




INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	January 10, 2023
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	2023 Budget Overview (FCS23007) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
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COUNCIL DIRECTION

N/A

INFORMATION

The 2023 Budget Overview report provides an update on the City of Hamilton's current position in the 2023 budget process leading into the General Issues Committee (GIC) discussion of the Tax Supported Operating Budget and continuation of deliberations on the 2023 Tax Supported Capital Budget.

The 2023 budget process incorporates the following components:

A. Tax Supported Capital Budget

The City of Hamilton's multi-year capital budget supports the City's planned investment in capital infrastructure and capital assets. The Tax Supported Capital Budget Financing Plan supports the ongoing capital financing required to maintain the City's capital infrastructure in a state-of-good-repair, support growth and economic development and term of Council priorities.

The 2023 Tax Supported Capital Budget (Report FCS22081) was initially presented to GIC on November 25, 2022 and followed by a second deliberation meeting on December 5, 2022. Further deliberation on the 2023 Tax Supported Capital Budget has been deferred to a January 20, 2023 GIC meeting with a target date of approval by Council on January 25, 2023.

B. Rate Supported Budget

The City of Hamilton's Rate Supported Operating and Capital Budget provides the cost and ongoing financial obligations to deliver water, wastewater and stormwater programs and services to ratepayers and the capital investment is required to maintain infrastructure and support growth. The cost for water, wastewater and stormwater programs are almost entirely funded from user fees and, therefore, do not principally affect municipal property taxes.

The 2023 Recommended Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budget (Report FCS22054) was presented to GIC on November 24, 2022 with a second meeting held on December 2, 2022 and approved by Council on December 7, 2022.

C. Tax Supported Operating Budget

The City of Hamilton's Tax Supported Operating Budget provides the costs and ongoing financial obligations to deliver programs and services to taxpayers.

The 2023 Budget Overview (Report FCS23007) is submitted as information for the GIC leading into departmental presentations and budget deliberations of the 2023 Tax Supported Operating Budget. The 2023 Preliminary Tax Supported Operating Budget Book is attached as Appendix "A" to Report FCS23007, which was released to Council and the public through the City's website on the week of December 19, 2022.

Included in the City's Tax Supported Operating Budget are budget requests for City Departments and external Boards and Agencies. In preparation of the 2023 Preliminary Tax Supported Operating Budget Book, budget requests were included for amounts confirmed by the external boards at the time of publishing (Hamilton Public Library, the Hamilton Farmers' Market, the City Enrichment Fund and all Conservation Authorities). Submissions for the Hamilton Police Service, Royal Botanical Gardens and the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) were not received at the time of printing and any adjustments to their projected budgets will need to be incorporated into the overall results during budget deliberations commencing in February 2023.

The 2023 Preliminary Tax Supported Operating Budget Book includes details on service level enhancements to be considered during budget deliberations as either Council Referred Items (budget requests that have been referred to the budget process via motion or staff report) or Business Cases (budget requests that have

been put forward by staff through the budget process). Council Referred Items include approvals up to November 25, 2022 and so do not include referrals to the budget process from the December 7, 2022 Council meeting. These items will come forward during budget deliberations and will need to be incorporated into the overall results at that time.

D. Tax Supported User Fees

The City of Hamilton's user fees represent charges to individual users of specific municipal services and are an integral part of the annual budget process. Revenue estimates for the current budget year are based on the fees contained in Report FCS22084, "2023 Tax Supported User Fees" and are included in the 2023 Tax Supported Operating Budget.

Report FCS22084, "2023 Tax Supported User Fees", was approved by Council on December 7, 2022.

Table 1 summarizes the schedule for upcoming budget meetings for the GIC.

TABLE 1

Item	Date
Tax Supported Operating Budget Overview	January 10, 2023
Boards and Agencies Presentations	January 11, 2023
Tax Supported Capital Budget Deliberations	January 20, 2023
Tax Supported Capital Budget Council Approval	January 25, 2023
Departmental Budget Presentations	January 23, 24, 26 and February 3, 2023
Public Delegations	February 6, 2023
Tax Supported Operating Budget Deliberations	February 7, 21 and March 1, 3, 2023
Tax Supported Operating Budget Council Approval	March 29, 2023

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to Report FCS23007 – 2023 Preliminary Tax Supported Operating Budget Report