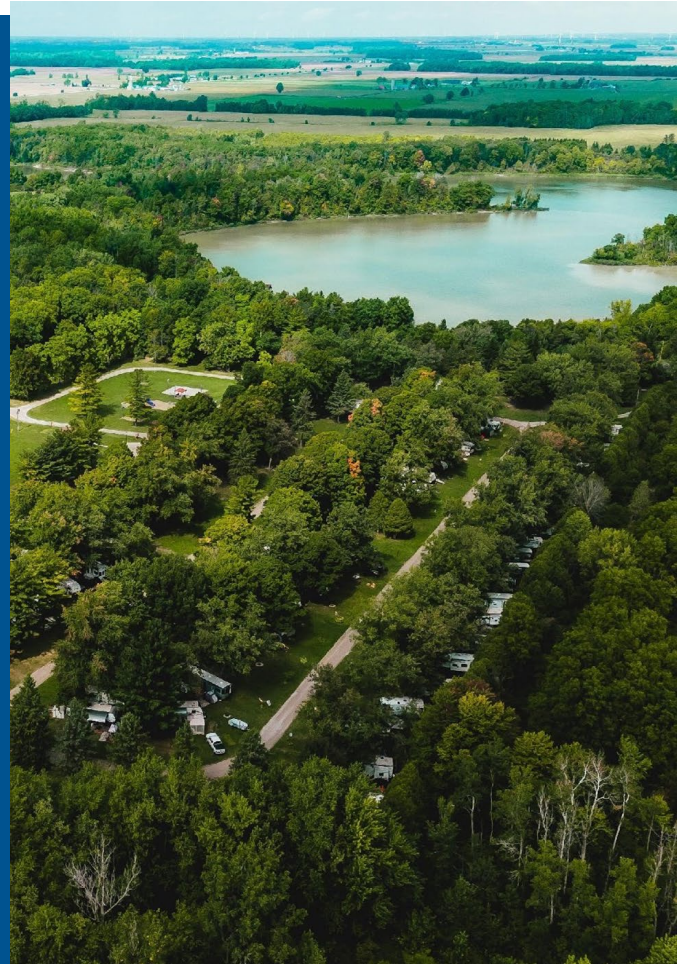




Middlesex County Budget 2024



Overview

- 2024 Budget Highlights
- Financial Strategies
- A Look Ahead
- Recommendations

2024 Budget Highlights

- The 2024 Budget reflects the County's commitment to making appropriate investments in the core services that our residents rely on, while also considering the reality that our taxpayers are facing increased costs of living from provincial and federal policy decisions
- A tax rate increase of 5.51% means that for the value of a residential property, taxes would increase by \$23.77 per \$100,000 of the value of the property according to its MPAC assessment
 - Homeowners with an assessed value of \$303,000, the median assessed value in Middlesex County, would see an increase of \$72.00 per year on the County portion of their tax bill

2024 Budget Highlights

Social Services

- Investments in childcare and EarlyON programs and services that supports more child and family visits
- Collaboration with the City of London to update the Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan as required by the Province

Middlesex-London Paramedic Service (MLPS)

- Maintenance of current service levels with a plan to extend service hours with the addition of 2, 12 hours of service
- Investment in risk mitigation and protection, considering call growth and off-load delays

2024 Budget Highlights

Strathmere Lodge

- Staffing and technological enhancements to support resident care quality
- Investment in Strathmere Lodge facility rehabilitations

Planning & Woodlots

- Addition of one planning staff to support County strategic outcomes as it pertains to increased growth and development

Middlesex County Library

- Strategic investments in programs and services that enhance and expand access to technology

2024 Budget Highlights

Economic Development

- A new Middlesex County Tourism Tool to support regional economic development initiatives

Middlesex County Connect

- Additional funding secured from the province for enhancements to Middlesex County Connect

Administration

- Adjustment to non-tax revenues through increased interest income and third-party recoveries
- Modernization of corporate processes and workflows

2024 Budget Highlights

Transportation Infrastructure Program

Bridge Replacements:

- Waubuno Bridge
- Nairn Bridge

Bridge Rehabilitations:

- Adelaide Road
- Caradoc Street
- Denfield Road

Traffic Signals:

- Dundas @ Nissouri
- Denfield @ Elginfield
- Longwoods @ Carriage
- Glendon @ Melbourne

Roundabout:

- Glendon @ Vanneck Roundabout

2024 County Road Paving Program		
Ilderton Road	Cold Stream Rd to Ilderton	12,400 m
Denfield Road	Hwy 4 to Denfield	8,100 m
Saintsbury Line	County Road 47 to Market Street	1,500 m
Elgin Road	County Road 2 to Catherine Street	5,800 m
Elgin Road	County Road 29 to Elgin County	8,300 m
Adelaide Road	County Road 2 to Parkhouse Drive	4,700 m

2024 Budget Highlights

- Middlesex County is in a very positive financial situation, specifically as it pertains to tax rates, reserves and use of debt. This is a credit to Middlesex County Council's strategic partnerships and approach and commitment to legislated and people-oriented services.
- The 2024 Budget does not utilize funds from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve

2024 Budget Highlights

- In comparison, Middlesex County maintains one of the lowest upper-tier tax rates in Southwestern Ontario

2023 Tax Rates				
	Residential	Farmland	Commercial	Industrial
Elgin County	0.659343%	0.151649%	1.079740%	1.467104%
Huron County	0.500913%	0.125228%	0.551004%	0.551004%
Lambton County	0.471715%	0.106608%	0.767528%	0.965871%
Middlesex County	0.431244%	0.107811%	0.493731%	0.752564%
Oxford County	0.426167%	0.092776%	0.810484%	1.120819%

Financial Strategies



Budget Strategy

- Start earlier and increase detail



Debt Strategy

- Strategically utilize debt for long lifecycle assets



Development Charges

- Growth funds a portion of growth



Financial Strategies



Economic Development Corporation

- A coordinated approach with a strategic focus



Infrastructure Levy

- Updated Asset Management Plan – All Assets



County Loan Program

- Refocus on growth infrastructure, water and wastewater
- Support long-term assessment diversification



A Look Ahead

Assessment Diversification

- Middlesex County has historically been reliant on residential assessment growth
- The property tax base was not meant to handle the types of services Counties fund
- The property tax base is not a growing source of revenue unlike those sources at both the federal and provincial levels
- The County continues to support initiatives towards multi-residential affordable development and employment land uses

A Look Ahead

Population Growth

- Middlesex County is part of one of the fastest growing regions in Canada

Demographics

- Between 2016 to 2021, there was significant growth in young adults and seniors

Service Demands

- Operational & Capital resourcing

Organizational Structure & Sector Trends

- Flat & Lean Organizational Structure

Recommendation No. 1

THAT the 2024 Budget Presentation be received for information;

AND THAT staff be directed to prepare a by-law to adopt the 2024 Budget, as presented, at the March 26, 2024, meeting of County Council.

Recommendation No. 2

THAT pursuant to Section 6.3 of the South Central Ontario Region (SCOR) articles of incorporation, Middlesex County provide notice of resignation from SCOR.