

# Colwood Connection

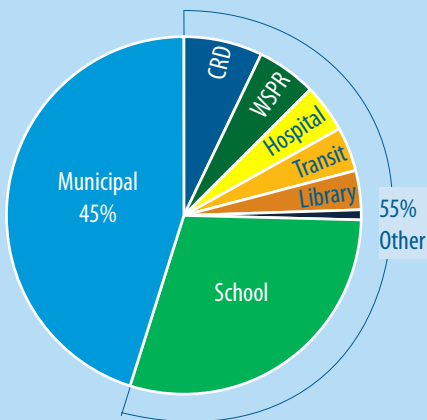
Inviting your involvement in decisions about our vibrant waterfront community.

May 2014

## 55%

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

- Provincial School Taxes - 29%
- Capital Regional District - 7%
- West Shore Parks & Rec - 5%
- Hospital District - 4.5%
- BC Transit - 4.5%
- Library - 4%
- BC Assessment & Municipal Finance Authority - 1%



## *Working together for a vibrant and sustainable community*

We are working hard to build for the future while keeping municipal property tax rates in check. Most residents will see a modest increase of about 3% over last year, which totals about \$6 per month for the average household.

### *Attracting new employers, businesses and investment*

Our economic development strategy will be complete this summer. With input from more than 200 local and regional stakeholders as well as a comprehensive assessment of our current economy, we will have a clear plan for attracting investment and development that fits our community's vision for Colwood. It will help us effectively market our City to investors, allowing us to increase our tax base and our quality of life.

### *Projects to Watch*

By September 2015, Royal Bay Secondary School will be complete on the new road called Ryder Hesjedal Way, and construction of the first 100 new Royal Bay homes should be well underway.

Westridge Landing on Wale Road is expanding, and work on the Holiday Inn will begin soon. Watch for information about other developments in the heart of Colwood and new residential projects in the Royal Bay, Latoria and Triangle Mountain areas.

### *Connecting neighbourhoods with enjoyable travel options*

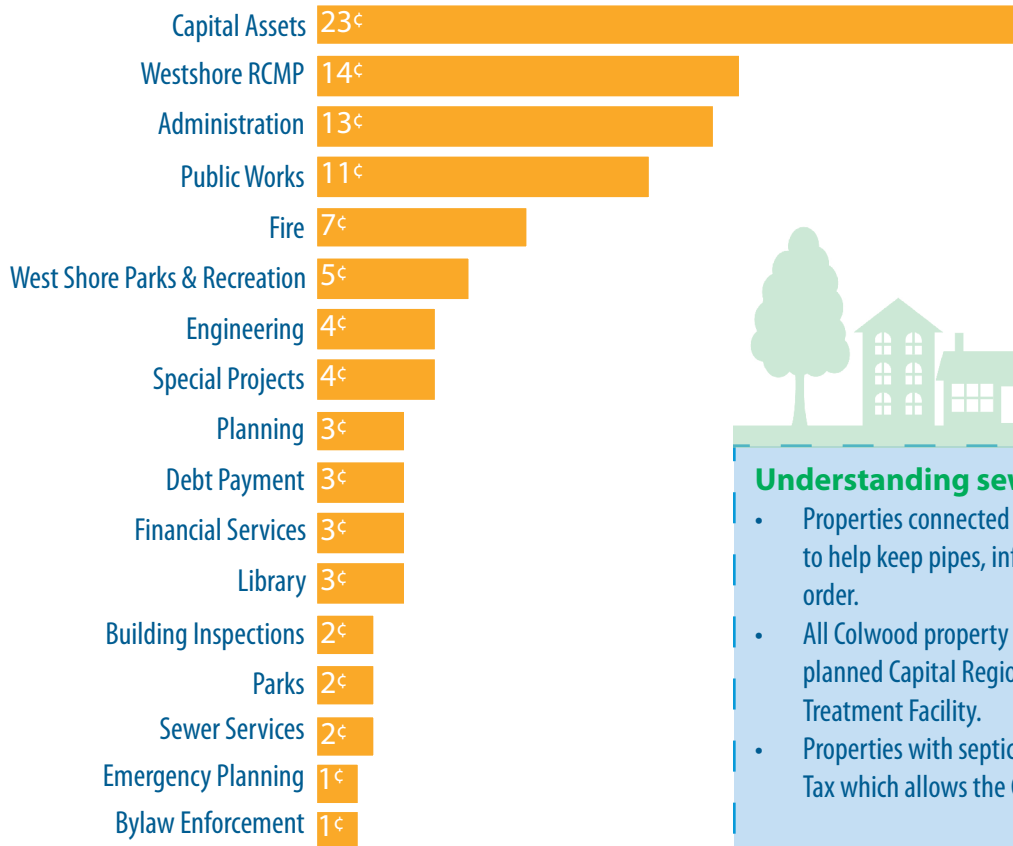
Our transportation master plan will pave the way for streets and trails that encourage walking and cycling, foster social connections and create a unique sense of place that residents will take pride in. Watch for improvements to sidewalks, cycling lanes and streetscapes.

### *Leading the way with innovation and sustainability*

Plans are moving forward on a Colwood Sewage Treatment and Resource Recovery facility that will fit the wastewater needs of our community, protect our environment, enhance our downtown core, supply heat and water to buildings in the heart of Colwood and kick start economic growth.

# What city services do your tax dollars pay for?

Each dollar you pay in municipal property tax goes toward funding a variety of services and amenities that help make Colwood a great place to live, work and play. Here's how each dollar breaks down:



Note: amounts are rounded up to the nearest cent.



## Understanding sewer fees.

- Properties connected to municipal sewers pay a sewer user fee to help keep pipes, infrastructure and equipment in safe working order.
- All Colwood property owners pay a portion of the cost of the planned Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Sewage Treatment Facility.
- Properties with septic systems pay the CRD Onsite Sewage Parcel Tax which allows the CRD to monitor for safety of septic systems.

Please visit [colwood.ca](http://colwood.ca) for more detail about sewer fees.

Your feedback and ideas are important. I am grateful to the members of our community who take the time get in touch and join us at meetings where decisions are made. I encourage you to connect with us too!

- Colwood Mayor Carol Hamilton

## 8 Ways to Pay Property Taxes.

- 1 Online at [colwood.ca](http://colwood.ca)
- 2 In Person at City Hall
- 3 24 Hour Drop Box at City Hall
- 4 Through your bank
- 5 Mail it in
- 6 Pre-Payment Plan
- 7 Through your mortgage
- 8 Tax deferral program

## Don't wait to pay!

Paying on line? Remember that banks need 2-3 days to process your payment.

## Join us at community events.

### Colwood Fire Hall Open House

Sunday, June 8, 2014

### Canada Day Celebrations at Fort Rodd Hill

Tuesday, July 1, 2014

### Rock the Shores at Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre

Fri, Sat, Sun, July 11, 12 and 13, 2014

### Art and Wine Festival at Fort Rodd Hill

Sunday, July 27, 2014

## Connect with us.

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

Check [colwood.ca](http://colwood.ca) to learn more, share ideas, and get involved. (You can even watch City Council meetings online!)

Visit: City Hall at 3300 Wishart Road

Phone: 250-478-5999

Email: [mayor@colwood.ca](mailto:mayor@colwood.ca)

Social: CityofColwood

