

BUDGET BASICS

TOWN OF KIRKLAND LAKE

Updated: January 2021

BASICS

Garbage collection, road repair, recreation programs, animal control, water and waste water services, and emergency response are just some of the many services the Town provides. Many of these services are essential, while others are intended to contribute to the community and our quality of life.

The budget provides a financial plan for the Town to determine the required amount of funds to maintain these services and how it intends to fund these requirements.

With a limited amount of funds available, the budget helps determine and prioritize services and projects which have the highest priorities.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

With direction from Council and the CAO, the Treasury department leads departments through development of detailed budgets each year. Operating and capital budgets are then consolidated and tabled for review and discussion.

The Municipal Act sets forth various requirements that the Town's budget must comply with, including the requirement to have a balanced budget, as well as limitations as to where the Town may borrow and incur debt.

OPERATING BUDGET

The operating budget funds the Town's day-to-day services and operational requirements, including things like policing, park maintenance, roads and other services.

The operating budget is funded primarily through:

- Property taxes
- User fees
- Provincial grants and subsidies

CAPITAL BUDGET

The Town's capital budget identifies the capital requirements for maintaining and growing infrastructure. This typically includes equipment purchases, as well as construction and significant repairs to roads, public buildings, water and waster infrastructure and similar items.

The capital budget is typically funded through:

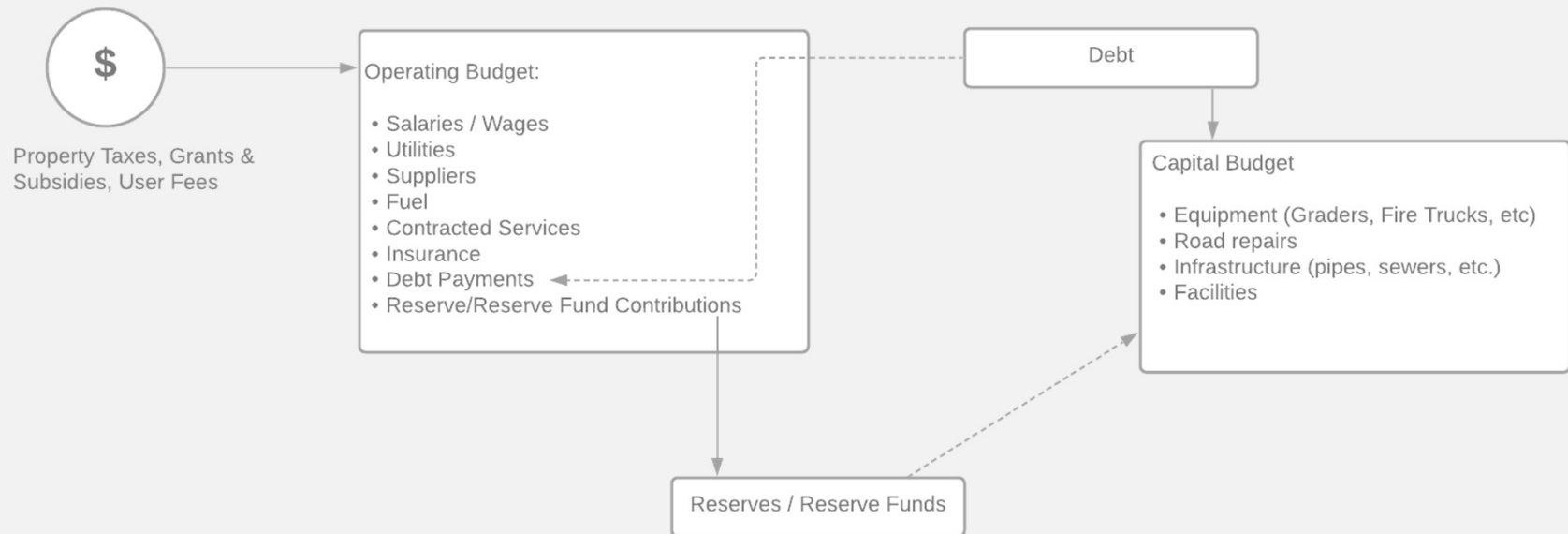
- Property taxes
- Town reserves
- Debt
- Government funding and grants

RATE SUPPORTED PROGRAMS

The Town has rate supported programs for water and wastewater services. These programs are funded entirely by the user in the form of user fees.

User fees cover not only the cost to operate these services, but must also provide for the required capital infrastructure to maintain and deliver them.

RELATIONSHIP



STAY INFORMED & BE INVOLVED

There are many ways to stay informed and participate in the budget process.

- Bring forward ideas or thoughts to Town Council members
- Participate in surveys distributed during the budget process
- Attend an public input session
- Watch or attend Council meetings
- Follow the Town of Kirkland Lake's website and social media updates