



GEORGINA

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF GEORGINA
Council Addendum Agenda**

Wednesday, November 6, 2024
9:00 AM

Pages

11. REPORTS

1. Adoption Of Reports Not Requiring Separate Discussion

*d. Release of the 2025 Proposed Budget

2

Report No. DCAO-2024-0016

Recommendation(s):

1. That Council receive Report No. DCAO-2024-0016 prepared by the Financial Strategy and Planning Division, Office of the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Department, dated November 6, 2024 respecting the Release of the 2025 Proposed Budget.

*(Advisement: Included on main agenda as Item 11.1.c.
Presentation to be provided by staff)*

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

REPORT NO. DCAO-2024-0016

FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL

November 6, 2024

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF THE 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

1. RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That Council receive Report No. DCAO-2024-0016 prepared by the Financial Strategy and Planning Division, Office of the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Department, dated November 6, 2024 respecting the Release of the 2025 Proposed Budget.**

2. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to release the Mayor's 2025 Proposed Budget (Budget). This information is being released to provide Council and the public with an opportunity to review the material prior to budget deliberation on December 3rd and December 4th (if required).

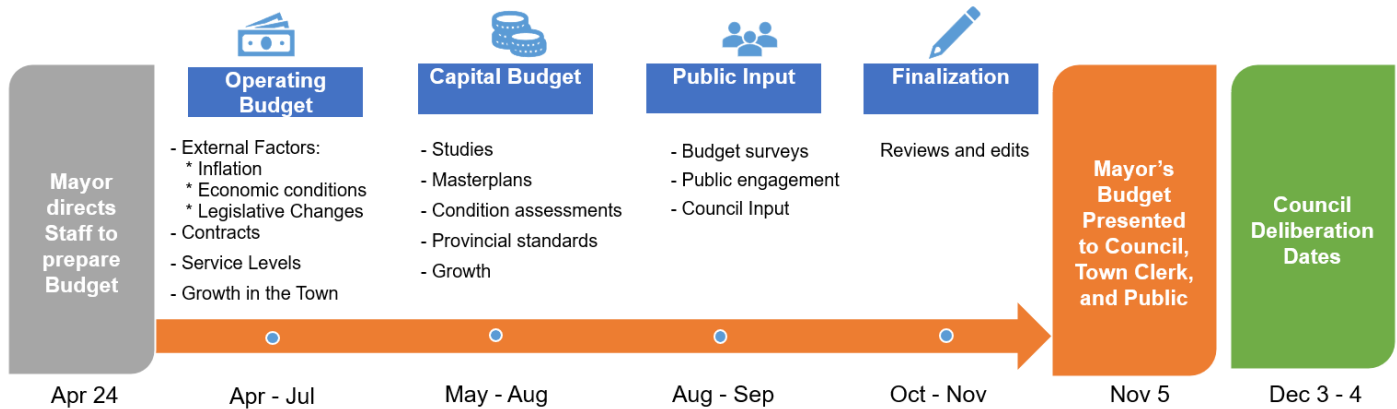
3. BACKGROUND:

On October 31, 2023, the strong mayor powers under Bill 3, Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022, were extended to the Town of Georgina. The bill extends the Mayor special powers and duties including, among others, the power to propose the municipality's annual budget, subject to Council amendments, a mayoral veto, and a Council override process as defined under O. Reg. 530/22. These specific powers cannot be delegated; however, mayoral direction may be provided to prepare a budget.

On April 24, 2024, Margaret Quirk, the Mayor of the Town of Georgina, provided the following Mayoral Direction to municipal employees:

1. To prepare a proposed 2025 Operating Budget, Capital Budget and Ten-Year Capital Plan and Estimated Reserve Fund Summary that aligns with the 2023-2027 Corporate Strategic Plan, asset management plans, and with consultation with the public and members of Council; and
2. That a report on the 2025 proposed budget be released by addendum on November 5, 2024 for the November 6, 2024 Council meeting; and
3. That the 2025 proposed budget be available on the Town's website and printed copies be made available at Georgina Public Library branches on November 5, 2024.

Since receiving the Direction on April 24, 2024, town employees were engaged in the 2025 budget process as summarized in the diagram below:



Town staff ensured that the budget was prepared in accordance with Mayoral Direction and that it is made available electronically on November 5th on the Town's website and in hard copies at all Georgina Public Library branches.

Town management have provided input over the past several months in developing the Budget as presented at this time. The process has also involved reviews by the Manager, Financial Strategy and Planning / Deputy Treasurer, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer / Treasurer, Chief Administrative Officer, and the Senior Leadership Team. A summary of public comments and requests is listed under section 7 and attachment 1.

To allow sufficient time to review and provide feedback on the Budget and to align with the budget approval process prescribed in O. Reg 530/22, the deliberation of the budget was scheduled on December 3, 2024 (9:00 a.m.) and December 4, 2024 (9:00 a.m.) if applicable.

Budget Approval Process under Bill 3, Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022

Bill 3, Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022, received Royal Assent on September 8, 2022, and was added to the Municipal Act as Part VI.1 - Special Powers and Duties of the Head of Council. On August 21, 2023, the Ontario government announced to extend the strong mayor powers to 21 municipalities, including the Town of Georgina, that have projected to have populations of 50,000 or larger by 2031, and that have committed to meeting the assigned provincial housing targets. On October 31, 2023, strong mayor powers were extended to the Town of Georgina.

The bill extends the mayors of the designated municipalities special powers and duties including, among others, the power to propose the municipality's annual budget, subject to Council amendments, a mayoral veto, and a Council override process as defined under O. Reg. 530/22. These powers cannot be delegated.

The budget approval process is described below:

- Mayor may present a proposed Town Budget no later than February 1 by providing it to Council and the Clerk.
 - If the Mayor does not present a budget to Council by February 1, Council must do so.
- Council has 30 days to pass any resolutions to amend the proposed budget, and if no amendments are presented, the Mayor’s proposed budget is deemed to be adopted.
 - Council may pass a resolution to shorten the 30-day period.
- Mayor may veto Council amendments within 10 days after the time period for Council to pass amendments, with a notice of a written veto document and the reasons for the veto provided to Council and the Clerk.
 - The Mayor may shorten the 10-day time period.
- If the Mayor does not exercise the veto power, the amended budget is deemed adopted.
- Council may override the Mayor’s veto (requires two-thirds majority) within 15 days after the time period for the Mayor to veto an amendment, in which case the amended budget is considered adopted.
 - Council may pass a resolution to shorten the 15-day period.
- If Council does not override the Mayor’s veto, the proposed budget is considered adopted.



4. ANALYSIS:

Overview

The total budget for operating and capital, which includes tax levy, water and wastewater rate, and stormwater rate supported budgets, is \$142.7 million. This includes an operating budget of \$106.4 million and a capital budget of \$36.3 million.

The Budget proposes a 2.99 per cent operating tax levy increase to ensure service levels can be maintained as the Town continues to have pressures as a result of inflation, municipal contract escalations and contractual salary pressures. The Budget includes a 2.00 per cent infrastructure levy to ensure the Town can continue to invest in the capital infrastructure that residents rely upon. This infrastructure is included in the ten-year capital plan.

The primary funding source for the operating budget is a \$58.9 million tax levy which includes the 2025 Budget proposed tax levy increase of 4.99 per cent.

These changes would translate to an average annual increase of approximately \$80.90 for the operating levy, \$54.10 for an infrastructure levy, for a total of \$135.00 (Town portion only) for a house with an assessed value of \$452,000 (average single-family detached dwelling, end phase-in assessment amount for 2024).

The water and wastewater rate supported operating budget currently includes total expenses of \$21.8 million, which includes contributions to reserves of \$1.1 million. The primary funding source for the operating budget is water and wastewater rates of \$19.8 million.

The stormwater operating budget includes total expenses of \$3.3 million, which includes contributions to reserve of about \$2.0 million. This operating budget is funded solely by stormwater rates. Through the 2025 Budget, \$1.2 million in expenditures were removed from the tax levy and transferred to stormwater. These expenditures are now fully funded by stormwater rates.

The Budget is proposing nine new permanent full-time positions, four seasonal part-time contract positions, and one request to modify an existing position from permanent part-time to permanent full-time. Only 1.5 of the proposed permanent positions have a tax levy impact while the rest are funded by rates (water/wastewater/stormwater/user fees) and assessment growth.

The Budget is proposing seven new initiatives totalling \$302 thousand of which \$82 thousand is funded by tax levies, \$50 thousand is funded by water/wastewater rates, and \$170 thousand is funded by discretionary reserves. A detailed breakdown of staffing and new initiatives is available in tab 1 of the budget book.

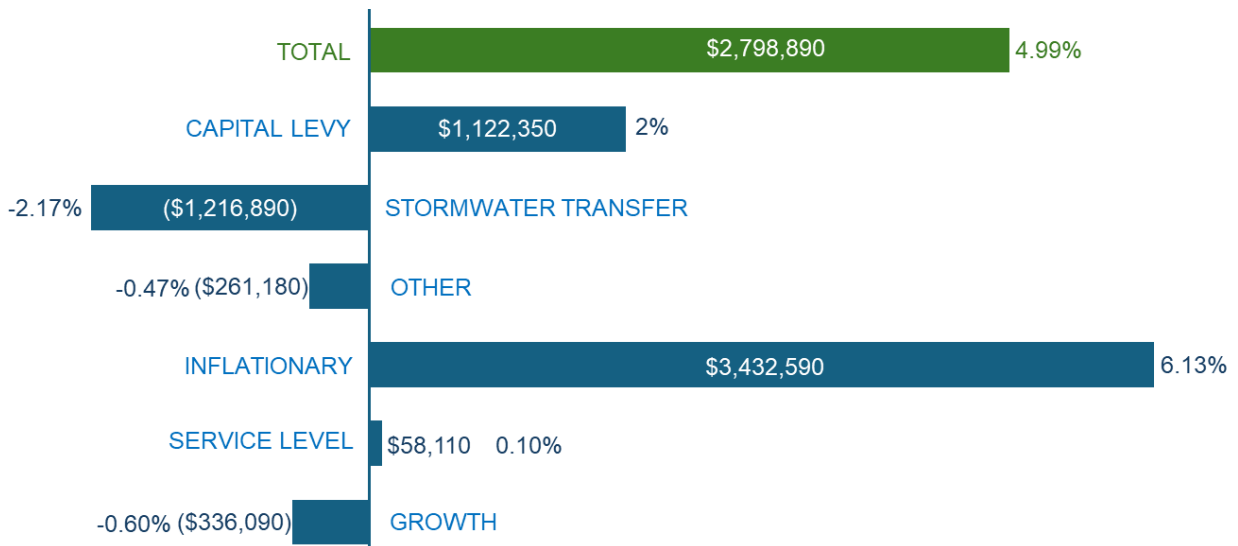
The Budget reflects impacts of growth-related pressures from new developments. These operational costs are funded by new assessment and are automatically added to the municipal tax roll. The Town also continues to set aside assessment growth for growth related operating expenditures relating to future capital facilities identified in the DC Background Study, such as the South Keswick Firehall. In fiscal year 2024, which provides the tax assessment base for 2025 taxation, the Town of Georgina's assessment growth recorded an increase of approximately 1.5 per cent, which is subject to any year-end adjustments from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). Any year-end adjustments will be identified and addressed in the 2025 Property Tax Rates report normally issued in Q2 of each year.

There are two growth related capital projects that will be commenced in 2025 by developers. These include the Queensway North Urbanization and Terry Fox Park. Staff will bring forward separate staff reports in 2024 and 2025 for budget and DC credit approvals. The Town also applied for a grant for portions of the Queensway North Urbanization project under the Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund on November 1, 2024. Staff will report back in 2025 on the status of the grant application.

Staff have gone through, line-by-line, of every operating budget within their departments. The starting budget for 2025 is equal to the final budget from 2024. The reason why it is more prudent to start with last year’s base budget, rather than last year’s actuals, is that historical performance does not necessarily provide a good guideline for future performance and needs. Starting the budget based on actuals can also create a spend it or lose it culture, which has no benefit to the Town. Therefore, rather than using a year-to-date for comparison, staff have completed trend analysis by looking at the prior five years of actuals as well as existing service levels and what is required in 2025, giving consideration to economic impacts and growth, to maintain those service levels.

Tax Levy Operating Budget

The operating impacts in 2025 from growth, service level increases, and inflationary pressures are listed below.



The 2025 Budget removed about 2.17 per cent from tax levies into a separate, dedicated stormwater operating budget which will be discussed later in this report.

As noted in the graph above, the most significant pressure in the Budget was related to inflationary/contractual drivers. Over the past four years (2021 to 2024) CPI Ontario has increased nearly 17%, while the Town’s operating tax levy increases for the same period have only been 10%. Although the rate at which inflation is increasing is expected to decrease in 2025 to 2%, there are still inflationary pressures from previous years impacting the Town as multi-year collective agreements and operational contracts begin to renew. Anticipated increases for collective agreement renewals, IT subscription licence renewals, benefit usage increases post pandemic, insurance premium increases, utility increases, and contracted services increases are driving the 6% inflationary pressures in 2025.

To minimize the impact of the inflationary and contractual pressures on tax levies while maintaining consistent service levels, staff utilized various strategies including but not limited to:

- Utilizing various new revenue sources to mitigate tax levy pressures, such as:
 - New REC pass
 - Automated Speed Enforcement program
 - Partnership with EG for fleet services
 - User fee updates to keep up with inflation and industry norms
- Fund growth related expenditures with revenues generated from new growth at the Town
- Realign operating expenditures line-by-line to ensure that the budget requested captures the minimum required balances to maintain service levels
- Fund project managers' expenditures through the funding sources used for the projects they are working on. By using this funding model, the Town will be able to recover development charges for internal project management services, when they relate to growth related capital projects.

The Town continues to apply for various competitive grant programs. Grants relating to operating expenditures can be used to temporarily offset pressures, however, the ongoing impact will need to be incorporated in a future year.

Water and Wastewater Rates

Council approved business case 24-CI-DCAO-03 which allowed Town staff to retain a consultant to conduct a Water and Wastewater Rates study in 2024.

The Town has initiated an update to the study prior to the five year mark due to increasing costs, a new asset management plan and a more robust non-growth related capital plan to maintain system operations. In addition, the Town's current Municipal Drinking Water Licence is set to expire in 2026 and is required to be renewed.

Hemson Consulting Ltd. (Hemson) was retained to undertake a long-term water financial plan and a water and wastewater rate study for the Town. The Study recommended increases to utility rates to fund operating costs, the non-growth capital program and also makes provisions to reserves for future asset repair and replacement.

On September 11, 2024, Council approved the Rate study as presented, subject to annual budget deliberations and bylaw approvals.

In alignment with the recently completed Water and Wastewater study, the 2025 Budget proposes the water and wastewater consumption (\$/m³) rates for the Town to be \$3.49 and \$3.54, respectively. This represents a proposed 12.5 per cent increase for the water variable rate and a proposed 4.5 per cent increase for the wastewater variable rate. The proposed water and wastewater fixed charge (\$/month) rates for the Town are \$5.77 and \$5.60, respectively. This represents a proposed 17.0 per cent increase for

the water fixed rate and a proposed 15.0 per cent increase for the wastewater fixed rate. These rates are summarized in the table below:

Water and Wastewater Rates

	Rate	Increase (%)*
Water		
Consumption Rate (\$/m3)	3.49	12.5%
Fixed Charge (\$/month)	5.77	17.0%
Wastewater		
Consumption Rate (\$/m3)	3.54	4.5%
Fixed Charge (\$/month)	5.60	15.0%
Water and Wastewater Rate Increase		9.1%

on a typical bill of 165 m³/annum *

The above rates encompass York Region’s water and wastewater rates. Note that about 56 per cent of the Town’s water and wastewater budget relates to payments made to York Region.

Stormwater Rates

Council approved business case 23-CI-DCAO-03 which allowed Town staff to retain a consultant to conduct a stormwater study focused on exploring options to assist in closing the funding gap for stormwater assets, which included the creation of a stormwater management rate, consistent with the practices taken by a number of municipalities.

A stormwater rate charge is a reliable and sustainable approach to ensuring the Town’s infrastructure is in a good state of repair, both presently and for the future. Stormwater management provides benefit to all who use roads, parks, own property, and enjoy the community. In order to close the funding gap, Town staff along with Civica analyzed available revenue approaches that are currently being used by various municipalities in York Region and across Canada.

On April 24, 2024 the stormwater study was released and Council approved the general revenue approach as the funding option for stormwater. The general revenue approach is a calculation of MPAC property assessment multiplied by the approved stormwater rate for each class.

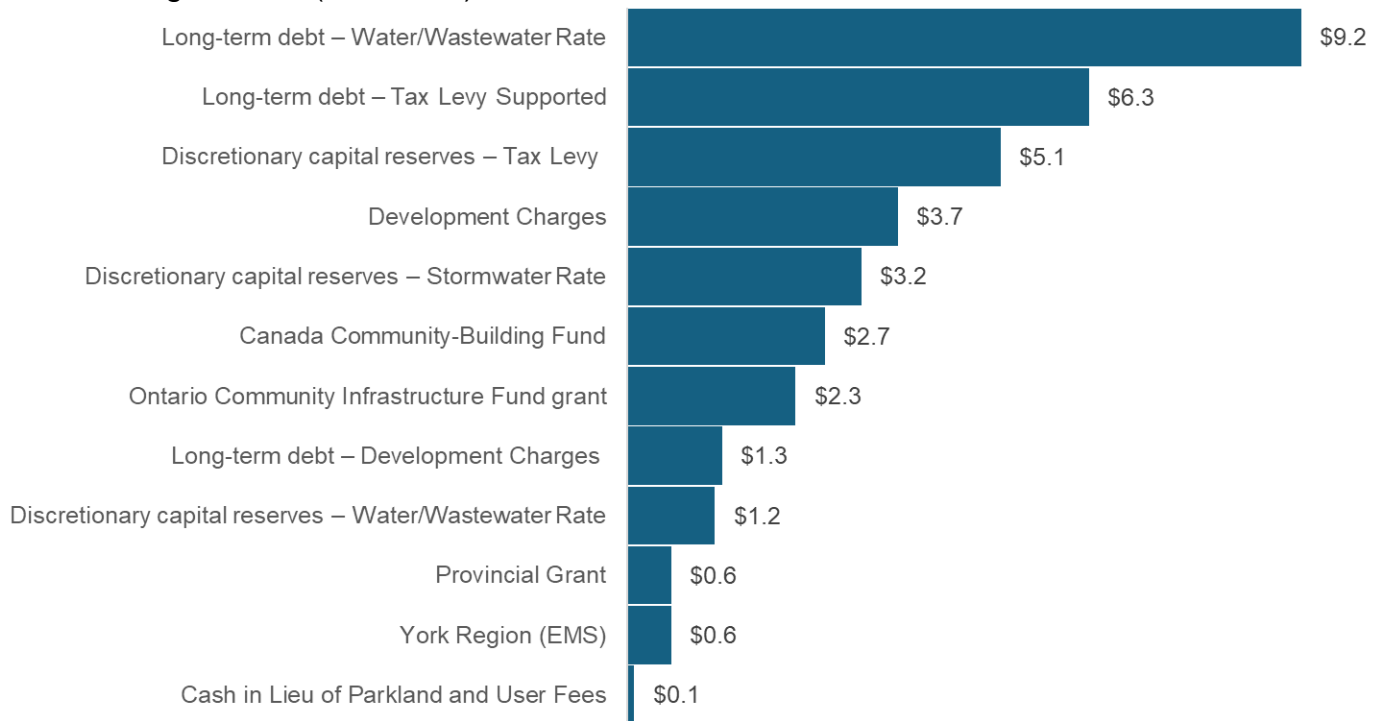
The effective start of the stormwater rate was the final tax bill for 2024. Therefore only 50 per cent of the rates were billed 2024. Starting 2025, a new dedicated Budget was created for stormwater which is fully funded by the newly created rates. To form the budget, about 2.17 per cent was removed from the tax levy supported budget which translates to about 1.2 million. As shared in the Stormwater Study, this amount was sufficient to fund only about 40 per cent of the stormwater management needs.

The 2025 Budget includes a stormwater rate increase of two per cent over the 2024 annualized rate which coincides with the recommendations of the Study. The full required amount to fund the program of \$3.3 million is being recovered through the designated stormwater rates.

Farmland (FT), Managed Forest (TT), Exempt (E) and Full payment in Lieu (CF, CG, CW, RF, RG, RP) property classes will remain excluded from the stormwater rate.

Capital Budget

The 2025 capital budget is \$36.3 million. This capital program is funded through the following sources (in millions):



The updated gross ten-year capital forecast is now set at approximately \$280 million. It should be noted that the ten-year capital forecast is a fluid document that will change each year to reflect updated priorities, economic conditions, health and safety issues, and efficiencies.

The town used to have a Capital Carry Forward Policy (CS-2018-0004) which stipulated the following:

All capital projects had an automatic approval for carry forward to a maximum of two years; Any projects older than two years needed Council's approval to carry the funds forward, unless they have already been committed as part of a contract or a Council approved multi-year project.

The Capital Carry Forward Policy became obsolete when Bill 3 Strong Mayors was extended to the Town in August 2023.

Staff made significant progress in reducing the amount of carry forward projects compared to prior years and the 2025 budget proposes to carry forward all projects that have not been completed.

Georgina Public Library

The Library Board has requested a grant from the Town for \$3.5 million, which represents an increase of \$190.8 thousand (5.7 per cent) in operating expenditures for 2025.

This increase is mainly due to staffing salary pressures that occurred during 2024 as part of collective agreement negotiations and non-union adjustments.

The Library Board submitted one capital request as part of the 2025 Budget to purchase Laptops for GPL Programming in the estimated amount of \$17.2 thousand. This acquisition will be funded by the Library Capital reserve.

User Fees

The Budget incorporates various revenue estimates associated with user fees. These fees have been approved in various bylaws and updated throughout the past few years and include such items as the Fire department fees, the development charges fees, recreational fees, and building department fees.

The operating budget has been automatically adjusted to reflect any user fee increases that have been approved previously. In addition, fees included in attachment 2 of this report have been included in the Budget. Staff will bring forward the user fee bylaw for Council approval in Q1 and Q2 of 2025.

5. RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

The Town of Georgina's 2023-2027 Corporate Strategic Plan was approved by Council on June 14, 2023. The plan outlines the priorities for the organization, ensuring a common direction and purpose for Council and staff. The new strategic plan contains five strategic areas that are key to the success of the Town's mission and specific goals. The five strategic areas are:

- Delivering services excellence
- Ensuring balanced growth
- Diversifying our local economy
- Creating a vibrant, healthy and safe community for all
- Advancing environmental sustainability

To support implementation of the strategic plan, Senior Leadership met collaboratively over several months to ensure that the Budget reflects the 2023-2027 Corporate Strategic Plan.

6. FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY IMPACT:

The Budget is currently proposing a 2.99 per cent increase for operating and a 2.0 per cent increase for an infrastructure levy. This would bring the total increase to 4.99 per cent for 2025. This translates into a Town increase of approximately \$135.00 per household for an average single-family detached dwelling with a CVA of \$452,000.

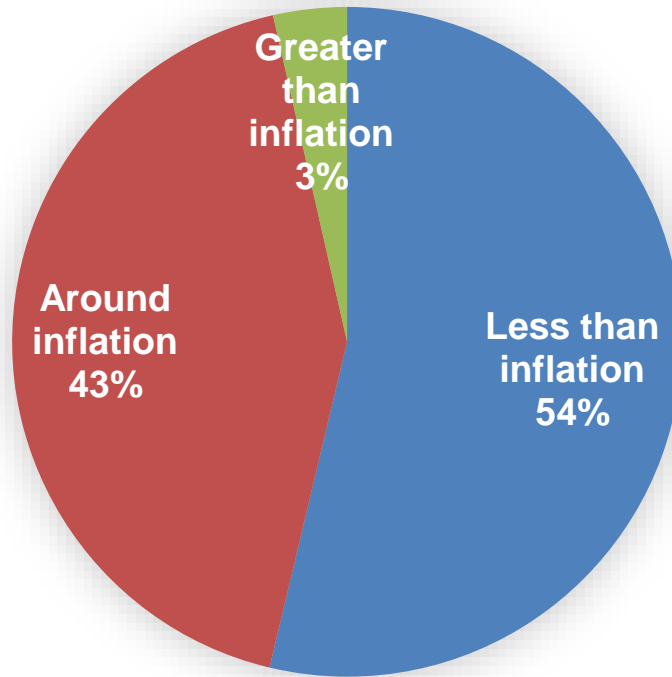
The Town's taxation is one of three types of property taxes paid by property owners. In addition to the local municipality, the taxes also consist of Regional and Education tax levies. The Regional and Education tax levies for 2025 are not currently known at this time. For more information on how assessment works, please visit [AboutMyProperty.ca](https://www.aboutmyproperty.ca).

7. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS:

Various opportunities were provided to promote public engagement and input into the budget process:

- Social media campaign and newspaper advertisements
- Budget surveys were made available online and hard copy version at the Civic Centre, MURC, LINK and all libraries; A total of 564 responses were received online and 132 in hard copy for a total of 696 responses (352 were received for the 2024 budget)
- An email address was made available for public input Budget@Georgina.ca
- Staff attended the Georgina Farmers Market, Pefferlaw movie night and MURC in the month of September to engage with residents
- Staff had a public open house on September 12th at the Council chambers

The chart below represents a summary of what respondents feel an acceptable property tax increase would be for 2025:

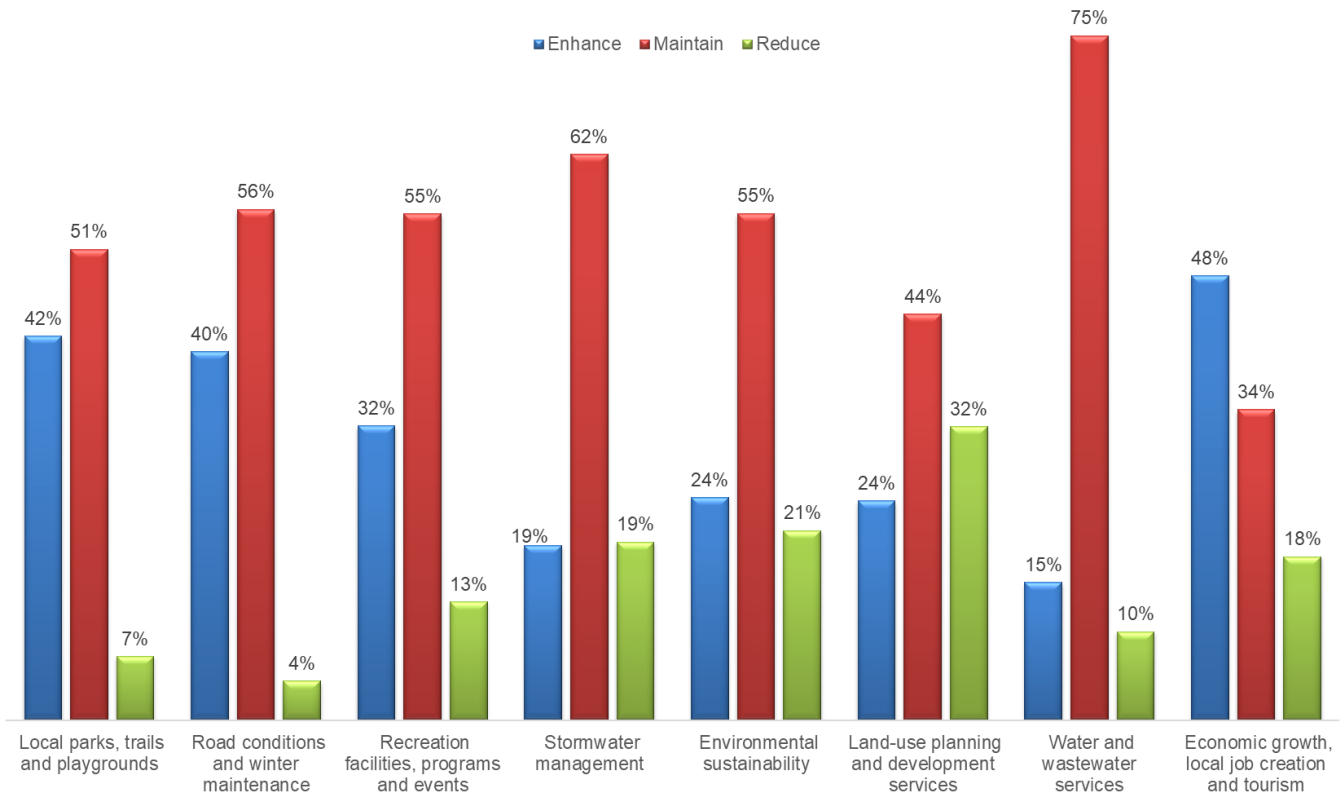


The below chart provides an overview of historical tax levy increases and Ontario CPI:

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Average
Georgina's operating tax levy increase	0.95%	0.00%	4.99%	3.50%	2.99%	2.49%
CPI – Ontario*	3.50%	6.80%	3.80%	2.50%	2.10%	3.74%
Georgina's Infrastructure tax levy increase to close funding gap	0.50%	1.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	1.50%

* Source(s): York Region, Fiscal Planning Unit's monthly Inflation Monitor report (August 2024)

Residents were also asked to help Council determine which services should be considered a priority in the 2025 budget by indicating if they feel the service levels should be enhanced, maintained or reduced. Below is a chart that summarizes the responses that were collected.



The results of the survey revealed that residents, for the most part, are content with the services provided by the Town. The top three areas that residents asked council to prioritize for the 2025 budget were:

1. Economic growth, local job creation and tourism
 - To enhance economic growth, local job creation and tourism, the Town continues to implement the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Tourism Wayfinding strategy. Staff focus on investment attraction efforts by enhancing external marketing and working with The Regional Municipality of York and their team to ensure we have a presence at trade shows/conferences that attract investors in Ontario and beyond. The completion of the 1st Building in the Keswick Business Park has been a catalyst for additional investment attraction. Town staff are continuing to enhance supports to investors and are currently working with 3 tenants within the this first building to obtain permits and complete their leasehold improvements. Staff are also working closely with two landowners in the south end of the Keswick Business Park to expedite their approvals they required to get shovels in the ground.

2. Local parks, trails and playgrounds
 - To address the need to enhance local parks, trails and playgrounds, the Budget includes a business case for \$1.2 million for the Parks Repair and Remediation Program which includes the following enhancements: cenotaph

upgrades, playground replacements, picnic tables replacement, pathway repairs, dock repairs, and more. The Budget also includes the funds to redesign Willow Beach.

3. Road conditions and winter maintenance

- To address the need to enhance road construction and maintenance, the budget includes an investment of \$7.4 million for roads projects in 2025. The Town also continues to invest in its Roads program with projections to increase those investments annually to maintain a high standard of roads (as presented in the ten-year capital plan)

Staff also met and consulted with each member of Council regarding their priorities for the 2025 Budget.

8. CONCLUSION:

The 2025 Proposed Budget emphasizes the Town's investment in public services while ensuring taxpayers receive good value for their money. The Budget outlines key objectives and reaffirms the organization's commitment to sound financial management and its commitment to working together to increase housing supply. This report recommends that Council receive the 2025 Proposed Budget. Budget deliberations are scheduled for December 3rd and December 4th. Staff will bring forward the necessary bylaws for approval in Q1 and Q2 of 2025; Being, Water/Wastewater Bylaw, Stormwater Rate Bylaw, User Fee Bylaws, Tax Rates Bylaw.

APPROVALS

Prepared By: Dina Havkin, CPA, CMA
Manager, Financial Strategy and Planning / Deputy
Treasurer

Recommended By: Rob Wheeler, CPA, CA
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/ Treasurer

Approved By: Ryan Cronsberry
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Public Comments for Council Review

Attachment 2: User Fee Changes Included in the Budget

Attachment 3: 2025 Town of Georgina Proposed Budget Book (Available at Georgina.ca/Budget and at Georgina public libraries)

2025 Budget – Public comments

(Organized by Major categories)

Comments were received through the Budget Survey, Public Information Sessions, and Email.

Beaches, waterfront parks and waterfront

- I'm in favor of allowing food vendors on the beach areas, as they add a great option for residents. However, I've noticed that Weinerlicious has been setting up within the resident-only parking lot at Willow Beach, which is taking up valuable parking spaces meant for residents. This situation isn't acceptable, as it limits access to the waterfront for those of us who live here and want to enjoy our community and the amenities our taxes support. If the intention is for food vendors to set up in this area, then the parking simply needs to be expanded to accommodate both the vendors and residents. Additionally, I would like to see healthier food options available at the beach. When I spoke with the bylaw officer on duty, they mentioned that the town paid the vendor to be there. As residents, we pay for access to the parking lot and expect parking to be available to us. Please provide a better explanation and ensure that your staff are trained to communicate more effectively with residents. As part of the 2025 budget process, could you review the parking and needs assessment for the beach? I suggest considering adding more resident-only beach spaces or eliminating visitor parking altogether to better serve the community.
- I would like to see the waterfront (lake drive+) plan start coming to life. The pace of change is too slow which in some respects leads to regression if not effectively maintained. Our waterfront recreational areas are one of our main assets and it is under managed and under leveraged.
- TOP PRIORITIES: Waterfront, waterfront, waterfront. Infrastructure, infrastructure, infrastructure!!! -J.P. Harbour revitalization/rehabilitation. -Mossingtons wharf repair/replacement Acquisition of former 78 acre/with beach Mossingtons Trailer Park to retain and enhance public access. -Black River mouth dredging.
- Without knowing more about the headings above it's difficult to properly assess whether they should be increased or decreased. In general the town has a much better opportunity to better leverage our parks, green spaces, and waterfront.
- more sit down restaurants and private beach for Keswick residents only!
- Try to buy up waterfront property and convert it to public use
- Budget for more drs, beach clean up plus monitoring the beaches on wknds for people who litter and break the rules
- We need enhancements to our waterfronts with regards to public access and recreation. Too much is privately owned and residents cannot enjoy the waterfront we have within Keswick.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- The town needs to buy up old cottages on the water, tear them down and have water access for residents. Also Keswick needs a real town center, something that is like Port Perry, start planning it now, please put it near water, perhaps the area around 5 corners? Keswick has so much lost potential.
- Fix the beaches. Something like Friday harbour
- Focus on moving forward with the Waterfront Master Plan. If you build it, they will come. We need to drive tourism and use the profits to improve the lives of residents.
- Beaches enhanced, parking for residents expanded at beaches, sidewalks extended for safety on lake drive.
- Creation of lake front walkways, possible food truck zones etc would be incredible.
- Add a local only beach..
- Would like to see funding towards keeping beaches on lake drive safe from erosion and pollution. Keep local streets the way they are, no parking or opening to Metro.

Business/economic development/tourism

- Meet with business owners in downtown Sutton so they can air their concerns regarding downtown redevelopment. In advance of rehabilitating Sutton's main street, send staff (not consultants) and Ward 4 councillor to Kincardine to find out what they had to do when they rebuilt their downtown area last year. Specifically, speak to business owners there and find out what support was given to them. What strategies did they have to survive?
- There is no need for more Municipal Law Enforcement Officers. What a waste of money. Make use of what you have. Get some more big box stores here. Get an LA Fitness, Lifetime fitness, or Goodlife fitness into this community. An active community is important. Need more convenience. Better access to healthcare/family doctors. Georgina needs to be open for business and get new businesses opened up. Out with the old, in with the new. The MURC should of had a gym and more swimming lessons for kids. Kids activities need to be prioritized. If it's not benefiting families it's not for Georgina. A new civic centre shouldn't be a priority. Bigger better parks. Dump some clean sand on the beaches and make a boardwalk.
- Improve "downtown" "main st" areas in Sutton to make them more attractive to business, tourists and local residents.
- Beautification is another big opportunity to do better - drive up the Queensway and give an honest assessment of how inviting this town is.
- We need to also attract commercial real estate with a new grocery store to also support the growing population.
- Sutton high street look should be improve to serve community and tourist. The budget should enhance the vibrancy of the main street.
- Economic growth, local job creation and tourism
- High Street needs to revitalized. Too many stores are closing. High Street should be place where people who come up for the beaches would want to spend time shopping.

People coming into town first thing they see is an empty gas station, then abandoned buildings along the street.

- The economy has negatively impacted consumers disposable income. Factor that in. But also look to bring in more tourism revenue by enhancing town events. Like Newmarket draws people from all over with their events, we are lacking in the same offerings. I'd prefer to stay local.
- continue programs that supports small businesses
- Develop a shopping/restaurant area that is quaint, a walking destination by the water
- We need economic development and enhanced infrastructure
- Stop approving buildings that do not have an immediate (1 - 2 year) benefit to the retail industry. Require the building of industrial retail to allow for local businesses to expand, which they currently can't do because there is no industrial retail available. Building a big white elephant on Woodbine does nothing to increase jobs or promote local businesses. It's currently sitting empty with no prospect for reducing the vacancy. It's a waste and local business have no where to go but to other communities if they need to grow. Has the Town completed a study to determine areas that budgetary items can be reduced or cut altogether or just adding on to areas that don't need adding onto?
- Do something about the main street and not erect anymore eye sore buildings like across from Zehrs
- Focus on infrastructure in other parts of Georgina NOT just Keswick. Grocery stores, shop, amenities. Focus on the smaller communities that also get tourists and have grown significantly in size and changed drastically in demographic.
- Make sure we look at what and where we are building offices etc. not sure why we built the buildings across from Zehrs and put the MURC at the end of town.
- Focus on improving the overall facade and image of Georgina being a rusty town. Improve the waterfront and get tourism and economy flowing here so as jobs can be created and money earned. Look at Innisfil and Bradford
- Would be nice if we had a downtown area for recreational activities, bars, etc.
- I have lived here greater than 30 years. It has been very disappointing to see how the Town has missed the opportunity to enhance the appeal of any tourist appeal, town core of shops, cafes, breweries and restaurants, beautiful main streets. Every small town around us has exploded with yet our town has failed to entice these businesses with grants. We could have been Collingwood or Uxbridge with our beautiful lake and proximity to the GTA.
- Georgina desperately needs good paying local jobs (factory etc.) and encourage responsible employers/companies to build here to create a better tax base to relieve residence taxes.
- Put \$ into drawing new business, restaurants and services such as hair dressers to Mt Albert
- Ensuring town funds are staying within the community to make sure you are investing in small businesses here to keep being able to operate here.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- give business some incentive to stay or come to Sutton,keswick. More garbage bins on Main Streets like dalton road.
- Increase shops. It's crazy that we still have to drive to Newmarket to purchase clothing etc
- Attract business stores like Winners.
- Have business come into town to support entertainment - bowling alley/pool hall.
- Increased investment in Cultural services would pay off. Cultural tourism is the most profitable type. We have very good cultural assets but not well promoted. Upping Georgina's brand through culture will a solid return. The GCAC -gallery, the Leacock and the Pioneer Village are excellent destinations but they need resources.
- We need shops like bulk store, butcher, need festivals like garlic festival, summerlicious
- Encourage more independent stores. Less big box!
- More independent stores rather than big box.
- More small business, more work opportunities
- I think we need to prioritize economic growth - local jobs through an increase in environmental sustainability.
- the money should be well used at areas which can improve local economy, increase jobs and attract more well educated people move to Georgina
- Focus on creating jobs for our adults and new comers to allow more part-time work for our students. I've never see such a disinterest to hire students from local companies. Teens NEED these opportunities to build skills for their future. Part-time work increases of responsibilities by giving them a sense of purpose in their community which supports their mental health. It also, frankly, keeps them out of trouble.

Council/staff salaries/staffing

- Reduce the monies spent on consultants by at least half
- No new hires in 2025
- Salaries, bonuses, must be reviewed and qualified. Unnecessary expenses such as trips that don't report back to voters on what was learned and how it will apply to Georgina New DEI measures that are not qulified.
- Keep salaries realistic...all other sections of our town will never realize the outrageous salary increases council receives!
- All council members take a 5% pay cut!
- Stop planning mega projects like the MURC for a long time, and high salary increases for non full time employees, like the elected PT council
- Stop spending-wages too high-too many employees
- No raises for town employees. Enough is enough
- Spend money wisely .No salary increases.
- No raises for the mayor or other officials.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- Cut the actual salary increases given to higher up town employees and put that into infrastructure and programming. The vast majority of actual people who live here did not get huge pay raises over the last few years and yet many town employees and council members did. Not acceptable!
- Try to cut management wages
- Maybe not a 33% increase to town employees, as well as not building a new town office that no one is going to work at or answer phones :)
- Put a hold on your increasing you wages. the tax payers and seniors are not getting anything. Scale down town Centre building.
- This town is going to crap. Reduce some of the wages of the town people who make more than 6 figures. There is a good place to start!
- And your 33% pay raise is completely disproportionate to the current realities of the cost of living in Georgina.
- Mayor and Council did not deserve a 33% raise
- No new hires, reduce consultant fees or fire staff
- Would like to see cuts to make up for the over-budget costs of the murc, perhaps mayor and council's salaries as it is their job to keep project costs within the allocated budget and they have failed miserably.

Environment

- While I understand growth is important, I would really like to see us take care of the environment (the reason we all live here!) & look forward to sustainability & environmentally friendly choices & practices - like with salting for example. Also I love the investment in recreational programs we appreciate it so much!
- I would like to see more thought towards bike friendly infrastructure as a way to promote environmentalism and family values.
- More trees to be planted in natural spaces. More naturalization. Manage for invasive species like DSV.
- The salary increases, the over spending and the lack of care for the environment in this municipality is grotesque. Why you pound salt and calcium brine to our roads like we do when we live near a large bed of fresh water, that just ends up in our lake, streams and marshes. It kills ecosystems, ruins our vehicles (that we can barely afford to drive) and its altering the salt content of our lake.
- Spend more on environment accessibility
- Please make our towns landscape more appealing. Plant hydrangeas everywhere . You will be amazed .. we will be remembered when you visit us!
- Can you please step up the game to make Georgina a more liveable, accessible, vibrant and environmentally sustainable community?

Health care, housing and homelessness

- More focus on developing safe spaces for homeless and at risk Individuals to be able to go to. 24/7 shelters that can provide beds, food, resources, finances, etc. Connecting those who need it most with the appropriate care/help.
- The food bank needs more support. Majority of what's left of this "community" are starving, sick and dying because they can't afford to live in this town due to lack of resources and support. The council keeps "putting money into the town" but not the community they've done nothing to support the people
- We need to have a Hospital rather than any other recreational facility as well as train service (Go expansion)
- Basic infrastructure in Georgina is lacking - no hospitals, no public transit, no Costco, poor rated schools. Not sure where the money is going right now, but these things must be fixed. Hard to raise and support a family in this neighborhood. Everything basic is at best 30 minutes away and with traffic at least an hour away. In case of an emergency, can you imagine someone will have to drive at least 30 minutes to get to a hospital?
- Help for homelessness
- Plus, we need a hospital/branch and more senior residence/nursing homes. The Town seriously needs to reprioritize actual needs and considerably reduce wants. Need to address homeless issues and warming/cooling centers. This would be a start...thank you.
- Instead of spending money on tourism, money should be spent on improving health facilities.
- Budget to provide increased services and housing for seniors.
- Mixed housing is pretty much non existent in Georgina. We need condos and smaller homes that people can buy to get into the market or downsize in retirement.
- There must be a change in what kind of development is permitted. There must be a focus on affordable housing/apartments
- There needs to be something done to reduce the impact on senior home owners to lessen the impact of these high but needed costs to stay in our homes .
- What are the health statistics for Georgina residents compared to other York Region municipalities? How do we compare for things like obesity, diabetes, heart disease? Where are the smoking cessation programs? Everyone has to drive to get anywhere, there are no trails linking communities. Are residents able to age in place? Is housing at all affordable?

Mayor and Council

- The progressive changes that this council has brought in are welcome and what is needed to make the Town of Georgina a desirable and sustainable community. Great work, the MURC and Discovery library are amazing.
- Mayor and council needs to quit listening & following all of the recommendations to the technocrats within the town's staff! These budgets are totalitarian and technocratic while

ever increasing the costs to the public. There will be a tax revolt if this continues across the country. Mayor and Council should always question town staff's motives and intentions. Our town should not be a corporation for profiteering from the townspeople. The town should not be the largest employer in the town! This is an expression of bloated improperly managed budgets, narrative control & influence peddling which the Mayor and Council are guilty of. These budgets are the direct expression of criminal governments exploitation of the people within this town. Constantly increasing the taxes is illegal and the Mayor and Council should be addressing this at every turn & opportunity! Storm-water taxes and new water taxes are a criminal enterprise across the world to control & privatise the very water across the world and our "politicians" should be made very aware of this. Public Private Partnerships are yet another part of that criminal enterprise! Our local government has become it's own criminal cartel and should be questioned at every turn instead of increasing any taxes to the people!

Property taxes

- What have been the amounts of budget surpluses every year since 2016?
- No tax increases
- Developers should be paying to upgrade infrastructure, rather than levy.
- The cost of living has increased exponentially over the last (3) years. Rent and groceries are up nearly 40 percent. While I appreciate that raising property taxes is necessary, please remember that even a slight increase can negatively impact a family's budget. Has the Town looked at cost-saving opportunities? Families are all looking at ways to save money, and I hope the Town is as well.
- Canada's inflation rate should level off at 2.25%. Therefore Georgina's property tax increase for 2025 should be in the neighbourhood of 4%. Georgina should prioritize development; industrial, commercial, and residential. Georgina should work with the Provincial Government to speed up the 404 extension process. The highway needs to be in place prior to all Logistics/Commercial/Research and Development Centres opening within the next few years.
- Communication around service levels and taxes. It seems residents don't understand that they are related, and they expect things for free (ie. less taxes more services).
- We need to find efficiencies and cut out frills. Keeping the tax leave below the rate of inflation.
- It needs to be kept in mind that with the rising cost of gas, food, rent, etc families are already struggling an increase in taxes could mean the choice between rent and food, food and heat, etc. Town council/mayor should not need to be increasing their salaries. Sometimes cuts or maintaining costs need to start at the top. Keeping rates as they are now is most likely in the best interest of the citizens.
- No. Realize taxes will go up. We will pay. But have to cut back on something else in order to pay.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- I would like to see the town taxes not increase for once ,we in Georgina pay such high taxes at least try to show ways of trying to keep cost to a minimum. every year increase. It's getting to expensive to live in Georgina
- Stop using tax increases to operate the town !!! Find OTHER ways to generate income! Charge NON-residents more for rec and leisure (including ROC passes). Enforce by laws and actually get the money from fines. Make sure all pet owners BUY and register their pets!!! Tax large businesses and not residents!!!
- Due to the consistant tax hikes in Georgina I am sadly considering moving. It sadens me that I do not know how much longer I can afford these constant tax hikes. Some of these taxes are extreme considering the current economic times we are living. Some weeks its hard to feed my children and pay my bills. A a self employed , single mom this has been the toughest year in my life with no end in site just tax hikes. it makes me very sad I have had to consider leaving what I have called home since 2005. I am very disappointed for the first time in the town with additional taxes, tax hikes and more during hard times on many.
- Tax increases to support new infrastructure is unfair, inflation is hitting residents hard and we need support relating to the cost of housing and food costs.
- I'm concerned with the mandatory 2% infrastructure levy and what that is being put towards.
- It is inappropriate to suggest families should supplement the inflationary increases to overhead prior to the town taking cost saving measures.
- I just pray this council has finished the tax payers .
- Consider a cap on taxes for seniors living in their home 20+ years on CPP/OAS. It's unfair that the influx of new taxpayers pay the same rate as long-time residents who've invested a lifetime building Georgina's community. They are driving the increased need for services that raise our taxes, gentrifying our community and driving us out of town or into LTC homes.
- Yes lower property tax and scrap the storm water tax
- Stop raising them. The ROC is a waste of money - it's just a pile of dirt. And the new town offices are exorbitant and way too luxurious which we the tax payers have to pay for. People can't even afford groceries anymore, with rents and mortgages at an all time high. GIVE US A BREAK!
- Reduce taxes! Stop wasting money on consulting fees. Put the taxpayer first, not town staff. This town is grossly wasteful in its spending habits. Listen to the people instead of pushing councils own agenda. Act responsible for others tax dollars. Paying over \$7k in property taxes for a 4bed home is not okay!
- Stop wasting tax payers dollars on so many unnecessary services. Stop trying to be inclusive, it is wasting tax payers dollars. People will come if they want to. If they don't want to come they won't. But there will still be more then enough that'll come and stop trying to appease they 2% groups that should not be our target or our tax payers date. And stop lying to tax payers. Be actual leaders and not fence sitters by talking out of both sides of your mouth.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- fat pay raises. and stop increasing property tax & water/ sewer/ storm charges to the point where people cant afford to live here anymore. Listen to town input instead of ignoring them.
- Please stop raising taxes. Learn to make do with what you have like the rest of us are trying to do. There is an obvious disconnect between the public and politicians and it's usually caused by how little we get for the money we put into the system. Please learn to budget properly and do more with what you get.
- You keep taking and give nothing in return. These are trick questions. You ask if things should be enhanced, maintained or reduced. If you're not doing anything how can I say maintain or reduce? I can't. So am I supposed to answer enhance so that you have an excuse to take more money from me? We cannot afford any more of your taxes.
- Concerned over increase in taxes as most families are already struggling with the high cost of living.
- Our taxes seem to be the highest in miles; it would be nice not to have another over inflation rise when I didn't get an inflation related pay rise and am slipping further behind
- Our property tax is astronomically high, not in line with comparables. As a result, I'm not in favour of an increase.
- Taxes are way to high. We pay over \$8000 per year
- So many costs have skyrocketed since Covid 19, please keep expenditures to a minimum cost to residents, to help ease the pain of all other costs.
- live within your means and stop with the usury tax increases. Tax payers are not endless wells of cash!!!!.
- Decrease spending or at least spend so property taxes do not need to be increased. Help lower the burden on working families.
- Yes reduce taxes, we are taxed to death.
- My property taxes are incredibly high yet I am well, septic and live on a hill therefore am not impacted by storm water etc. my taxes are not in line with those that use water, sewer and live in a subdivision
- I already pay \$10,000 a year in taxes because I can almost see a beach that I can't even use...any more increases Georgina won't be affordable to me
- The taxpayers cannot afford to pay for everything for everybody.
- Learn how to run a budget without raising taxes up higher than everywhere else that has better services
- The Mayor and councillors really need to out the utmost effort into finding efficiencies and cutting unnecessary costs to avoid unnecessary hikes in our taxes. More input from residents needs to be taken into account.
- We pay as much or more as the southern 6 more urban York lower tier municipalities but it feels like we have fewer Rec options and our public realm is not as nice. I think the budget needs tweaking so we see more of it in our community. Stop spending on consultants, strategies and plans, and spend more on things we can actually see being improved.

- Raising taxes unnecessarily could force people to sell their homes and move, landlords will have to increase rent which could cause tenants to have to leave their rental and hope to find something in their price range or become homeless. Council needs to keep in mind that a lot of residents commute into Toronto to work or just out of the area for work. With the rising cost of gas, groceries and wages not meeting the increases Council needs to first consider cuts within and not services before considering raising taxes and or cutting services.
- No more surprise levies such as the one for storm water
- What is the Town's plan to reduce the taxes in this Town.
- Lower taxes. We pay higher taxes than every other community in York Region for very little in return. More fiscal responsibility please!!!
- People are suffering economically during this post-Covid time. The town should be respectful of this and spend carefully, frugally. The MERC and a new Civic Centre, were they really necessary at this time? We do have one of the highest tax rates in Ontario, even amongst communities similar to our's.
- The property Tax has risen every single year that we have been living in Georgina , 22 years and counting now . It is always based on a percentage point which excellorates the increase year after year . Now it is projected that our waste water management levy will go up bu a staggering 43% over the next three years . This is after it was already raised for the current year . Being on a fixed income , this is crushing to all of us in that income crunch! Something has to give !2025 will see our total bill from the Town of onset \$5500 in Property taxes and almost \$ 1500 in water and sewage changes ! This cannot keep going up !
- If you expect me to pay more taxes than some bigger urban areas start increasing services. Clean road allowances of weeds and clean ditches so properties don't flood when it rains or in the spring.
- Property taxes & water bills are far too high. Taxes & water rates MUST come down!!!!!!
- Your decisions on tax increases has impacted my household. The rates have increased by 12% in two years on my property with poor explanations. These type of increases should be phased over 4 years. Why do other homes with water front pay 1100 less per year . There should be a equality to these property assessments. My neighbour's has a bigger home and more frontage but pays less.
- My property tax increase has done nothing for me or my family. This town is an embarrassment.
- Very disappointed in the way our tax dollars are being spent, and most of the time without resident input.
- I am torn about increasing property taxes. I understand the need for resources to cover the cost of services and programs, but Georgina is already so heavily taxed through property taxes, that further increases will have a substantial impact on my households finances. We already pay over \$500 a month at this time.
- People need a break on expenses in this current economy. Taxes should NOT increase.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- Keep increasing the budget without thought given to residents on fixed income do better we are all trying to survive
- We need to make the right investments today for sustainability of tomorrow. We cannot have below inflation property taxes and expect growth.
- Increasing our taxes after introducing the increase for the "Storm Water" is ridiculous. We already pay some of the highest taxes in our area.
- this is not the time too increase property taxes or any other taxes. Stop the increases until our economy gets on its feet.
- Please consider the financial state of residents before approving large expenditures. Life is difficult for many, and we all would like to stay in Georgina, but it's becoming less affordable.
- Please stop taxing us to death!
- We live in Pefferlaw and now pay \$7000 in property taxes for minimum services. Yes we have garbage and recycling and snow plowing in the winter. But that is it. We've already incurred a 6% increase in 2024 plus a surprise stormwater tax. Which is ridiculous and unfair for us in Pefferlaw where we have no culverts. So what are we paying for?? It's beyond ridiculous. The level of money wasted by this town is shameful.
- Lower taxes instead of increasing them. We are already taxed way too much.
- With the current residential base we should be able to have a flat increase for a couple of years. The town just wants to spend spend spend people can't afford their houses now let alone other little perks that the odd person would use
- Don't increase taxes of retired residences. We are on fixed incomes and costs are driving us out of our homes that we had budgeted with the incomes at retirement
- Find savings. All forms of taxes are making life difficult
- Department heads should be instructed to bring in a budget that is 5% less than 2024.
- People are stressed already they can't afford to pay more taxes we already have extremely high taxes. Stop spending just for now maintain what we have.
- I would like to see the tax dollars used much more efficiently.
- Taxes are out of control. Always increasing and we have no doctors or hospital services available in town. People will keep moving away from high taxes
- Tax increase should be below inflation
- I love this community and see improvements everywhere. I would like to see taxes reduced, additional playgrounds and affordable recreation programs.
- Taxes are too high now. I am a senior on a pension and I can't keep up.
- Maybe think of taxpayers. With the cost of living the last thing we need is higher taxes. Seniors not being able to afford to stay in their homes and no senior apartment buildings being built. Fine to have new Civic Centre and Murc but think about where these dollars come from. I think the budget needs to get back to basics.
- Stop hiking the taxes, we're all on a budget and already stretched to our limit, reduce the staffing levels instead, the amount of workers you see around town doing nothing is

ridiculous, how many staff there is the town should be impeccable but it's far from it the garbage cans are overflowing and the weeds in the high street, it's a disgrace

- Lower property tax
- Folks can't afford more taxes
- Prop tax too high and stop the increase every year.
- Everyone is struggling, we do not need a huge tax increase to make it worse
- Stop raising taxes. You're already getting more from the new houses going up. Cost of living is too high.
- i don't think a tax increase would be fair considering we just got hit with the storm water charge. im probably going to have to sell in the near future as i just cant make ends meet! :(pretty sad!!
- Our taxes do not need to go up more. People can barely live as is. Most can barely stay afloat as is.
- Stop increase property taxes!!! We are one of the highest taxes in York region.
- Consider unintended consequences of budget decisions. For example, decreasing services in one area, may negatively impact others.
- No. Just to not to up much more. Our taxes have gone up 1,000 in 4 years. Tempted to move out of Georgina to an area more affordable and not so heavy on taxes.
- Since you have your budget tied to the inflation, if the growth rate flips negative will you cut the tax rate.
- I think we pay too much in taxes and the government wastes a lot of taxpayers money
- Lower our taxes. Find a way to do it. Stop the wild corruption that's rampant in our municipal government. Stop the wasteful spending. Reduce the useless services. Stop giving raises to people who live off the taxpayer dollar. Resurfacing shoulders, new bike lanes on 48, ditch rehabilitation, the MURC, raises for town council, now a survey..... all wastes of taxpayer money. Our leaders should be ashamed.
- Property tax can not be increased. The viability of Georgina's residents' lives depends on prices not increasing in Georgina any more, including in taxes. Also please stop developing Georgina.
- Property taxes and levies should reflect service levels
- Taxes should be lower
- Less taxes
- Please do not increase taxes. We already have new subdivisions and city will get more contributions due to the same.
- Hold the line
- I understand we want more services and opportunities, however realize that means more taxes in a community where many are struggling.
- reduce taxes
- Property taxes too high

Recreation/parks

- We need proper washrooms at Holmes Point Park so people will stop going to the bathroom on the beach.
- Add wheelchair accessible areas for sports areas, not all viewers are able bodied and it is difficult to move wheelchairs in the grass.
- Would like to see more opportunities for the teens in Georgina. There's not a lot for the 13-19 age group.
- Look to improve maintenance and enhancements around parks, trails and community landscape features.
- Increase non resident parking and non resident recreational programs
- More lighting in local parks for safety
- More services for the teen population...places to hang out or to check in to receive supports...teen lounge/community centre
- more ice time for recreational use .. pump track is so far away EG and Holland landing much more accessible and therefore my money unfortunately goes to those communities since we are there using those .. same with ice time .. RG and newmarket provide much more availability and programs .. spend lunch dinner snacks to those areas ... note on a positive note - the Murc has been great .. would be nice to have access from local subdivisions sooner then later but enjoying the facilities there
- With the increase in young population, more parks, outdoor activities and recreational programs will be essential.
- Enhance bike routes in and around Keswick
- Fix or replace West Park. This has been a problem for over 30 years. One that council has refused to seriously address. It is shameful.
- Secondly, they should add more facilities and programs in community centres across town of Georgina.
- Recreation services have been reduced on the east side of the community - Sutton and Pefferlaw - with the opening of the MURC. Need to reprioritize recreation funding so residents have access to these service (child and youth programs, fitness programs, etc.) if they don't live in Keswick.
- Add a exercise center to the MURC. We don't need two libraries within a few km. They are empty and everything is online. There are no good gyms in Keswick and this could make money for the town.
- Better maintenance and up keep to the building and playground we already own
- You need a major review of your recreation services. The MURC is a great facility, will be at capacity in two years-considering the development behind it and it has no weights/cardio room. The new community will claim proprietorship and those of us who pay taxes for it, will not be able to access. You need a second facility-perhaps an expansion of the ROC Chalet.
- Increase the number of Ice pads in Georgina. Teams are having to book ice outside of the community due to availability. Time to be proactive.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- I would happily pay more in property tax to see less wasted land and more investment into beautifying the town. The new park in pepperlaw is a great example.
- If you could add a fitness centre to the MURC. I find municipal facilities are better suited for seniors.
- West park is failing. We do not have have enough practical outdoor facilities to accommodate the demand
- What happened to enhancing the Willow beach park?
- More programs for kids.
- Move the "creator library space" from the MURC into a space in a very under utilized library at the ice palace, and put in an ACTUAL FITNESS gym at the MURC like there should've been all along, what a waste of building and tax dollars the MURC is.
- It is frustrating as a property owner when people from the city come up to use the boat launch and parks. At young's harbour they park on the street so they do not have to pay parking. They leave a mess that the town has to clean. However no revenue is made from the meter. Also winter they can park for free. The lot is overcrowded with outsiders. Residents cannot even access the parks that we pay for.
- Parks, playgrounds and road safety, especially around school zones are top priority
- More recreation programs and books for the libraries.
- We are so grateful to have the MURC up and running. Please consider possible future expansion to include fitness equipment and weight room. Protection of the health of Lake Simcoe; walking paths; facilities and services for our aging population (health, social/community connection, supports to age in place). Thanks so much for all that you do!
- Meeting spaces at The Link, MURC & Ice Palace should be cost free for community members & organizations who want to provide community events. Private bookings for parties, staff training, etc can be paid but public events should be free.
- Increase town bike and hike x country trails. In town owned forests.
- More focus on bicycle facilities (bike paths)
- More trails and local parks Not necessarily more playgrounds
- Turn the Georgina ice palace in summer months to a roller skating palace . Our youth have very little to do .
- This town to very busy and we keep paying more for less. The MURC is lacking, not a good investment. We need more programs for our school aged kids.
- Please prioritize outdoor, walkable, green spaces.
- Accessibility in parks, increase in rec programs and facilities to match the growing community.
- More focus on recreation for the kids. The MURC is a flop. Another rink, usable ball diamonds that are well maintained so we can host tournaments and bring in interest in our sports from out of town.
- Put the money to better use. The MURC was a good addition however a new arena would have been better.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- Focus on families. Make bigger better parks and water parks for kids to enjoy. Build a boardwalk along the water. Bring some more sand in for the beaches and keep them clean. Get a gym here like LA Fitness or Goodlife least. More swimming lessons for the kids at the MURC. An observatory/planetarium would be cool to star gaze for the community
- More recreational services in region. We travel to Newmarket for our children's activities - cheaper and better quality. No indoor soccer in Keswick.
- More trails between neighbourhoods, walking bridges across Maskinonge.
- More bike trails, trails, bridge across the Maskinonge River between River Edge and River Glenn. More evening time slots for kids activities.
- What happened to the plan for West Park rehab?
- More sport and recreational facilities
- Thank for the MURC it is a great service and for subsidizing recreation opportunities for seniors.
- More parks for kids.
- More free programs for low income families
- put private showers in the MURC
- Please add municipally operated fitness facility in the MURC.
- Splash pad at the Link
- Transportation is big, giving access to area's for family's and kids like parks and beaches. but still keep area's for outdoor activities, we still have a lot of people interested in biking atv-ing snowmobile water sports too. these things are slowly disappearing, it's a balancing act.
- It's appalling that in such a big community that there aren't more trails, that there is little to no fitness equipment in your rec facilities.

Replacement Civic Centre

- Do not tear down the old Civic Centre...see if it can be repurposed - i.e. homeless and affordable housing
- That most of our budget is going towards the new civic centre when it could go towards providing more jobs, as our housing is growing so there's more people but no jobs
- Get rid of that terrible idea to build a 54 million dollar Civic Centre. Save that money for what is really needed, this Mayor doesn't know how to properly take care of this city and its money. They should use existing buildings that are left vacant for in person services that the Civic Centre does. I guarantee that most of the people that "work" in the current civic centre are hybrid and barely go in. Why not use the MURC meeting rooms when in person meetings are needed. It's just plain common sense that the town can't afford to put that money into a building that is barely used. But of course this will not be read and the Mayor will still get her building because what she wants she gets and doesn't care about the town that she destroys in the process.
- Yes! There are many suitable empty buildings in the area that would make accessible and cost efficient town offices. Stop the construction. Please stop wasting my money!

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- A new civic centre is not the priority of residents.
- Quit wasting the money you already get and you would not have to keep emptying my pockets. A good example is the new Civic Center we don't need. This was an irresponsible use of tax money at this time
- Cancel new civic centre and use some of the funds to enhance recreational facilities!
- No new civic centre only the mayor needs it nobody else
- For god sake no money go to that dumb civic centre.
- Stop wasting money on unnecessary things; 55mil civic center.
- Stop spending our money stupid like the murc and the new building for the tiwn
- I really do not see the need to build a new Georgina civic centre for that humongous cost to us. New coats of paint, proper internet and computer/phone services and running water and clean washroom facilities is all yo u really need. Most of you are not in that building full time. So I feel the cost is not warranted, just to look pretty and modern.
- add an addition to existing civic center rather than a wasteful complete new build.
- Stop spending dollars on municipal buildings for people who don't go to the office. Spend money on facilities that people actually use and want.
- The Civic centre project is an irresponsible way to spend OUR money.
- It is fiscally irresponsible for you to be building a \$54 million civic centre when there are multiple buildings for sale in the \$3 to \$5 million range that would suit the needs of the Georgina town council and the staff. When we live with the staff, on the same street, kids go to the same school and we see that they work from home every single day, it is infuriating to know you're wasting \$54 million on a building that's barely gonna get used and that is very unnecessary. There are multiple departments that can function from work from home because they already are. We see them washing their cars at 2 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, we see them going on field trips with their kids playing around. When are they working? What are we paying for already, because it feels like as a residence were paying for nothing. Cut the fat of each department, allow work from him and buy an already available building and convert it to suit the needs of the Georgina staff that have to work in the building. The rest of the \$50 mil can pay the storm water.
- There is no need for an expensive new Civic Centre building especially now with the economy the way it is and the budget should definitely not have funding for increasing staff.
- I think the new civic centre should have a town gym with full equipment and a day care.
- Rethink how you could provide services without building a new 55M civic centre. Be a leader in out of the box thinking. That said, it's too late to be gathering info now.
- Take care if residents and stop focusing on the tourists. My taxes have increased almost 50% since 2017. The increases need to stop. The taxes on all of the new million dollar homes should be enough to support the 2925 budget
- Spending money on the civic centre is insulting in the age of hoteling, digital services and work from home

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- I don't see the need for a new civic building costing over 55 million dollars. Instead the old Zephyr rail trail could be cleaned up and then bike riders would be attracted to the area. I know our town has the highest tax rates of all of York Region so it would be great if we could attract more commercial business and keep our taxes to the rate of inflation. Same for water and sewer.
- A 50 mil civic centre is not needed. Most still work from home. Be smarter with our money.
- Stop large unnecessary projects like the new Civic Centre
- Spend less on new Civic Centre building
- I don't like how much taxes are going to the new Civic Centre
- Not happy with the new Civic Centre build

Roads, road safety, sidewalks

- Smaller streets don't have as much attention as the main roads. The snow needs to be plowed too and the stormwater drains and swales are always flooding in the neighbourhoods by the lake. This was the first time the drains were dug up and cleaned in 2 years I've lived here so it would be better to have that maintained more often. It would be great to have more spots for town activities and classes that are free too. It would be great to develop more for the town tourism and have shops and cafes, less warehouses.
- The third area for improvement is road safety - we should better utilize one way drives, speed humps, and lane narrowing to induce slower speeds in residential areas.
- I feel traffic calming should also be rectified. The bollards that are being used are a complete waste of tax payer money. They only slow down inexperienced drivers, anyone else just speeds through or even drives over them for fun. Speed humps would be a much better solution, plow trucks don't need to race around the residential streets so the humps would not impede the trucks in any fashion. Other municipalities use speed humps and have had no issues with snow removal.
- Get rid of these slow down poles in the middle of the road .. they do nothing anymore .. need speed bumps or stop signs ..
- Fix the roads
- Sidewalks are very poorly maintained. They impact the use for people getting to school, work and especially seniors/ persons with disabilities. Trying to push a walker or stroller around is nearly impossible when they are not cleared. FYI, the plow has left a centre streak of either snow or salt every winter for the past 3 years. Making it so people have to walk straddled to push anything.
- My concern is snow Please keep the streets cleaned up from snow during winter (do it promptly) and during summer, please mow the grass promptly. Decrease the property tax.
- We could do with better roads not half road repair but the whole road repair.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- Streets with pot holes and ruts need to be repaved. The sidewalks on High Street are dangerous. Instead of having them grinded, they need to be removed, the ground levelled and the sidewalk put back down. Some of them need to be replaced.
- Woodbine needs to be repaved or fixed in some way and not sure how it will handle addition traffic from the new industry park that was build. Traffic is already bad and it will make it much worse (don't think it was well thought out)
- Increase sidewalk plowing. Roads were clear but I couldn't walk my son to school last winter. Increase garbage collection in parks. Parks are used all year. What about all weather trash cans? More cross walks on the Queensway. Crossing is unsafe and existing cross walks are too far apart. Bike lanes on the Queensway, narrowed automobile lanes will slow traffic, provide buffer between cars and paved shoulders.
- Sidewalk infrastructure also needs to be improved as much has been neglected.
- Road conditions need serious work, as well as more research into adding tree cover and trails. Would also love to see progress made on the now-defunct gas stations in town - they need to be removed quickly and replaced with whatever is deemed appropriate for those areas, as they're awful to look at. Lastly, perhaps a town planner can consider upgrades to Dalton that make it easier to turn left out of the shops on the east side, given the increase to town population from new developments.
- how about bringing the roads you took over in Udora to code like you said you would, we've paid taxes for years for minimal services.
- Plant more trees Improve road surface and traffic calming on Lake Drive North
- More sidewalks near Willow Beach
- We asked already many times to put a speed bumps on our street Fairbank ave at willow beach But no changes already for 2 years Also at winter time instead of using this chemical blue salt on the road has to be just sand , it's all going into the water later and we have on every corner flier , keep lake safe !!! So it's doesn't make any sense!!! Also sand it's more chipper then this chemical blue salt I called a few times to the city but no change again
- Would be great if we could have sidewalk on black river road extended down toward siballds point.
- On busy roads it would be a good idea to put the bollards between the bike lane and traffic.
- Rental fees for Town facilities should be lower for any non profit local event.
- Waste receptacles on the main roads, Lake Dr. and Hedge Road. Garbage is getting worse, thrown out of vehicles. As locales we pick it up, but there is nowhere to dispose of it. Additional lighting on main roads. Many now living full time and roads are dark! Baseline down to 404. (Keswick is okay) Catch basin work to continue. Builders should be responsible for adding neighbourhood infrastructure as needed for the community where built. Water/sewage, proper fencing and landscaping. Sidewalk or paths along Lake Drive by Salvation Army area due to high volume of visitors who walk all over the roadways. Dangerous.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- stop using contractors to do snow removal our sidewalks have been dangerous since going with contractors and when they finally do them they remove chunks of lawn and even go over markers set in the fall along our lawns for guidance and the snow dump at the end of our driveway is dangerous.
- Make sure the snow removal company takes into consideration the roads with hills before population on roads.
- The so called scenic route of lake drive N is unsafe to walk or cycle or drive a car on. Full of pot holes from Church to Orchard Beach. Heavy fire trucks should not be allowed to use unless its an emergency. Proper drainage for road would be good.
- The sidewalks down the Queensway just north of Simcoe Landing are atrocious. There is hole after hole. They are a liability.
- I'd like to see enhancements to Lake Drive to give pedestrians and cyclist protected space from cars.
- Clarity in road and infrastructure would be appreciated..I have concerns regarding the scheduling of shutting down High St in Sutton .. please consider the business there..sending them into bankruptcy seems like a very bad idea.. I also have concerns regarding the road end access to Lake Simcoe and what rights we will have once all of the surveying etc is complete.. I have been promised emails etc and none are forthcoming..
- Road maintenance to side roads and better snow clearance . A hold on taxes this town provides nothing in my area and we pay a gross amount of money . I'm 24 years the town has not filled the giant potholes in my neighborhood yet we pay almost \$5000. A year in taxes as do all of our neighbours . Ridiculous, maybe council can take a pay cut as over half of the town employees are close too of not making over 100,00. A year
- Metro rd tract is un walkable, culverts and ditches are full, the RoC is fantastic, water and sewer to park rd would be nice, a park or playground for missing ton would be great.
- Sutton and Pefferlaw need more town activities and programs. So many of our activities- including those previously offered at the Ice Palace/Keswick Library-have been moved or decreased since the opening of the MURC. While the extra distance may not seem like much, it adds up quickly and discourages many Pefferlaw/Sutton residents from participating, or encourages us to travel to facilities in Durham rather than Georgina/York Region.
- some of the smaller town roads need to be paved, Ravenswood and DeGeer have never been paved, they were tar and chipped every 3 years until early 2000s but just patched since, roads need to have a stable base
- The older parts of town, are past due for road maintenance eg; paving and pot holes. Overhead electrical wires need to be removed and buried. Are tax dollars are being used to maintain the newer parts of town , old parts of town are being neglected.
- Operation team- Maintain ditches, for proper drainage along Ravenshoe and culverts.
- Put some money towards cleaning up the sidewalks and make homeowners trim hedges so you can walk on the sidewalks. They are embarrassing.

- Prioritize adding bike routes throughout town, including making Lake Drive East a one-way road to allow for pedestrian/bike way. Add bike lanes on Metro Road.
- The pedestrian walkway along Lake Dr N will be a welcome change but Lake Dr S in Keswick also needs a similar solution. Personally I'd prefer a sidewalk on either both sides or at least the side closest to the lake (west side) but making the road one way and opening half of it could be a more affordable solution in the short term, I just think a sidewalk is a more ideal solution. Also, and this would be a massive undertaking, but Georgina does not have great public transit to places outside of the town and I would love to see some sort of planning done to improve on that. In my opinion, the most ideal scenario is to have the GO Train split at East Gwillimbury to the east to serve Queensville, Keswick, and terminate in Sutton before heading back south. Also, we haven't heard any updates on the continuation of the 404 extending north to Highway 48?
- Please repair pot holes on Holmes Pt. and Donna Drive
- Sidewalks need to be improved and created in certain areas
- speed bumps in neighborhoods to lessen speeding

Services and spending

- We have all been asked to tighten our belts and now it is past the time when the Town of Georgina respectfully, needs to tighten its belt. It is long past the time when the Town should prepare and table a budget that respects the interests of the taxpayer and not their own interests.
- Instruct all department heads to get creative and reduce budgets by 5%
- Prepare department budgets so revenues, capital and operations costs are seen together on one spread sheet – include prior year budget figures and results
- Eliminate the storm water management fees and use the reduction in consultant fees plus the standard budget amount and then add prior year surpluses and all of that should support SWM needs
- The economy is in the tank and will be for a while. Conserve, maintain and reduce
- Over exorbitant spending was done on buildings not to town expectations. ROC is not bringing in funding and costing money. Insane increase in wages for staff without approvals. Overall mismanagement - the hydro network has not even increased to support the approved increased infrastructure.
- Hire less consultants Do more with the tax dollars you already collect Waste less Stop building multi million dollar buildings like the MURC and new Civic Centre.
- You need to show some fiscal restraint and be extremely clear on what exactly our tax money is going towards. The storm water levy is a little crazy. Please try to show some restraint when you are spending money that isn't yours
- How about trying to spend it like it is your own money and not just some vanity piggy bank with unlimited resources!

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- At this point in time, money should be spent on essentials. Increased funding for programs that help people and families who are struggling financially would also be well spent.
- Quit wasting tax payer money
- Reduce wasteful spending within the municipality, starting with the bureaucracy.
- There needs to be an effort to find efficiencies in how we operate - use of latest technologies to defer spend to the appropriate time
- Expand services and improve the condition of the run down areas.
- Be accountable for every dollar spent. Stop overspending and cut things as needed.
- Spend less. We have to balance our household budgets so you should do the same
- Also better management of funds, and tighter deadlines for contractors
- We are all struggling to make ends meet. The town needs to review programs to see what is necessary/needed and what is nice to have. So many people focus on their wants but the town must look critically at all programs and requests for money. Will it mean some request/programs are reduced or gone - yes! However, as a household when I want something, I just can't tax my family or neighbours to get it - it's time the town works the same! The taxpayers are tapped out! We already have the new stormwater tax, water and sewer rates are going up, York region taxes will go up, there is the 2% infrastructure levy etc..... how much more can be squeezed from us? The town is taxing seniors out - it's time to make very difficult decisions!!
- Our towns must concentrate on reducing costs while maintaining the towns basic needs
- Focus should be to reduce bureaucracy and run the municipality as a business rather than have it politically driven.
- Ensure that 2025 budget is economically balanced and use the funds wisely. Ensure that housing is addressed by reviewing the building codes that prevent housing by having so much red tape
- Time to reel in the spending. Many people are having trouble putting food on the table. Also stop hiring consultants for everything. Our well paid staff should be able to make decisions appropriately.
- The money spent on MURC was a waste, the centre is already too small for community, the new houses being built around the grounds will have a large population using the facility, leaving nothing for the current residents, again
- Stop spending. Can not afford your ridiculous spending. Listen to the tax payers.
- Look for savings - extend life of fleet, make sure spend for projects produce value and is at the best cost available. Ensure decisions are not wasteful and compensation and raises are in line with the private sector. Each resident is a stockholder in the Town and wants to maximize their investment in living here.
- We already pay too much. Stop using our money to build unnecessary things.
- People are really hurting atm and every effort should be made to reduce expenses. If there was one thing to spend a small amount on is power washing the monuments at the entrances of Simcoe Landing. There is black mold or dirt on them.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- This budget is absolutely ridiculous. The increases at a time like this when people can barely afford food let alone now to use town water for everyday necessities it appalling. I hope someone can get a hold of the budget who knows what they are doing as we pay the highest tax bracket in all of York region!!!
- Stop wasteful spending
- Spending has been out of control lately. This must stop. As a senior on a low fixed income I cannot continue to pay the every increasing costs.
- Quit spending so much money right now!! Defer your spending. Everyone is struggling and you're not understanding your voters.
- reduce staffing levels by 10% across the board, do NOT hire anymore consultants, every employee should take a pay decrease by the same amount (percentage) as the tax increase. We have a spending problem and a council that isn't accountable.
- Cut costs. No more money spent on consultants, painting sidewalks, putting art in the park etc. Decrease grants for nice but unnecessary groups/events. Shelve lakefront redevelopment until we can afford it.
- Please for the love of god start spending our money responsibly!!!!
- More public input before spending
- this town is spending too much money, we cannot afford this. Spebd within your means and either fire staff or reduce consultants. This is ridicuous
- Stop spending money on yourself and giving staff raises and put it towards things that we actually need. Road maintenance, parks and boat launches upgrades. Stop spending money on consultants, we have enough high paid town employees that should be capable of making decisions. Example, the consultant you hired to tell you that there's a leaning monument..ridiculous waste of money.
- Too much money spent on students in summer See them parked in company truck smoking and having jolly good time.Not productive at all.Looks like no supervision
- Make sure your Asset Management Plan is tied to your budget process. Any public consultation on Levels of Service update?
- Lower unnecessary spending and use tax money for citizens and people in need. Help local business.
- Please review your internal practices and trim your spending.
- Do not spend more tax money on special interests
- This is a very hard time for everybody to make money reduce budget if possible
- stop hiring consultants. Reduce departmental budgets....have staff do bottoms up budget vs just adding to existing
- Quit wasting so much money. Put resident services over tourist/out of town services
- At this time, I believe we all of need to exhibit restraint. PLEASE toe the line. Many people are already over their heads and throwing money alone at an issue/ project ... is never the answer. Georgina already has the highest municipal taxes in all of York Region & much of Toronto— yet we don't seem to have the service nor am I aware that we forcefully go after provincial &/or federal funding support like other regions do (e Toronto)

- If we can maintain costs from the previous year that would be great. I think it would be fair to adjust based on next years Federal Election and their direction. People just need a break.

Water and wastewater/stormwater/climate change

- With climate change, dealing with storm water should be a priority. South Keswick in particular is impacted by this.
- We must take planning seriously for water culverts to storm sewers on properties that were designed to drain to the lake but can't due to property owners improperly modifying their drainage that works for their property but causes flooding to neighbours.
- Preparing for the ongoing climate emergencies should be a key priority, as well as more supports for the growing homeless community.
- Stop following liberal ideology like spending money on climate change and unnecessary changes for special groups of people.
- We need to spend money to get a climate change study done to determine cost savings and opportunities in fleet, buildings, water/wastewater, roads operations, parks etc. There is so much waste that causes GHGs.
- Projected waste water management increases seem excessive remembering the socio-economic makeup of our town. The provincial government needs to be made aware of how lower and fixed income people will be affected by mandated changes. They should be providing a higher percentage of capital needed. Were these changes just announced or is this something council has been aware of for some time.
- Taxes keep going up because of waste water management but nothing gets done! Town should be ashamed at the bad job they do on waste water.
- Our Storm water ponds are terrible and smell and really need to be addressed.
- Wastewater added cost was too high
- The price of water bill is grossly inflated! It is water, not gasoline ! Please reduce the various fees/costs associated with delivery of water !
- Yes I do. Adding \$865.00 a year for storm rain and sewage to our tax bill is outrageous. After all these years they decided to add this? It's another money grab. BTW our street has no sewage drainage!
- There needs to be a better approach on stormwater management before costly, worsening storms hit our area in the coming years. Also, developers need to be held accountable by the town when mistakes are made. Be better.
- The storm water levie should be used appropriately there are a number of ditches with a lot of vegetative growth back to the road allowance. There should no be any trees growing in the lower part to the ditch It will only increase the cost of maintenance.
- Our water bill doubles our street are flooding without any resolution from the town
- Storm water tax is ridiculous and needs to be cut, we can't keep adding bills when we can't afford the normal ones

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- I really think stormwater management ponds should be better maintained. Everything is overgrown, over capacity and becoming a mosquito haven. I think if these situations were rectified these ponds would look nice as well as be safe to walk around
- Water bills cannot increase too expensive. Now water is a necessity
- Because there's a new stormwater tax, will public drains on private property be periodically evaluated?
- Not happy with stormwater tax. No more hidden taxes called surcharges.
- Stormwater management need to be reduced in areas where there is no infrastructures.

Other

- Addiction runs rampant in Georgina, and we need practical solutions to help these people.
- We all are one people- humans. One is male one is female.
- I would like to see the town actually use the feedback from residents of Georgina.
- Cancel the windrow clearing program, it is too expensive and driveway clearing is part of the responsibilities of owning a home. I didn't understand the 2024 budget survey results chart "14.3% of respondents road construction and maintenance" what does that even mean?
- Please prioritize enhancement of landscaping in Sutton (entrance of Lakeside Meadows subdivision, Jackson's Point sign).
- Add in more garbages around subdivisions as well as dog poop bag dispensers
- The Town has spent over 2 million collecting aquatic vegetation in Cooks Bay but the rest of residents have to collect on their own. Is it not time for the town to look at other areas. We have taken curbside close to 100 containers roadside for pick up this year so really not fair.
- Maybe the CAO shouldn't make 300k
- We are behind. There are so many optimization opportunities in this town. Bring in someone to compliment the mayor and represent all the young families, not this old school group trying to maintain cottage country status. We are now a thriving town that deserves more. Start accepting companies to subsidize our living expenses
- Georgina does not agree to the Carbon Tax!!!
- A program should be established to support high school students traveling to school on the YRT. Other cities and towns offer a public transit pass free to high school students having to travel on public transit. Where are we at in terms of updating the water front on lake drive - having a real waterfront area for tourism?
- 1-scrap the contest below, waste of money. 2-stop with pet projects. 6-I could go on and on but what would be the point. This survey will be ignored. You ask for input then completely ignore it.
- It does not matter what we say , you are going to do what you want anyway.
- Transparency in municipal spending, and exact disclosure of provincial and federal funding.

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- Snowmobile trails should be advertised and connected with feeder trails to the system bringing in huge tourism dollars.
- I would have loved to say enhance on several of these but given inflation rates over the last several years, it just isn't realistic.
- Also, maybe think about getting water and sewage to areas that don't have it yet instead of bypassing those areas for new builds
- The use of funds for a bike lane on hwy 48 is ludicrous
- I like the direction Georgina is headed. Sustainable growth is so important.
- Bring in more police so they can actually get more control of the increase in crime
- Making a bike lane on Hwy 48 by Morning Glory Public School is a complete waste of money. Put our tax dollars to better use, than at least it would feel worth it to have the increase.
- make contractors that work for the county stick to the price of job they are hired for instead of going over budget. That should save money.
- I would like to see a list of what our area councillors are going to be asking for in each ward. With no newspapers online not always available. Stricter parking enforcement in Jackson's Point, stop retail merchants and residents from parking on the road all day in front of their establishments. This brings traffic to one lane causing Hazzard driving conditions.
- Crackdown on dirt bikes racing down the road.
- keep up the good work in north east Georgina
- Protecting agricultural land, no more big ugly buildings
- thanks for finally paving my street, hope don't get anymore water main breaks.
- I would like to see an increase in the Bylaw Enforcement budget to include hiring of more officers.
- Employees should be available to speak to the public, have regular working hours at the township offices, and accept cash for bills from the Corporation of the Township of Georgina.
- Don't buy anymore vehicles for town use use some if that money to clean up Sutton high street. The weeds should not get to be 2 ft tall
- Please focus on taking care of the people and infrastructure that currently exists and less on growth and expansion.
- Budget breakdowns for public to easily access.
- Yes it seems the majority of improvements are in Keswick. Udora receives very very little if any improvements and Sutton is losing businesses at a fast pace. Georgina is more than Keswick what about everyone else????
- Make this town better for locals not for people coming for the weekend
- Modify part of glenwoods where the yet stops infront of Timms @ OLL. The bust stops for a break and holds up traffic. Also creating an unsafe intersection as cars need to go around crossing solid lines. Create a small bus pull off to aid in this.
- More funding for the arts

Attachment 1 - Public Comments

- Make sure all bus stops have the shelter so our kids and ppl don't stand in rain, snow while waiting for the bus. This is must to have
- I have heard that the accessibility committees recommendations have fallen on deaf ears at council. That the heritage committee was disbanded and had to fight to get reinstated. I see development application signs sitting in overgrown fields with not even a shovel in the ground to provide more housing, more employment, more services. What is the vision for Georgina as a community and why is so much of the population's well being seeming to be a non priority. Taxes keep going up, but the services and benefits to the community are not apparent. Council and staff need to be more transparent and communicative, it's easy to think you're doing the right thing in a bubble, it's easy to support each other in an echo chamber. It's time for council and staff to interact with residents in a meaningful way. Town halls would be a start.
- making events better known to community, stop using outside consultants for every decision made, no big box building supply stores here have to travel to newmarket and spend money there and they would supply jobs to community. Home hardware/canadian tire are always undersupplied with everything.
- The price we pay to live in Georgina in comparison to the municipalities around us are astronomical. Most who were local to the area have been forced to sell because of the insane amount of increase in taxes and fees the township puts on us just to have the money from the city brought up here. Nothing has changed in the town other than a facility to cater to the newcomers that have moved here. You've destroyed land, allowed all the farmers fields and forest to be bought to build Subdivisions, proposing taking lake frontage away from home that have been here for centuries....all for money. This isn't the small town we grew up in, it's become the small town that has now forced us out just to try and act like a big city and it's a shame. Such a beautiful Cottage/fishing town destroyed by the greed of our council
- We are not Toronto!! Or Barrie. Keep it that way.
- Stop wasting money on more bylaw nonsense. Stop increasing our takes so much. Get GFL to pick up bigger bins since we're paying them for the service. Get rid of stupid tags. We pay enough in taxes. Least they can do is pick up the garbage. Invest in better schools. Our school ratings are so low. Why would anyone want their kids to go to school here? Invest in the future of Keswick (the kids).
- Everything is in Keswick, at murc. Stop putting money into Keswick, and especially murc. I'd rather drive I to Durham region at this point. Why would I go to Keswick???
- I am reaching out to our council and mayor to consider implementing a free spay neuter program every 6 months for the residents of Georgina at the Georgina animal shelter. The amount of stray abandoned and surrendered animals is out of control. The economy has most certainly added to this problem. Rescues and shelters are over flowing and donations and adoptions are at an all time low. Animals are going to be euthanized as there is no more room. Spay neutring costs are through the roof. 800 to 1500 per male. I have spoke to the supervisor at our shelter and she said they have been advocating for this for some time. We have to start somewhere. The cost of capturing and housing and

medical cost to each animal surely might be higher than having a free spay client twice a year. I know this won't solve all the problems but it would be a good start. Hopefully curbing the amount of litters and roaming pets. I understand council will be going over the new budget very soon. I have brought this subject on social media and everyone has agreed that we are in a animal crisis. Not one person was opposed to using our tax dollars to curb the amount of unwanted animals. Volunteers to help coordinate clinics and help in any way are plenty. Myself iam in for anything I can do to make this happen.if Georgina takes action iam hoping other communities will follow suit. I know of 3litters of puppies found abandoned in as many months. It's the ones we dont find that keeps me up at night please consider this worth while project. Our furry friends need all the help they can get.

- Fixed link to Georgina Island. If no to that get two all season ferry's
- More money on mass transit. Go train service to Pefferlaw.
- Public taps. Strive to work together in harmony as a cohesive group in service to the community
- Would be better to have direct bus services to downtown Toronto. It's taking more than two hours for now.
- Think about young families not cottagers
- Go train to Downtown Toronto.
- Higher Education campus in Georgina
- YRT Enhancement
- Better YRT system
- I want to see the accounting for the past five years for the Clear Water Farm investment—I worry we are not getting a good return on our investment because I haven't seen any paperwork.

User Fee Changes Included in the 2025 Budget

User Fee Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee*	Tax or Rate Budget
Notice to Muzzle - Appeal Hearing Fee	\$100	\$200	Tax Levy
Accepting a litter of puppies at the request of owner	\$100	\$125	Tax Levy
Accepting a litter of kittens at the request of owner	\$75	\$125	Tax Levy
Picking up an unwanted dog at the request of the owner	\$90	\$100	Tax Levy
Picking up an unwanted cat at the request of the owner	\$60	\$75	Tax Levy
Picking up a dead dog at the request of the owner	\$65	\$75	Tax Levy
Picking up a dead cat at the request of the owner	\$45	\$80	Tax Levy
Disposing of a dead dog at the request of owner	\$50	\$65	Tax Levy
Disposing of a dead cat at the request of owner	\$30	\$45	Tax Levy
Daily boarding fee for cat or dog	\$15	\$30	Tax Levy
Impound Fees – first offence	\$25	\$50	Tax Levy
Impound Fees – second offence	\$40	\$75	Tax Levy
Impound Fees – third offence	\$75	\$125	Tax Levy
Water Meters - ¾ inches Radio Road Meters (5/8x3/4 Radio read Water Meter)	Meter/labour + 15%	\$500	Water/wastewater
Water Meter Service Charges – Frozen or Damaged	Meter/labour + 15%	\$500	Water/wastewater
Water and Sewer Lateral Installation - Water Service	\$10,000	Cost + 15%	Water/wastewater
Water and Sewer Lateral Installation - Sanitary Sewer Service	\$20,000	Cost + 15%	Water/wastewater
Water and Sewer Lateral - Disconnect	\$0	Cost + 15%	Water/wastewater
Water Service Deposit	N/A	\$17,000	Water/wastewater
Sewer Service Deposit	N/A	\$15,000	Water/wastewater
Building Lot Construction Water - Per lot or townhouse	\$94	\$99	Water/wastewater
Apartment Unit Construction Water - Per apartment or condo unit	\$47	\$49	Water/wastewater
Commercial Lot Construction Water - Per 1,000ft ²	\$32	\$34	Water/wastewater
Commercial Lot Construction Water - Per hectare	\$2,568	\$2,696	Water/wastewater
Form 1 - Record of Watermains - Additions to the Town's existing drinking water system	\$1,200	\$1,260	Water/wastewater
Hydrant use for fire flow	New Fee	\$350+Water current rate	Water/wastewater
Water usage for flushing pipelines	New Fee	Cost + 15%	Water/wastewater
Damage to infrastructure	New Fee	Cost + 15%	Water/wastewater
Unauthorized use of Fire Hydrant	New Fee	\$2,000	Water/wastewater
Backflow Certification (Per Unit)	New Fee	Cost + 15%	Water/wastewater
Recovery fee for equipment	New Fee	\$15 / day	Water/wastewater

* Subject to user fees bylaw approval