

Taxes and utility rates going up in Brampton, Mississauga and Caledon in Peel Region 2021 budget

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Peel Region council has approved its 2021 budget including a property tax hike and increases in utility rates for both homeowners and businesses.

In a budget season unlike any other due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the council approved the budget during its Feb. 11 meeting with a 1.09 per cent property tax increase.

Regional staff estimated the increase will cost the average household an additional \$50 per year, and small businesses approximately \$89 per year. The region's approved tax increase is in addition to any increases passed by individual city councils in Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga.

Brampton council [passed a third-straight tax freeze](#) on its portion of the annual tax bill, while both Caledon and Mississauga councils have yet to approve their 2021 budgets but are both considering small tax increases in their proposed budgets.

Utility costs are also going up in 2021. The average household can expect their utility bills to increase by \$0.12 per day for an estimated total increase of \$43 annually, while the average small business will be hit with a \$0.30 daily increase for an average hike of \$111 per year.

"This year, we've passed a budget that invests responsibly in core service levels, promotes community well-being, and protects the vulnerable, while striving for efficiency to mitigate the increase to property tax bills," said regional chair Nando Iannicca in a release.

The budget also includes \$3.7 billion in funding for regional services, initiatives and infrastructure including:

- Paramedic services responding to 135,000 emergency calls annually;
- Delivering 744,000 accessible transportation trips;
- Funding police response to 248,000 events;
- Delivering 590 million litres of safe drinking water daily;

- Collecting and disposing of 552,000 tonnes of waste;
- Maintaining critical community infrastructure;
- Affordable transit subsidies for low-income individuals;
- Dental services for low-income seniors;
- Tax relief for low-income seniors and those with disabilities.

“The 2021 budget implements Council’s directions regarding its priorities, supports Peel’s continued response to the pandemic, and maintains service levels for Peel Region’s rapidly growing and aging population base. It provides for state of good repair funding for the region’s \$30 billion in assets,” added Peel Region chief administrative officer Janice Baker.

Visit www.peelregion.ca to view the full 2021 budget.