

What are Budget Documents?

Budget documents tell the Township's financial story and set spending and revenue targets for municipal programs, services and initiatives. The budget is an important element in the accountability cycle and provides a standard against which subsequent performance can be judged.

What is the Total 2016 Loyalist Township Budget?

	Operating Budget	Capital Budget	Funded by:
General Rate*	\$12.6 million	\$3.7 million	Property Taxes
Water Utility	\$3.8 million	\$1 million	Utility Rates
Sewer Utility	\$3.3 million	\$1.3 million	Utility Rates
Amherst Island Ferry	\$2.8 million		User Fares and Provincial Funding
Transit Service Area	\$720,500	\$20,000	Special Area Property Tax Levy and Provincial Funding

*municipal services such as fire, roads, parks, recreation, solid waste and police

What is the 2016 Tax Increase?

The overall property tax rate is projected to increase by 0.7% (includes the Township, County of Lennox and Addington and Education portions of the Loyalist Township Property Tax rate). The 2016 Township portion of the tax rate is increasing by 2.3%.

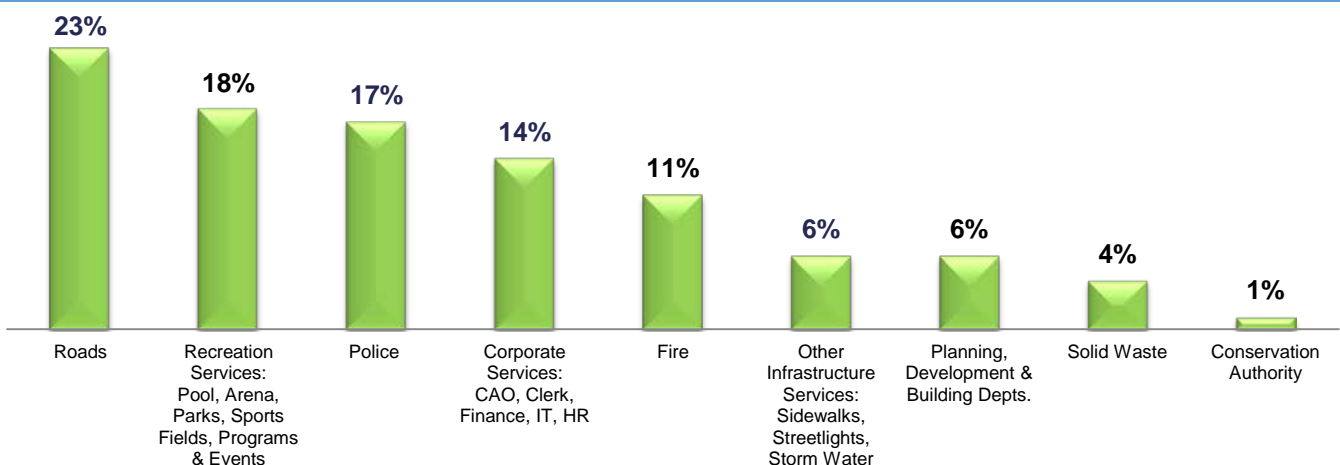
Average Residential 2016 Tax Bill



What Makes Up the 2016 Property Tax Rate?

The Loyalist Township Property Tax Rate is made up of three components: the Loyalist Township Rate which accounts for approximately 49% of the rate; the County of Lennox and Addington rate which accounts for approximately 36% of the rate; and the Education portion which makes up the remaining 15%.

The Loyalist Portion (49¢) of Your Tax Dollar Pays for These Municipal Services:



Vision

Loyalist Township is dedicated to promoting the quality of life and prosperity of the community for present and future generations.

Mission

The Township vision will be achieved through Council leadership and the provision of professional, cost effective, community-focused and sustainable services and economic growth.

Strategic Goals

Promote and
Manage Economic
Development

Manage Growth
with
Environmentally
Sound Policies

Strengthen the
Township's
Financial Position

Address the
Township's
Municipal
Infrastructure
Needs

Provide a Well
Managed and
Effective
Municipal
Government

Enhance
Communication
between the
Township and its
Stakeholders

Promote Healthy
Lifestyles,
Culture, Heritage
& Sports

Why Can't Taxes go Down?

Similar to your home budget, the cost of providing services increases annually (heat, hydro, insurance etc.). Staff continue to review current practices to try to find efficiencies and streamline processes and procedures where possible. The municipal budget is a balancing act to try to maintain property tax revenue levels while dealing with many economic pressures such as lower funding from senior levels of government, significant capital infrastructure requirements, increased levels of debt payments and increases in operational expenses such as electricity costs.

Key Message in the 2016 Budget

The 2016 budget for Loyalist Township is centered on financial sustainability over the long term. This entails balancing today's services and tomorrow's needs. The budget includes significant increases to fund the 2016 capital budget as well as to fund capital projects that have been completed in the past, but have not yet been funded. These unfunded amounts make up the Unfinanced Capital Outlay balance on the Township's audited financial statements. To be financially sustainable over the long term, staff are working on long term financial plans which build on information from capital budgets, asset management plans and other financial policies. The financial plan will map out how the Township will pay for capital infrastructure requirements over the long term by employing various funding methods.

What is Unfinanced Capital Outlay?

In previous years, Loyalist Township has completed capital projects which did not have funding available to them. The capital projects were approved in the capital budget by Council. However, the Township did not have sufficient finances to dedicate the money necessary to fund the capital projects. The accumulation of these projects makes up the Unfinanced Capital Outlay balance which is estimated to be between \$6 and \$7 million as at the end of 2015. A more definite number will be available once year end entries and statements are complete.

What are the Capital Infrastructure Requirements?

Capital projects are for major rehabilitation, replacement or expansion of existing assets and the acquisition or creation of new assets, such as roads, sewers, parks and arenas. Loyalist Township faces significant capital infrastructure requirements to replace aging infrastructure, meet regulatory compliance and maintain service levels for residents.

Reminders to Residents

Please go to www.loyalist.ca/go/budget for more information on the budget. Deadlines and applications for monthly and installment Tax Payment Plans and Pre-Authorized Utility Payment Plans are also available on our website or please call telephone number 613-386-7351.

If you are a person with a disability and need Loyalist Township information in another format, please contact 613-386-7351 ext. 100 between 8:30am – 4:30pm, Mon - Fri, or email info@loyalist.ca.