget.

FURTHER THAT Council transfer operational responsibility of the Tactical Training Centre from the City of Vancouver to the Vancouver Police Department (VPD), with facilities support continuing to be provided by Real Estate, Environment and Facilities Management (REFM).

FURTHER THAT the VPD assume operations of the Tactical Training Centre without the transfer of any additional funding.

AND FURTHER THAT with this transfer of operations, City staff are directed to reallocate the \$450,000 budgeted to cover Tactical Training Centre operating expenses, based on 2023 or average activity levels, from the City Protective Services budget to fund Council directed investments.

- Q. THAT Council approve a reduction to the general government expenses operating budget line item of \$536,998, to reduce the property tax increase to 7.5%.

FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to review potential revenue opportunities or operational savings that could be realized through 2024 based on the Mayor's Budget Task Force recommendations or other actions, such that the savings could be used to restore the general government contingencies as a priority.

- R. THAT Council approve a \$30,000 reduction to program fee revenues in the Park Board 2024 operating budget to allow for the Board of Parks and Recreations to reconsider the 2024 fee increase on 'Baseball Diamonds Rentals for Minors – Prime Time' to defer the fee increase in order to enable an opportunity for sports user groups to make necessary adjustments to their registration fees and budgets, to be funded by previous amendments to the 2024 Operating Budget.

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.