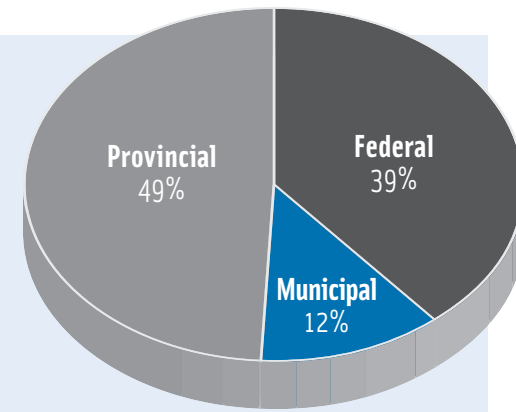


## Canadian Tax Distribution

### Less than 12 Cents of Every Dollar Goes to Cities

Less than 12 cents of every dollar that you pay goes to support municipal services. The largest recipient of your tax dollars is the provincial government, followed by the federal government. If you consider the scope of services that you receive from the City and the Region of Peel, it becomes increasingly clear that municipalities are required to fund an extensive list of programs with a very small portion of the overall tax dollar. These are the same services that touch you closest to home and affect your quality of life on a daily basis.



**Federal, Provincial and Municipal Share of Tax Revenues**  
(10-year average, 1995-2005, excluding transfers to other levels of government)

Source: Conference Board of Canada

## 2009 Budget Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the City doing to minimize tax increases?

Efficiency and service delivery reviews resulted in approximately \$12 million in budget reductions to lower the impact of City property taxes. Rescheduling of transit routes, street lighting efficiencies, utility cost savings from energy retrofits, conservation and open market purchase strategies, and the centralization and computerization of library materials selection and ordering process are examples of items used to save \$12 million in the 2009 Budget.

New revenues totalling \$5 million include those from transit fare increases and additional building permit and parking fees helped to minimize the tax rate increase.

### What are some of the cost pressures facing the City?

Although the City works hard to ensure that existing service levels are maintained, there is ongoing pressure to increase and improve some service levels and programs. Requests for improved winter maintenance and

transit service, expanded amenities in the City Centre and the opening of our expanded Fire Training Facility and Mechanical Centre are important initiatives that will improve service delivery and the quality of life in the city.

### How does the current economic downturn affect the City?

The current economic situation brings uncertainty regarding the City's ability to generate revenues from activities related to development and building. As well, lower interest rates reduce earnings from investments. Although the City has been experiencing rapidly rising construction prices, improved pricing is anticipated for tendered contracts such as road and bridge construction. Depending on the projected length of the downturn, Mississauga may need to incorporate these factors into future budgets.

### Now that Mississauga is receiving a share of the federal and provincial gas tax and grants, why aren't our taxes decreasing?

With the exception of the provincial gas tax, recent grants from the federal and provincial governments provide one-time relief for capital construction costs related to transit, roads and bridges,

storm water management and community conservation systems. The provincial gas tax funding for transit is focused on increasing ridership and improving service, not reducing current operating costs. Cost increases associated with labour, fuel and utilities cannot be funded by these grants.

### What more could be done by senior levels of government?

There are a number of changes that could be implemented:

- Federal and provincial bodies need to establish long-term sustainable funding for municipal infrastructure investments.
- Additional financial support is needed to fund operating costs associated with expanded transit service.
- All social and education services need to be removed from the property tax bill.

### I have budget questions. Who do I contact?

Please contact us by e-mail at [budget.manager@mississauga.ca](mailto:budget.manager@mississauga.ca)



132-09



Hazel McCallion, C.M.

# Mayor's Update



To Residents – Spring 2009

This update contains important information on the 2009 City budget detailing our commitment to maintaining City service levels and how it impacts your taxes.

City Council works diligently to ensure those living and working in Mississauga receive the best value for their tax dollars. To this end, we have successfully completed a city-wide Business Plan and Budget for 2009/2010. Building upon input received from residents and priorities established through comprehensive planning processes, our 2009/2010 City Business Plan and Budget places priority on:

1. Enhancing transit and easing traffic congestion
2. Ensuring our infrastructure remains in a state of good repair
3. Implementing strategic projects
4. Protecting and preserving our environment, and
5. Managing our tax rate and continuous improvement

Council approved a 1.25 per cent increase on the total property tax bill for 2009. The increase represents:

- 0.97 per cent for operating costs
- 0.28 per cent for our infrastructure to ensure it remains in good repair

For the average household assessed at \$386,000, this equates to \$47 on the total tax bill. It's important to note that the City portion of a homeowner's tax bill represents 28 per cent of the total property tax bill, with 47 per cent allocated for the Region of Peel and 25 per cent to the Province for education. Of every dollar a resident pays on their tax bill, the City of Mississauga receives 28 cents.

In 2009, the City will spend \$541.9 million to provide services to residents and \$195.8

million in capital construction and maintenance for a total City budget of \$737.7 million. This budget focuses on managing our tax rate responsibly and adding resources for top priorities like transit and the environment, as well as maintaining quality services and programs that residents have come to depend on.

Our 2009 operating and capital budgets support initiatives that include: improved snow clearing; serving our growing community with new roads, parkland and transit; major road and bridge improvements; constructing a new Fire Training and Mechanical Centre and a new Transit Campus facility; and renovating our community centres and upgrading our branch libraries. As well, we will be undertaking a number of planning studies on the environment, recreation and parks, and fire and emergency services to ensure we support the needs of our community in the future.

We continue to focus on transit and relieving traffic congestion as a top City priority. Our plan is to expand citizens' access to reliable and convenient transit service, improve transit services to employment areas to attract/retain businesses, and continue to improve the road network. The BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) roadway along the Highway 403/Eglinton corridor will assist greatly in moving people to and from home and work.

Most exciting this year is that we have completed some major strategic studies that will help us plan for the future. We finalized our Strategic Plan and Action Plan, the City's roadmap for the next 40 years. This plan resulted from the most comprehensive public consultation process ever held in our city, connecting with over 100,000 people. Throughout the public engagement process, members of our city's diverse community, including City leaders and urban experts, shared hopes, vision and ideas for

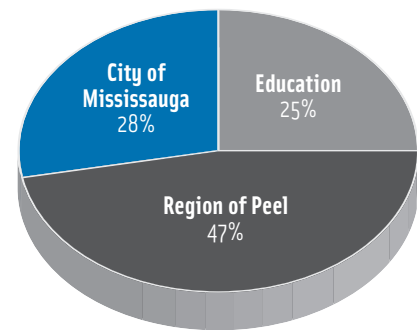
Mississauga. We also successfully presented an Arts and Culture Master Plan which will establish Mississauga as a global hub in creativity and innovation, providing for world class infrastructure, opportunities and experiences for its residents and visitors.

Yet despite our best planning, we are very aware of the increasing pressures that we face this year and beyond. Labour, utility, vehicle fuel and winter maintenance costs continue to cause budget challenges. Like other municipalities, Mississauga's infrastructure deficit is growing. It is estimated at \$1.5 billion over the next 20 years. That means we need an additional \$75 million more per year to be able to maintain our roads, structures and buildings into the future. Last year, we added \$2.5 million to address the deficit gap and in 2009, we added \$2.7 million. It's a small step, but one we think is very important to the future of this city.

Council will continue to impress upon both the federal and provincial governments the real and immediate need that cities have for infrastructure funding. Now more than ever, we need all levels of government to work together to stimulate the economy with infrastructure projects that create jobs and prosperity. With your support, Mississauga City Council will continue to review its business plans and budget responsibly with the input of residents, staff and the community. Together, we will strive to find efficiencies in program delivery, explore new revenue sources and support a quality of life of which we can be proud.

Hazel McCallion, C.M.  
Mayor

## Residential Tax Bill Breakdown



## Good Value for Your Property Taxes?

### Taxes in Perspective: Did you know that ...

Every time you:	You pay:
Buy a \$25,000 car	\$3,250 in taxes
Buy \$50 in gas	\$15.21 in taxes
Earn \$60,000	\$14,829 in taxes
Pay Annual CPP	\$2,119
Pay Annual EI	\$732

Pay your City property taxes **\$1,105** (average per year)

## 2009 Tax Rates

Property Class	City	Region	Education	Total
Residential	0.286190%	0.479403%	0.252000%	1.017593%
Farm	0.071547%	0.119851%	0.063000%	0.254398%

## Impact on Your 2009 Tax Bill

	\$200,000 Home*	\$300,000 Home*	\$400,000 Home*	\$500,000 Home*
Region	\$49.08 2.4%	\$73.61 2.4%	\$98.15 2.4%	\$122.69 2.4%
Education	\$0 0%	\$0 0%	\$0 0%	\$0 0%
City-Operating	\$18.74 0.97%	\$28.11 0.97%	\$37.47 0.97%	\$46.85 0.97%
City-Infrastructure	\$5.41 0.28%	\$8.11 0.28%	\$10.82 0.28%	\$13.52 0.28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$73.22</b> <b>3.7%</b>	<b>\$109.83</b> <b>3.7%</b>	<b>\$146.44</b> <b>3.7%</b>	<b>\$183.06</b> <b>3.7%</b>

Your 2009 residential tax bill consists of three separate components which are calculated individually. The City portion increased by 1.25 per cent (0.97 per cent relates to ongoing operations and 0.28 per cent relates to the Infrastructure Levy), the Region's portion increased by 2.4 per cent and there was no change in the education portion. \*2009 phased in Assessed Value

## Facts About Infrastructure Funding

In 2008, Mississauga began a CitiesNOW! campaign to raise awareness about the need for ongoing, sustainable municipal infrastructure funding among residents, businesses and cities across Canada.

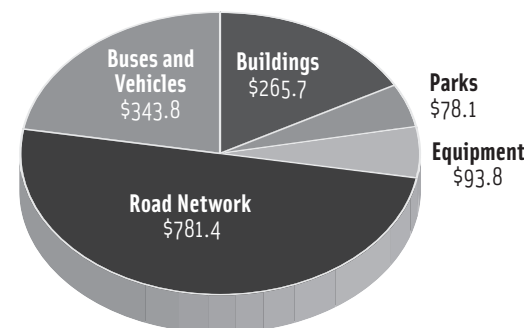
The infrastructure shift is further magnified in Mississauga as a result of the rapid growth we experienced in the last 25 years. Much of our infrastructure was built 15 to 25 years ago and must be replaced or repaired. These costs must be borne by the property tax bill and the municipal taxpayer.

The City needs an estimated \$1.5 billion during the next 20 years to address its infrastructure funding needs over and above what it intends to finance.

This funding shortfall translates into approximately \$2,100 for each resident of Mississauga, or \$75 million per year.

Municipal infrastructure requires permanent, sustainable funding that grows with the economy. The property tax system is the only method the City has to raise funds needed to repair and replace infrastructure.

The City has received significant infrastructure funding over the last year. Recently, we received capital contributions from the Province of Ontario towards roads (\$9.5 million), transit (\$10.2 million) and general infrastructure needs (\$24.9 million) through the Investing in Ontario Act. This funding will assist the City in clearing



## \$1.5 Billion Infrastructure Deficit Over 20 Years

its infrastructure backlog. The City has also applied for projects totalling almost \$190 million in Infrastructure Stimulus Funding, with 1/3 funding from provincial, federal and municipal levels of government.

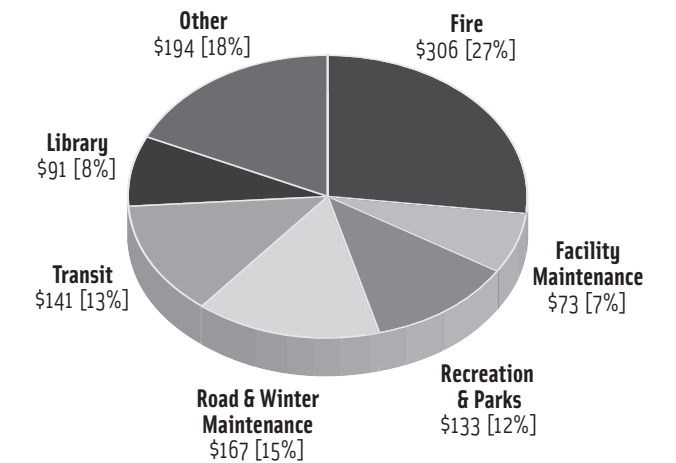
## Mississauga Budget

The 2009 City budget includes a gross operating budget of **\$542 million** and a gross capital budget of **\$196 million**.

Highlights of the 2009 budget are available at [www.mississauga.ca/finance](http://www.mississauga.ca/finance)

## What \$1,105 of City Taxes Buys You

Annual tax for an average single family dwelling, excluding condominiums, with an assessed value of \$386,000.

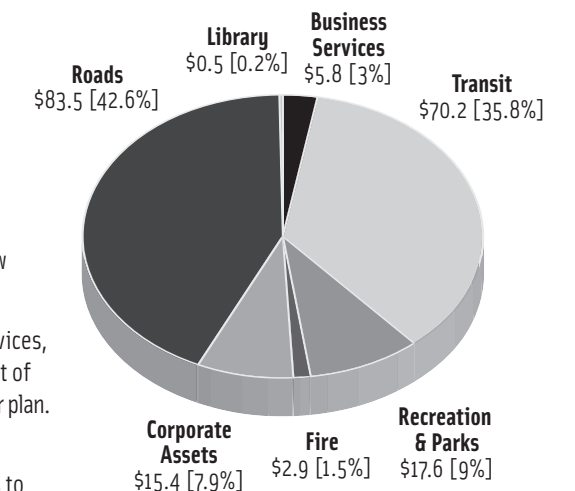


## The City's 2009-2010 Business Plan and Capital Budget includes:

- A \$300 million Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project jointly funded with the Province and Government of Canada, which represents the largest investment in public transit in Mississauga's history.
- \$6.6 million for the completion of a Light Rapid Transit (LRT) and land use study for Hurontario Street and the Dundas Street corridor.
- \$70.2 million invested in improving Mississauga's transit system and transit infrastructure, plus an additional \$6.3 million to implement the Transit Ridership Growth Strategy and invest in ongoing service improvements (15 new buses, 22 replacement buses and 87,000 more service hours).
- \$26.9 million on the continued investment in the repair and upgrade of existing

roads and bridges in 2009 and over \$252 million over the next 10 years.

- \$2 million to increase service levels for the removal and clearing of snow surrounding bus stops and shelters.
- \$2.5 million for Arts and Culture services, which incorporates the development of Mississauga's first sustainable master plan.
- A \$1.5 million program aimed at retaining and attracting businesses to Mississauga, including a new Economic Development Strategy.
- \$35.5 million for construction of the new Garry W. Morden Fire Training and Mechanical Centre facility.
- \$2 million investment in the City's downtown core with the development of a new park temporarily called Community Common.



## 2009 Capital Budget \$195.9 Million

### 2009 to 2018 Capital Forecast Highlights

- \$2 million to implement the Waterfront Parks Strategy in 2009 and \$28.1 million over the next 10 years.
- Adding new parkland with 26.1 acres being put into service in 2009.
- \$11 million over the next 10 years to expand the tree canopy and manage our forestry assets.
- \$61.1 million on renovations to five community centres, two fire stations and the upgrade of six library branches over the next 10 years.
- An additional \$2.7 million will be set aside in our capital reserve funds to help address our infrastructure gap and finance future repairs and upgrades.

## 2008 Total Municipal Taxes Paid on Home Assessed at \$386,000

