

Agenda Item # Page #

**APPENDIX A**  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUBMISSIONS



**16 MULTI-YEAR  
BUDGET FOR THE  
19 CITY OF LONDON  
2016 • 2019**

**INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE**

## INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Name of Advisory Committee – **Trees and Forests Advisory Committee**

The Mandate of Advisory Committee is to provide recommendations, advice and information to Council on Trees and Forests.

What areas of the 2016 – 2019 multi-year budget are most important to your committee?

Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the base budget?



## INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES (cont'd)

Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the strategic initiatives section of the 2016-2019 multi-year budget?

Do you have any other comments from the Committee with respect to the budget?

- a) Appropriate funding be approved to ensure the implementation of the Urban Forestry Strategy as approved by the previous Council; and if not staff be requested to quantify the impact of not fully funding the Urban Forestry Strategy as approved by the previous council.
- b) The Advisory Committees BE ENGAGED at the initiation of the preparation of the business cases in the budget process;
- c) We need communities to be reaching peak carbon emissions by 2020 to have any real chance of stopping runaway climate change and an unprecedented global crisis, affecting London residents as well as trees and forests across the planet. (See: IPCC 5th Assessment, RCP 2.6 scenario). Was that taken into consideration when creating this budget?
- d) Does Council believe that the proposed budget increases for strategic initiatives (average \$14/year) will be sufficient to meet this target?

# INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

## Name of Advisory Committee

London Diversity and Race Relations Advisory Committee

## Mandate of Advisory Committee

Diversity & Inclusion

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### What areas of the 2016 – 2019 multi-year budget are most important to your committee?

Social & Health Services investments

Human Resources

Neighbourhood Services

Strategic Investments

### Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the base budget?

LDRRAC funding being decreased by \$1300

User fees in part and recreation are going up.

Committee found it difficult to wade through the immensity of budget to find specific line items related to our mandate.

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## INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES (cont'd)

### Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the strategic initiatives section of the 2016-2019 multi-year budget?

We support:

Business Case #10 - Establish Public Engagement as an area of focus

- recommend that an equity lens is used as part of this initiative
- support the inclusion of child-minding, accessible location as laid out in the business plan

Business Case #11 - Service London

- support citizen-centred approach
- we advocate that accessible, culturally-sensitive and equity perspective is included

Business Case #13 - London Strengthening Neighbourhoods

- we support the value of strengthening communities and neighbourhoods
- recommend equity lens be used to help neighbourhoods be inclusive. Perhaps a strategy around building inclusive neighbourhoods (could be a kit like other initiatives)

Business Case #14 Ontario Works Service Plan

Business Case #15 Mental Health and Addictions Strategy

Business Case #16 - London Homeless Prevention and Housing and London Homeless Prevention System Implementation

Business Case #23 City of London Internship Program

**Do you have any other comments from the Committee with respect to the budget?**

LDRRAC supports specific resources being attached to the Community Diversity and Inclusion Plan

Committee would have liked to have a staff person assigned to present to us on the budget as it is a lot to ask an Advisory Committee to make sense of such an immense document. Our feedback is limited because of this.

**Subject:** Cycling Advisory Committee 2016-2019 budget input

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As a preface, given the near completion of the Bicycle Master Plan we realize that many of our recommendations will likely be covered in the final version of that document. In that event, these items should be considered as priority items.

The Cycling Advisory Committee would like make the following recommendations for 2016-2019 budget consideration

- CAC would like to endorse the 5 infrastructure items recommended by London Cycle Link at an earlier budget meeting

These are

- completion of the TVP north branch connection between Richmond and Adelaide streets
  - a protected cycle track running east/west through the downtown core
  - a protected cycle track running north/south through the downtown core
  - downtown bicycle parking facilities beyond current bike posts
  - a bicycle lane between the Fanshawe and UWO campuses
- the importance of cycling in the My Dundas flex street design
  - ongoing support of the Bicycle Festival as part of the education and promotion of the city's cycling infrastructure investment
  - a one-time financial support to promote the launch of the Bicycle Master Plan
  - creation of a summer student cycling ambassador program that would promote the city's cycling initiatives



## INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Name of Advisory Committee - **Animal Welfare Advisory Committee**

Mandate of Advisory Committee - Companion Animal and Wildlife Welfare

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What areas of the 2016 – 2019 multi-year budget are most important to your committee?

- **Strengthening Communities: Caring and compassionate Services by expanding Animal Welfare Initiative Strategy**-Investing dollars into Trap Spay and Neuter, along with funding for low income families to spay and neuter their pets be an important priority within the budget and to ensure that funds be available to that end year round.
- **Strengthening Communities: Caring and compassionate services-expanded welfare Initiative Strategy-Humane Wildlife Conflict Policy**-Invest in community outreach, awareness, and education regarding urban wildlife, as well as a Coyote Investigation and Response Team to provide on sight assessment, investigation, and strategies, enforcement in accordance with city bylaws to address urban coyote issues in order to increase public awareness, address public safety concerns, urban wildlife conflict resolution, and co flourishing with wildlife.
- **Building Sustainable City Strong Healthy Environment:** Incorporate into the budget funds to address lighting and window treatments in relationship to bird strikes and deaths as has been done in Toronto in collaboration with the Fatal Light Awareness Program.

Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the base budget?

- Community Funding has been helpful and needs to be maintained. . Assisting Community rescue groups continues to be essential as they play an important role in connecting low income families and concerned public to funds for spay and neuter, animals in need.
- The provision of a city veterinarian will be invaluable, as is animal adoption program.
- Consideration be given to the city purchase of a building for the provision of Animal Services so that investment into the city's own asset will over time then increase funds and flexibility in terms of the allocation of funds for animal services initiatives.

- We are currently working on recommendations to the city regarding the development of a model that would work for our city to address urban wildlife conflict and public safety and as stated in the previous question, would wish for funds to be allocated accordingly
- It is wonderful to see the strategic plan and budget allocation to environmental initiatives to protect woodlands, wetlands, rivers, water courses, and air quality which will also benefit wildlife and city residents, enjoyment of them.

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## INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Name of Advisory Committee **Agriculture**

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Mandate of Advisory Committee To look at growth and how it impacts our rural area in our city.

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What areas of the 2016 – 2019 multi-year budget are most important to your committee?

Looking at urban agriculture, growth in our city for businesses and how it impacts plans for growth.

Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the base budget?

No.



## INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES (cont'd)

Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the strategic initiatives section of the 2016-2019 multi-year budget?

No

Do you have any other comments from the Committee with respect to the budget?

My only personal comment is I believe to attract more industry we need to offer incentives that make it attractive for companies to invest here. This may mean not charging all improvements to site, making sure we have enough industrial developed lands that are serviced etc.



## INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

### Name of Advisory Committee

**Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC)**

### Mandate of Advisory Committee

The Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee reports to the Municipal Council, through the Planning and Environment Committee. The Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee provides technical advice to the City of London on matters which are relevant to the City of London's Official Plan, including London's natural heritage systems as it relates to Environmentally Significant Areas, woodlands, stream corridors, etc.

### What areas of the 2016 – 2019 multi-year budget are most important to your committee?

Building a Sustainable City with a strong and healthy environment are part of Council's Strategic Plan. EEPAC is most involved in the protection and enhancement of London's Natural Heritage System. Funding is found in the Parks and Urban Forestry sections of the operating and capital budgets.

### Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the base budget?

There are many positives that the City can be proud of. These include having: a Woodland Acquisition Fund; strong Official Plan Policies that survived challenges all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada; EEPAC as a technical advisory committee; two staff ecologists; and a supportive City Council. Yet, we should strive to do more to protect and enhance our Natural Heritage System.

## OPERATING BUDGET

### ESA Management Contract (purchased services, page 93).

The Coves has been added to the management contract with the UTRCA. Eight of 10 city owned ESA lands have some management. Not included in the contract are a section of the Stanton Stream corridor (see last page); the newly identified Pottersburg Valley ESA (which does have \$50K budgeted for capital in 2016); and the City owned portions of the Lower Dingman Corridor ESA (see second air photo on last page). It is not clear what additional service (30 h /yr shown on page 123) will be added and where the service will be added. EEPAC points out that in 2014, \$72K was cut from this budget which reduced the UTRCA management team complement by one.

EEPAC notes that there are no additional staff budgeted for by law enforcement which is one way encroachments in ESAs are handled. While a staff ecologist is the point of contact for issues, and most major issues have been worked on, responsibility for encroachment has "bounced" between By Law Enforcement and Development Services (where there was no staff for the role). Can you clarify where this responsibility lies today? If this is the responsibility of by law enforcement, and Council decides not to add staff, then this is really a net decrease in service level over four years, given the increase of lands in City ownership and management, and the number of people living adjacent to natural areas. While we are glad to see staff plan to mail "Living With Natural Areas" to all owners abutting an ESA, EEPAC has a recommendation, particularly if no additional management or enforcement is added to the budget:

### EEPAC Recommends:

**Extending the 2016-19 service adjustment proposed in the Animal Services base operating budget (p. 140) to include ESAs in the service proposed.**

There was a 2015 pilot under Parks Patrol and Proactive enforcement, where Animal Control Officers monitored bike accessible parks, off leash parks and city bike paths. Why not ESAs as well?

On a related note, the Chair of EEPAC, has been before PEC to discuss the lack of management or inventory or Conservation Master Plan for the Lower Dingman Corridor ESA. EEPAC notes that in the 2019 growth capital plan, there is \$450K for the Dingman Creek Trail. EEPAC remains concerned that if recreational amenities precede the management of the adjacent natural features and functions, there will be problems such as inappropriate trail locations, erosion and encroachment as experienced in other parts of the city where infrastructure and development precede management. **Prevention is less expensive.**

### Invasive Species Management

EEPAC recommends, at no additional cost to the base budget:

**A one-time diversion of the contribution to the Woodland Acquisition Fund (up to \$262K) to deal with invasive species management in ESAs. Alternatively, Council consider a 4 year diversion of half of the contribution. (see Detailed Budget pp. 547 and 555)**

The City is a provincial leader in this area in demonstrating "a proactive approach to the management and control of invasive species in protected natural areas." (Dillon Consulting, 2016)

At its January EEPAC meeting, Mr. Macpherson indicated that roughly \$70K has been spent and that "a million" might be necessary to deal with invasive species such as the new public enemy #1 - Phragmites (see photo following). The ESA management team, under City staff direction, is addressing this invasive and other invaders but the problem is large. There are no draws from this reserve fund forecasted through the 4 year budget period, hence the recommendation.



### **HYDROGEOLOGIST**

The City has recognized the significant benefit gained from having ecologists on staff. EEPAC notes, however, a distinct void in City of London support for evaluating both Environmental Impact Studies and Environmental Assessments which have potential impacts on ground water features, hydrologic functions, surface water features such as wetlands and watercourses, and the linkages between them. Protecting and improving vulnerable surface and ground water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features and their hydrologic functions are a requirement of Provincial Policy (Provincial Policy Statement - Sections 2.1.2, 2.2.1d, 2.2.1e, 2.2.2). Building a Sustainable City with a strong and healthy environment are part of Council's Strategic Plan.

Currently all reports relating to the protection of groundwater, aquifers, and sensitive surface features are directed through the UTRCA. This slows down the review process.

**EEPAC recommends that Council include in the four year budget either the creation of a City of London Hydrogeologist position shared by Engineering and Planning and/or Development Services, or budget sufficient funds in these areas for retaining or contracting the necessary expertise on a regular basis. This would enable the city to better and more quickly move through the regulatory processes related to development.**

## LIFECYCLE CAPITAL BUDGET

EEPAC is also concerned that despite the forecasted average addition of 30 hectares of city owned ESA lands each year, the lifecycle capital spending on ESAs is fixed at \$200K per year. This amount has been the same or less, (with one exception) since 2011 (see following table). This is essentially a reduction particularly when there is an invasive species problem and significant recommendations contained in completed Conservation Master Plans (CMPs) and for CMPs underway. This is less than \$1/person each year for the protection and enhancement of the 10 City owned ESAs. Double is spent on street tree planting which is really just standing still as this budget (p. 276) is to "Replace trees on City boulevards due to age, hazard etc. and as requests are received."

The \$200K per year means a very slow implementation of the recommendations of the completed CMPs such as for invasive species management in Westminster Ponds/Pond Mills ESA. The lion's share of the meagre \$200K in 2016 and 2017 is for the Coves (\$50K in each year) and Westminster Ponds (\$100K in each year). However, this means little for the recommendations that will come from the CMPs underway for the Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA and for Meadowlily Woods ESA (\$50K in each of 2018 and 2019 for both of these). Our assumption is that some money from authorized projects in previous budgets remains available, but are concerned that the amounts are not sufficient.

Yr	Woodland Parks/Management	Major Open Space	Neighbourhood Park Infrastructure	ESAs	Street tree planting
2009	170	235	450	270	260
2010	140	320	430	280	260
2011	0	135	380	190	260
2012	150	70	450	200	260
2013	200	150	410	200	260
2014	150	220	400	200	211
2015	150	270	220	350	411
2016	100	350	180	200	411
2017	100	230	450	200	411
2018	100	450	500	200	411
2019	100	450	500	200	411

**RECOMMENDATION: Council ask staff to review the life cycle capital budget for ESAs and to report back during the next year's budget review on the cost to achieve the objectives of the completed and in progress Conservation Master Plans, and the Natural Heritage Policies of the Official Plan within a 5 year or 10 year time frame. This could be achieved through zero based budgeting.**

EEPAC notes some growth capital dollars are budgeted for new ESAs (\$400K over the multi-year budget). EEPAC remains concerned that it is insufficient, for example, to ensure trails are located away from sensitive ecological features and functions or areas of erosion. **It is also unclear if there is any plan to carried out any additional Conservation Master Plans. Is there?**

## GROWTH CAPITAL BUDGET

In 2017, there is \$700K for "CPRI Link to Riverbend" (p. 313 Detailed Budget) and \$60K for CPRI ESA in 2018 (Detailed Budget p. 315). Map 4 of the draft London Plan shows ESA designation along the valley slope within the CPRI lands. The woodlot between the valley and CPRI buildings is shown as "Potential ESA". The Thames Valley Corridor Plan shows two patches of "existing ESA" in this area. The Corridor Plan also shows a multi-use path through there. In all cases, there appears to be a gap between the Potential ESA and the ESA in the valley. Is this the case? If the city wishes to pursue this route, presumably it will carry out an Environmental Assessment that will identify and avoid these parts of the Natural Heritage System and will recommend ways to protect these parts of the Natural Heritage System from encroachment. **While most people are respectful, when you increase the raw number of people, you also bring more of those people who are not respectful. EEPAC is unclear how the \$60,000 will be spent.**

In addition to this \$60,000, there is another \$340K in the Growth Capital Budget (p. 315) for new ESAs over the 4 year budget, with another \$500K from 2020 to 2025. Most of this is for new ESAs identified in area plans. In other words, to be determined. Of this remaining \$340K, there is \$125K for Kain's Woods ESA in the westerly portion of this ESA. EEPAC looks forward to being involved in the planning of how this money will be spent (and hopes that it will be added to the ESA management contract in a timely manner). Worrysome, EEPAC has seen preliminary subdivision planning for this area. It includes part of the paved TVP **within** part of this ESA. (There is \$780K budgeted for 2018 for the Norquay/Riverbend portion of the TVP on page 314). This appears to be incompatible with the objectives of the London Plan to protect and enhance the Natural Heritage System and past comments by members of Council during its last term while debating pavement in the Medway Valley Heritage Forest ESA.



## INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES (cont'd)

Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the strategic initiatives section of the 2016-2019 multi-year budget?

### Business Case #3 – Urban Forest Strategy

Tree planting on boulevards and parks. The strategic investment is to increase it by less than 8000 in total (2017 – 1150, 2018 – 2500, 2019 – 3850) over the 4 years above base case of 1600 per year. Much of the current budget is to replace lost ash trees. EEPAC notes that it is the developers who plant trees in new subdivisions. Both the Urban Forest Strategy and the developers' tree planting are admirable. **But street trees do not a forest make.** The budget notes it takes 30-40 years for a new tree to provide significant cover while a clear cut can remove hundreds of mature trees in a matter of days. The Urban Forest Strategy is more than just planting replacement trees and new trees. It is also about the retention of mature woodland. Loss of canopy continues. **However, there has been NO movement on a city wide tree cutting on private land by law.** How many more Teeple Terraces and 704/706 Boler Roads are we to see?

EEPAC also notes that the draft London Plan includes this following section (320). It does not appear that the present base budget would allow Council to achieve this part of the London Plan:

*Progress toward meeting these targets will be monitored as follows: A tree canopy cover analysis will be prepared every five years to determine if tree canopy targets are being achieved.*

*An analysis of the structure, function, and value of the Urban Forest will be prepared at least once every ten years.*

*An inventory update and analysis of trees in boulevards, rural streets, manicured portions of parks and municipal properties, will be completed at least once every ten years.*

### Business Case #4 - \$1.2 M for TVP

EEPAC has commented on this project through the Environmental Assessment process and just received the Environmental Impact Study to review. Given the presentation by staff and consultant at EEPAC, EEPAC notes it is likely funds will be needed to compensate for loss of Natural Heritage, closure of informal trails and a long term and meaningful Monitoring Program due to the conflict with Species at Risk that must be mitigated.

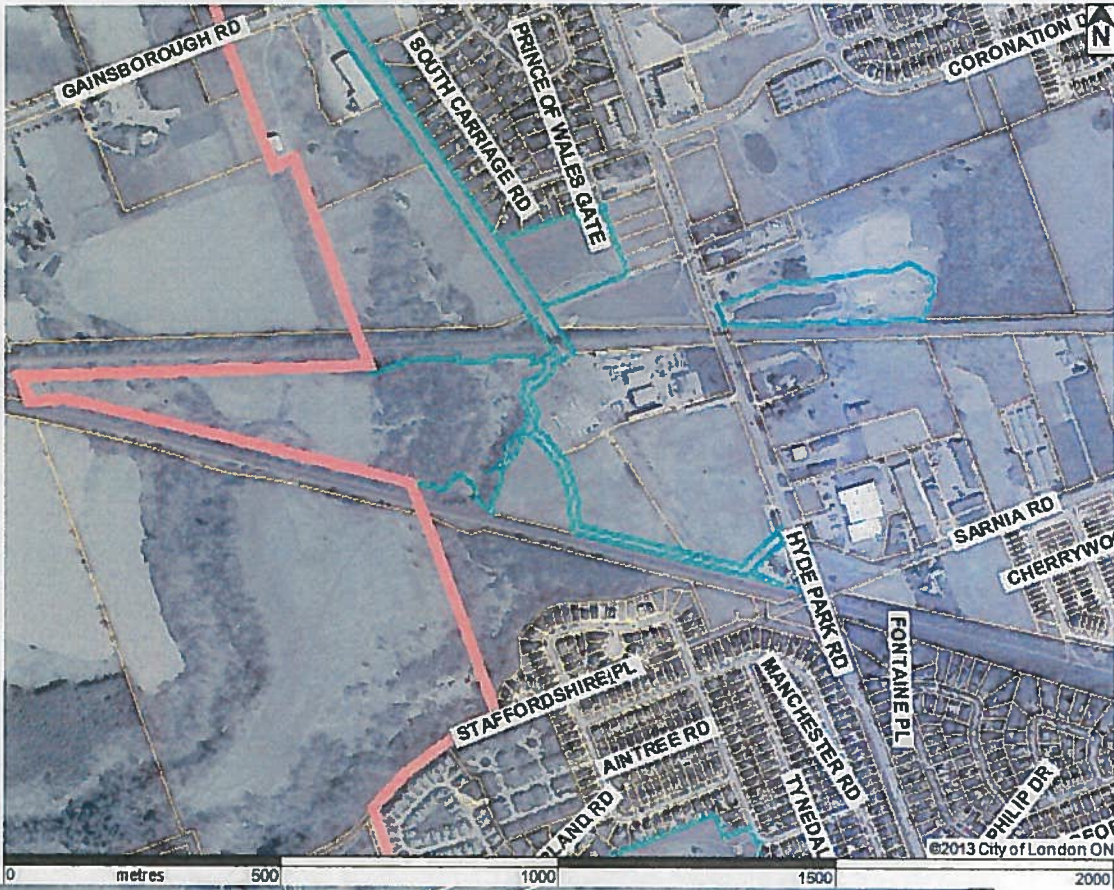
### Business Case - #17 – Winter Maintenance

EEPAC does not support winter maintenance on pathways in parts of the Natural Heritage System due to environmental impact of materials used (even if salt is not used) as well as the impact of increased activity when the ground is most sensitive. Big sloppy footsteps in mud break up and loosen soil making it more prone to washing away in melting snow and rain. If you go around mud, the trail gets wider, starting the cycle all over again.

**Do you have any other comments from the Committee with respect to the budget?**

Although outside our mandate, EEPAC would like to comment on the Goal of Building a Sustainable City. EEPAC would recommend that council include in its budget including in new building projects such as the new community centres in the SE and E and new library in the NW, that there be **green walls and green roofs and if not green roofs, solar panels.** Alternatively, there could be a dedicated budget all areas could draw from for initiatives such as butterfly gardens on under-utilized city property such as Reg Cooper Square.

STANTON STREAM CORRIDOR (1) / DINGMAN CREEK CORRIDOR (2)





## INPUT FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Name of Advisory Committee – **London Housing Advisory Committee**

The Mandate of Advisory Committee is to provide recommendations, advice and information to Council on social and affordable housing, to facilitate public input to City Council on programs and ideas and to assist in enhancing the quality of life of the community.

What areas of the 2016 – 2019 multi-year budget are most important to your committee?

We support the strategic investments towards:

- The London Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan & London Homeless Prevention System Implementation Plan to strengthen our community.
- The Regenerating Public Housing Plan to grow our economy.

Do you have any comments about how your priorities are addressed in the base budget?

The LHAC recommends that City Council consider an increase to the affordable housing reserve allocation of two million dollars yearly to match the cost of inflation.



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## APPENDIX B

### FEEDBACK CAPTURED VIA EMAIL

*Emails sent to [budget@london.ca](mailto:budget@london.ca) during the time period of February 18, 2016 – February 22, 2016. This only includes feedback and/or statements, as all questions answered by finance staff have been removed.*

I am a Ward 6 resident living in beautiful Orchard Park. I am a proud Londoner of 17 years now, and I've chosen the Forest City to live, work, and raise my family in.

I urge you to take a stand and push to keep the funding for the urban forest management strategy in the budget. Every year we don't plant more trees, means fewer years of growth for our green infrastructure.

Our region has lost MILLIONS of trees due to emerald ash borer as well as climate events and development. We cannot sit back and allow our natural forests and our urban tree canopy to disappear due to our inaction and our hesitancy to fund tree protection and planting. Trees are so important to the health and well being of our cities.

Please - our future and our childrens' futures depend on your action.

The mayors failure to live up to his election promises will hurt most property owners.

The CPI increased 1.3% last year.

My indexed company pension rose 1% for year 2016.

The Mayor wants a tax increase of approximately 3% in each of the next four years.

We cannot afford a 3% increase.

Eliminate those nice to have large projects, and quit giving grants to developers to cover the development charges.

Councillors plan to encourage upward growth and yet zoning changes are allowing sprawl in the southwest corner of our city. WHY?

Hi, you could save \$4 million dollars by leaving Blackfriars Bridge as it is. It works great as it is now. The neighbourhood is much nicer and quieter.

Please advocate as strongly as you can to keep any possible municipal tax increase no higher than 1.6 percent. We already cannot afford the \$6,000 plus taxes we pay now on fixed incomes! Thank you very much and best wishes