

Colwood Connection

Inviting your involvement in decisions about our vibrant waterfront community.

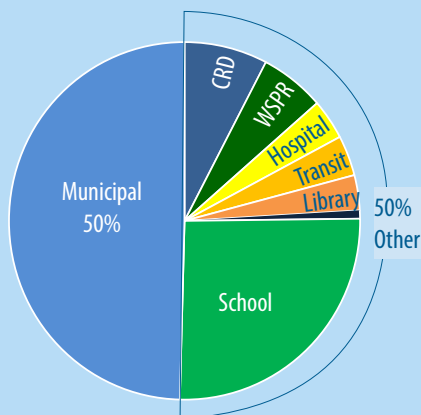
May 2015



50%

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

- Provincial School Taxes - 26%
- Capital Regional District - 7%
- West Shore Parks & Rec - 6%
- Hospital District - 4%
- BC Transit - 3%
- Library - 3%
- BC Assessment & Municipal Finance Authority - 1%



Working to enhance our vibrant community

We are building for the future while keeping property tax rates in check. The average home in Colwood, assessed at \$430,000, will see a modest increase of between \$60-\$120 on the Colwood municipal portion of their tax bill. This amount will vary based on whether your assessment went up or down and on other factors such as sewer fees.

This municipal tax levy represents a 4.9% increase, which allows for added investment in policing resources (2%), infrastructure improvements (1%) and cost of living increases (1.9%).

Exciting projects in the works:

Revitalizing our public spaces

Our Economic Development Strategy provides a clear plan for increasing our tax base while enhancing what we value about our community. A downtown revitalization plan and a waterfront plan are proposed to enhance enjoyment of public spaces and attract investment to Colwood.

Healthy community growth

Royal Bay Secondary School opens in the fall of 2015, along with new roads, infrastructure and the first phase of homes and park spaces.

The Westridge Landing Legacy building on Wale Road is now open, and the Holiday Inn Express is on track to open in November, 2015.

Colwood's City Centre site has been purchased by Onni Group from Vancouver. Preliminary meetings have taken place in preparation for a development application to come forward.

Connecting neighbourhoods with improved transportation

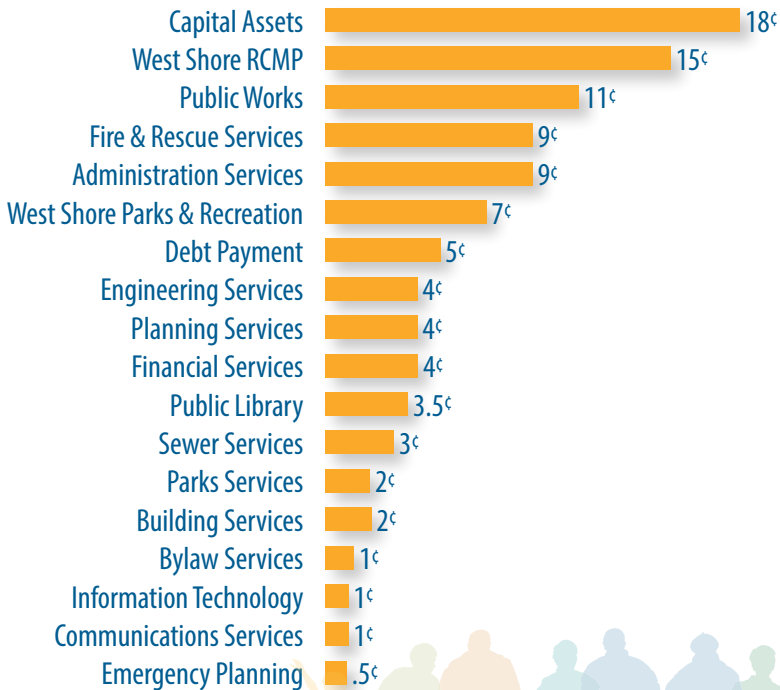
With all this activity, we've been working on our transportation plan to factor new development projects into streetscape designs that will encourage walking and cycling, foster social connections and create a unique and attractive community. Watch for improvements planned for sidewalks, cycling lanes and streetscapes.

Planning for regional wastewater treatment & resource recovery

Your input is required to assist decision makers in determining the most appropriate locations for sewage treatment and resource recovery solutions for our region. Be part of the conversation at www.westsidesolutions.ca.

What 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 fees for sewer and septic systems

- Properties connected to municipal sewers pay a **Sewer User Fee** to help keep pipes, infrastructure & equipment in safe working order.
- Properties on septic systems pay the **CRD Onsite Sewage Parcel Tax** which allows the CRD to monitor for safety of septic systems.
- All Colwood property owners pay a portion of the cost of the planned **CRD Regional Sewage Treatment Facility**.

Ask about connecting to sewer service

- If you would like to inquire about connecting to municipal sewer service, please contact Colwood Engineering at 250-478-5999.

More information about Sewer Services in Colwood can be found at www.colwood.ca/sewer-services.

There is power in communities. Connect with us to voice your views about how Colwood continues to evolve and grow as an exceptional place to live, work and play.

- Colwood Mayor Carol Hamilton

TWO Steps to Pay Your Taxes

1. Claim your homeowner grant at www.Colwood.ca/homeownergrant
2. Pay on or before July 2, 2015

Ways to Pay

- Through your Online Banking
- In Person at City Hall
- 24 Hour Drop Box at City Hall
- At your Bank
- Mail it in
- Through your mortgage lender
- Tax deferral program

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

Join us at Community Events

Colwood Fire Hall Open House
Sunday, June 14, 2015

Canada Day at Fort Rodd Hill
Wednesday, July 1, 2015

Neighbourhood Nights at Colwood Creek Park Thursdays in July & August

Rock the Shores at West Shore Parks & Rec. Sat & Sun, July 18 & 19, 2015

Art & Wine Festival at Fort Rodd Hill
Sunday, July 26, 2015

Movies on the Hill at West Shore Parks & Rec. Wednesday, August 5, 2015

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 to learn more, share ideas, and get involved.

Visit: City Hall at 3300 Wishart Road

Phone: 250-478-5999

Email: info@colwood.ca

Subscribe: colwood.ca/subscribe

Social: @CityofColwood   

 Colwood