

# 2018 FINANCIAL PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

The proposed 2018 budget balances the need to maintain modest tax rates with the quality of life we in Central Saanich are fortunate to enjoy.

This year, in addition to maintaining services to our growing community, we continue to invest for the future, in Council's priority projects and we are providing new funding for public safety.

The proposed property tax increase is 2.97% (3.6% including water and sewer rates) is consistent with other local governments and lower than our five-year average.

## Investing in Public Safety

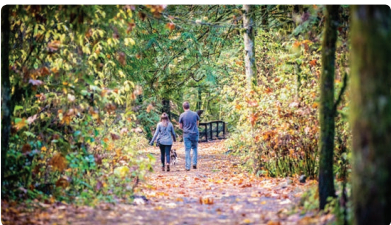
2018 is the first year of a five-year plan to improve the fire service response model, which will provide for a consistent response in accordance with BC Building Codes and other recognized standards. It is also the year Central Saanich Police will phase in the use of the new regional dispatch service.

## Investing in Our Community

Priorities of Council include the reconciliation program, Saanichton Village Plan, residential density and infill planning and addressing open water moorage and other issues in Brentwood Bay. We are also increasing our human resource and communications capacity.

Continued progress toward sustainable infrastructure replacement funding levels based on the Long Term Financial Plan and Sustainable Asset Management Plan. A significant program of capital projects is also identified and will require debt financing to implement.

Absorbing most of this increase within a competitive tax environment has taken a focused effort by all areas of the organization.



### Services Central Saanich provides:

- Policing
- Fire protection
- Parks and trails
- Road maintenance, repair and snow removal
- Sidewalks, curbs and gutters
- Drainage systems
- Sewer systems
- Water systems



### Services we contribute to:

- Peninsula sewage treatment
- Affordable Housing
- Regional parks
- Regional Trails
- Regional Housing
- 911 Police and Fire Dispatch
- Panorama Recreation Centre
- Garbage collection (Private Contractor)
- Greater Victoria Regional Library



### Services we do not provide:

- Public Transit (BC Transit)
- Education (Province and School Districts)
- Health Care (Province)
- Highways (Province)
- Recycling program - CRD



# Focused on the Future

The District of Central Saanich is taking important steps toward managing the long term sustainability of the community’s assets and services. Financial stability is fundamental to the health of the community. Only with stable and sufficient revenues, and careful planning of expenditures, will the District be able to provide important services its residents need and enjoy.

## Contributing today for tomorrow's needed infrastructure

The District's *Sustainable Infrastructure Management Plan* outlines a long term approach for investing in capital renewal.

To provide clarity and transparency, an asset levy was introduced in 2017, which is projected to increase over time by an average of an equivalent 1.25% property tax increase to the average homeowner each year.

This contribution, combined with debt servicing and modest use of existing reserves, provides for a sustainable approach once those levels are achieved. Over the five year plan horizon this level is projected to increase as follows:

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Reserves and debt contribution	3,495,000	3,733,200	3,799,000	4,000,000	4,200,000
Asset levy - average home	\$436	\$456	\$485	\$510	\$535

# Balanced operating budget: \$26.7 million

The Central Saanich Consolidated Financial Plan for 2018 balances \$26.7 million in revenues and with \$26.7 million in expenditures from all funds.

After the new growth (non-market change) is taken into account, the 2018 budget is based on a combined Municipal, Infrastructure Debt, Police and Library property tax increase of **\$58** or **2.97%** to the average family home as follows:

- \$21 or 1.07% Policing**
- \$18 or 0.91 % Municipal operations, including Fire Department**
- \$17 or 0.87 % Infrastructure replacement and debt**
- \$2 or 0.11 % Library services**



## Water and Sewer Utility Investment

The water and utility funds are primarily collected through utility billings and are used to cover costs of operating the municipal water and sewer systems.

Modest increase in rates will be used toward the following:

### Water Utility Fund

The next five years of the Water Capital Program is focused in the Brentwood service area. Fire protection supply improvements are planned in several areas based on the Districts approved Water Master Plan. Should this plan be implemented, the average home could be expected to see an additional 3% water rate increase per year for five years, beginning in 2020s.

### Sewer Utility Fund

The next five years of the Sewer Capital Program includes a new Brentwood lift station and force main, gravity sewers along Sluggett from Hagan Station to the new Brentwood Station, upsizing of sewers along Brentwood Drive and a new Stelly's Pump Station at an estimated \$5 million with \$3 million assistance from senior levels of government and the balance from reserve funds.

## What does it cost to...?



Clear snow for one day - \$10,000

Resurface one km of residential road with chipseal - \$60,000

Hire a new police recruit (pay, uniforms, equipment, training and testing) - \$94,000

Install traffic signals at one intersection - \$200,000

Purchase one front line first response pumper for the fire department - \$525,000

## Tax Breakdown for the Average Homeowner

An average single family home in the municipality could be expected to pay a total of \$96 or 3.64% more in combined taxes and utility charges in 2018:

Property Tax	2017	2018	Increase
Municipal Taxes	\$882	\$900	0.91%
Police Service	510	527	0.87%
Infrastructure Replacement	436	457	1.07%
Library Service	107	109	0.11%
Water Utility Rate (Utility Bill)	442	462	4.54%
Sewer Utility Rate (Utility Bill)	262	276	5.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,635</b>	<b>\$2,731</b>	<b>3.64%</b>



are

59% of all residents would maintain current service levels through increased taxes to maintain or expand service levels, sometimes paired with the ability to contribute

17% chose an option that would allow for expanded or enhanced service levels via an increase in taxes.