

Colwood Connection

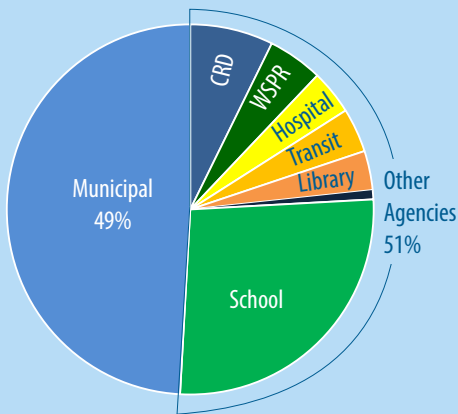
May 2016



51%

of the average Colwood residential property tax bill goes to **other agencies** over which the city has no direct control:

- Provincial School Taxes - 27%
- Capital Regional District - 7%
- West Shore Parks & Rec - 5%
- Hospital District - 4%
- BC Transit - 4%
- Library - 3%
- BC Assessment & Municipal Finance Authority - 1%



A strong foundation for a bright future

2016 promises to be an exciting year in Colwood, with significant development at Royal Bay and in the centre of the City. A modest increase of 3.5% in municipal property taxes will allow for enhancements to streets, sidewalks, trails and parks as well as sewer extensions and investment in safety and emergency services.

Fiscal strength

Prudent financial planning is a cornerstone of everything the City does. Over the past year we have reduced the City's general debt by more than 37% and built up reserve funding significantly. This strong financial position gives us the ability to continually invest in our community and the flexibility to act on unforeseen issues as they arise.

Community investment

We work to continually improve the safety and enjoyment of our city by investing in public safety, maintaining and upgrading infrastructure, creating transportation connections, enhancing public spaces and encouraging events that strengthen our community.

Flip over
for an overview
of community
building projects
planned in 2016.

Planning for the future

All this activity makes it a perfect time to update the City's Official Community Plan, which will provide direction for managing future growth in Colwood. It will guide decisions about all aspects of our community, including physical, economic, natural, social and cultural development.

Watch for opportunities to get involved in enjoyable conversations that will help to clearly describe what defines Colwood today, and sets a course for what we want Colwood to be known for in the future.

Upcoming community events

Colwood Fire Hall Open House

Sunday, June 12, 2016

Canada Day at Fort Rodd Hill

Wednesday, July 1, 2016

Eats & Beats at the Beach in Colwood

Bringing the hottest local food trucks & music to the waterfront Saturday, July 9, 2016

Neighbourhood Nights at Herm

Williams Park Thursdays in July & August

Rock the Shores at West Shore

Parks & Rec. Fri, Sat & Sun, July 22-24, 2016

Movies on the Hill at West Shore Parks & Recreation - The Force Awakens

Thursday, August 11, 2016

Property tax due July 4, 2016

1. Claim homeowner grant:

Claim your homeowner grant today at www.Colwood.ca/homeownergrant

2. Pay one of several ways:

- Through your online banking
- In person at City Hall
- 24 hour drop box at City Hall
- At your bank
- Mail it to 3300 Wishart Rd. V9C 1R1
- Through your mortgage lender
- Tax deferral program

Don't wait *in* line...pay *online*!

Connect with Colwood

We want to make it easy for you to have a say in decisions about our vibrant waterfront community.

Visit colwood.ca to learn more, share ideas, and get involved.

Visit: City Hall at 3300 Wishart Road

Phone: 250-478-5999

Online: www.colwood.ca

Email: info@colwood.ca

Subscribe: colwood.ca/subscribe

Social: @CityofColwood   

Highlights: community-building projects from 2016 property taxes

\$998,315 in Transportation Improvements

- Methosin Road bike lanes, road improvements, sidewalks, crosswalk
- Pedestrian & Cycling Trail - Painter Road to Royal Bay School
- Traffic calming, counts and speed readers
- Latoria Road sidewalks
- Wayfinding signs
- LED street lighting



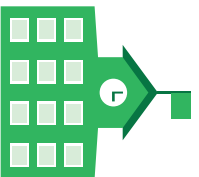
\$242,000 in Emergency Services Upgrades

- Backup Power for Emergency Operations at City Hall
- Emergency Supplies Storage Trailer
- Firefighting Thermal Image Camera
- RCMP Additional Staffing



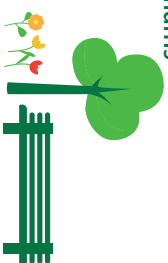
Increased Online Services & Open Government Initiatives

- Online development information
- More public participation events
- Feedback tools, surveys and forums
- Increased newsletters and notifications



\$164,347 in Park Upgrades & Beautification

- Water Park at Colwood Creek Park
- Washrooms and lighting at Herm Williams
- Water Fountain at the waterfront
- Stair and handrail improvements
- Street Banners



\$2,857,000 in Sewer & Stormwater Upgrades

- Ocean Boulevard Pump Station Protection
- Central Sewer Expansion
- Sewage Treatment



\$1,938,877 in Recreation, Arts, Events & Heritage

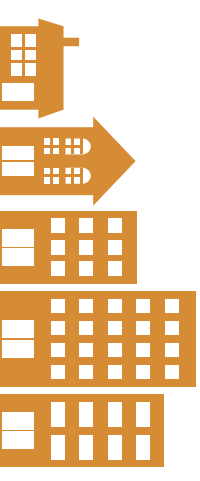
- West Shore Parks & Recreation
- Juan de Fuca Library
- Eats & Beats at the Beach
- Heritage Picnic
- Hotel Maker Market, Park Events
- Heritage Archives & Commission



New Development & Business Supports

Significant development underway at:

- Royal Bay
- City Centre
- Pacific Landing
- Ocean Grove
- Dwight School
- Pacific Centre for Well Being



- 468 Landmark and more
- Eliminate annual business license fee
- Grow partnerships: WestShore Chamber of Commerce and
- South Vancouver Island Economic Development Agency

Maintain:

74

emergency vehicles,
heavy equipment &
work trucks and fleet vehicles

9

sanitary sewer
pump stations

Maintain:

30+

flower &
shrub beds

15+

km of City
boulevards

28+

hanging
baskets

52

City Parks

14,416

branch drop off
visits in 2015

570

spring clean up
visits in 2015

185

km of
roadway

9

bridges

35

km of storm
drains

1320+

catch basins

