

Welcome to Budget Engagement 2023

Group 1

Help shape the 2023 budget priorities.



As a Surrey resident, **what priorities** matter to you?

We encourage you to review the information boards, learn more about City services, how our budget gets allocated and our budget process.

After taking the time to learn and ask questions, please share your feedback on our online survey.

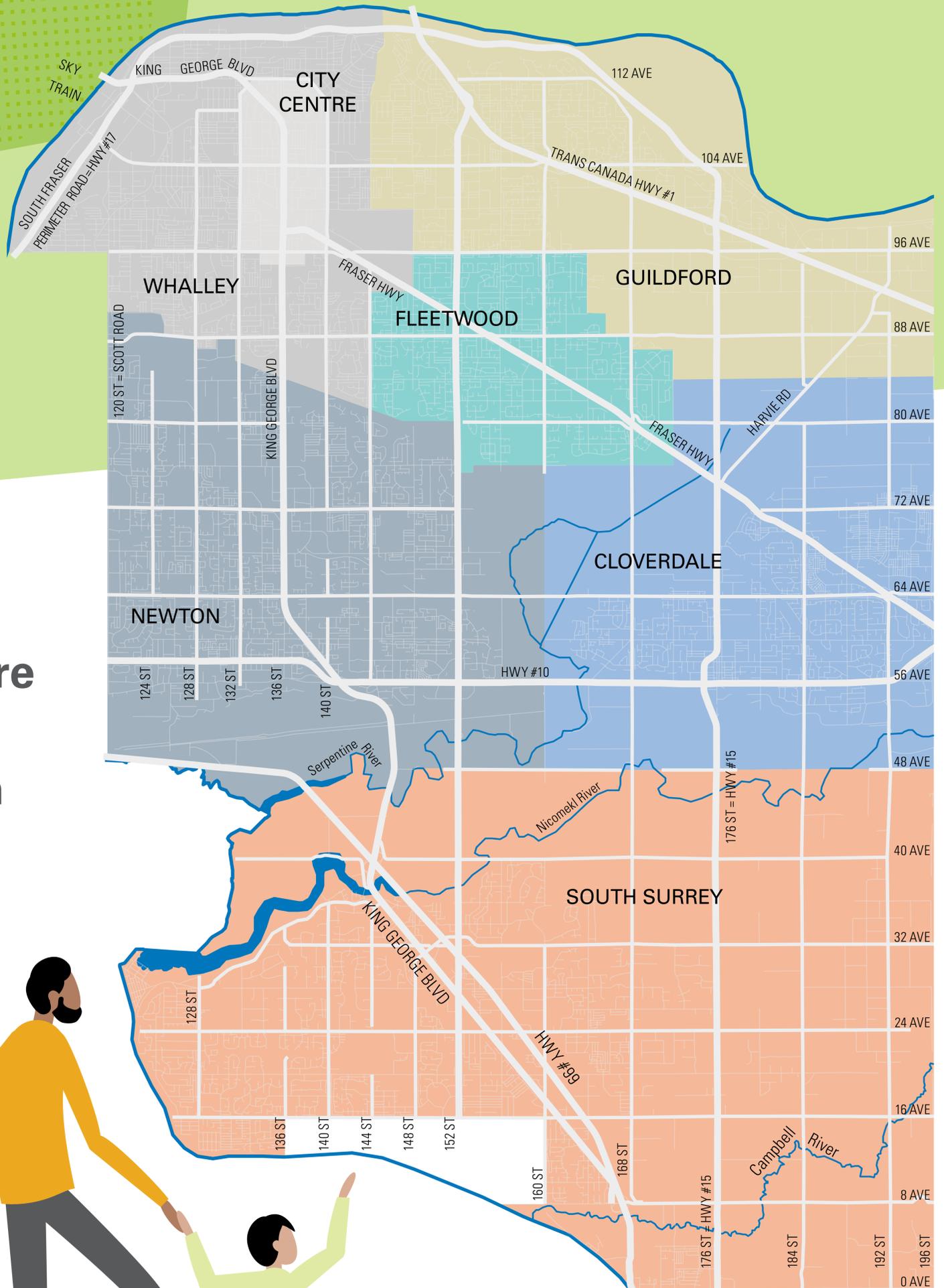


Take the online survey surrey.ca/budget2023

Surrey is situated on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the Semiahma (Semiahmoo), Ɂʷɑ:ńłəń (Kwantlen), and Ɂícəý (Katzie) land-based nations.

Where do you live?

Group 1



Share where you live by placing a pin on the map.



Why do we ask? To ensure we are hearing from all areas in Surrey.

Thank you for your participation in this open house.

Have a question? Ask us.

The City of Surrey welcomes your participation and feedback. In order to ensure this open house is welcoming for all, please abide by the following guidelines:



Use safe and respectful language



Be curious and ask questions; we will do our best to answer them or note them down



Support sharing and learning.



Budget Engagement Timeline

Group 1

It's important to us that residents have the opportunity to **provide feedback on what priorities are most important to them** as we move through our budget process.

Feedback from the online survey and open house sessions will help inform Council to approve a budget that reflects our community's needs and priorities.



January 2023

Public engagement on budget priorities

1

February 2023

Budget engagement results brought to Council

2

March 2023 Target

Draft Budget presented at Public Hearing

3

April 2023 Target

Council adoption of budget

4

Summer/Fall 2023

Ongoing engagement for future budget planning

5

Budget Overview

Group 2

There are three main components of the City's financial plan: Capital Program, General Operating, and Utilities Operating Program.

The City prepares a Five-Year Financial Plan in accordance with provincial legislation. The financial plan outlines the financing of initiatives associated with the City's strategic plans (e.g., Sustainability Charter, Parks, Rec. & Culture Strategic Plan, etc.) as well as Council's key priorities.

Council works to ensure that the financial plan is responsive to the needs of residents, provides adequate funding to maintain City services, and addresses the demands of growth throughout Surrey.

Capital Program

Funds all the things the City builds, from new structures to maintaining what we've already got, including: roads, utility infrastructure, recreation centres, city vehicles, fire halls, pools, arenas and libraries.



General Operating

Funds the delivery of every day programs and services like police, bylaw and fire services; attractions, recreation activities, parks and social programs.

Utilities Operating

Funds the operating costs of utilities including: roads, water, sewer, drainage, solid waste, parking, and Surrey City Energy.



The City provides every day programs and services that help keep people safe and that make Surrey a great place to live, work and visit. The City's current major capital budget includes 28 projects totaling investment of \$204 million committed over five years.

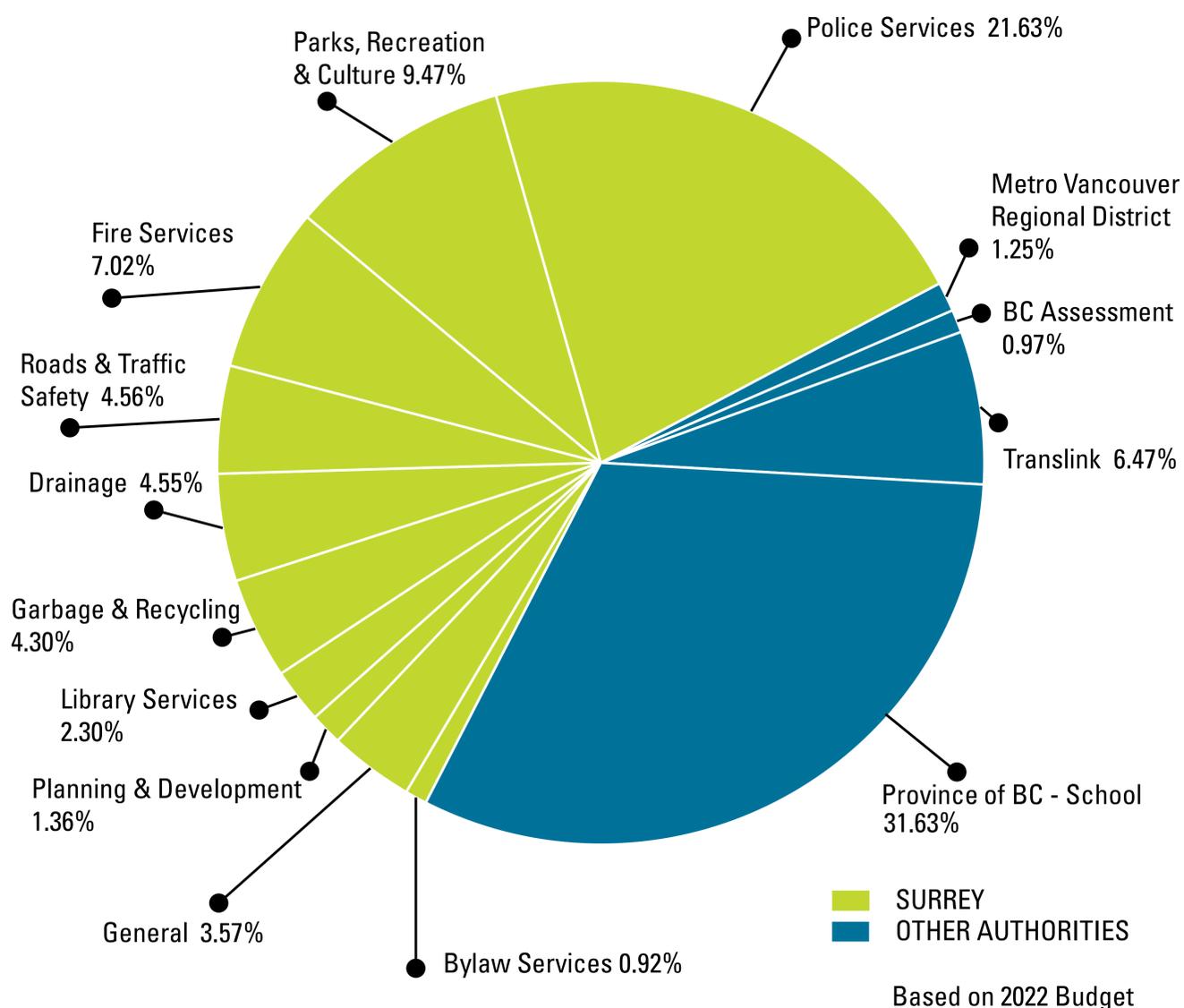
Where Your Tax Dollars Go

Group 2

As one of the fastest growing cities, Surrey is constantly striving to meet the needs of its growing and diverse population.

The City of Surrey continues to have one of the lowest property tax rates in the Metro Vancouver Region.

Property tax dollars help fund the priorities set out in the five-year financial plan, including recreation programming, fire and police services, and future infrastructure.



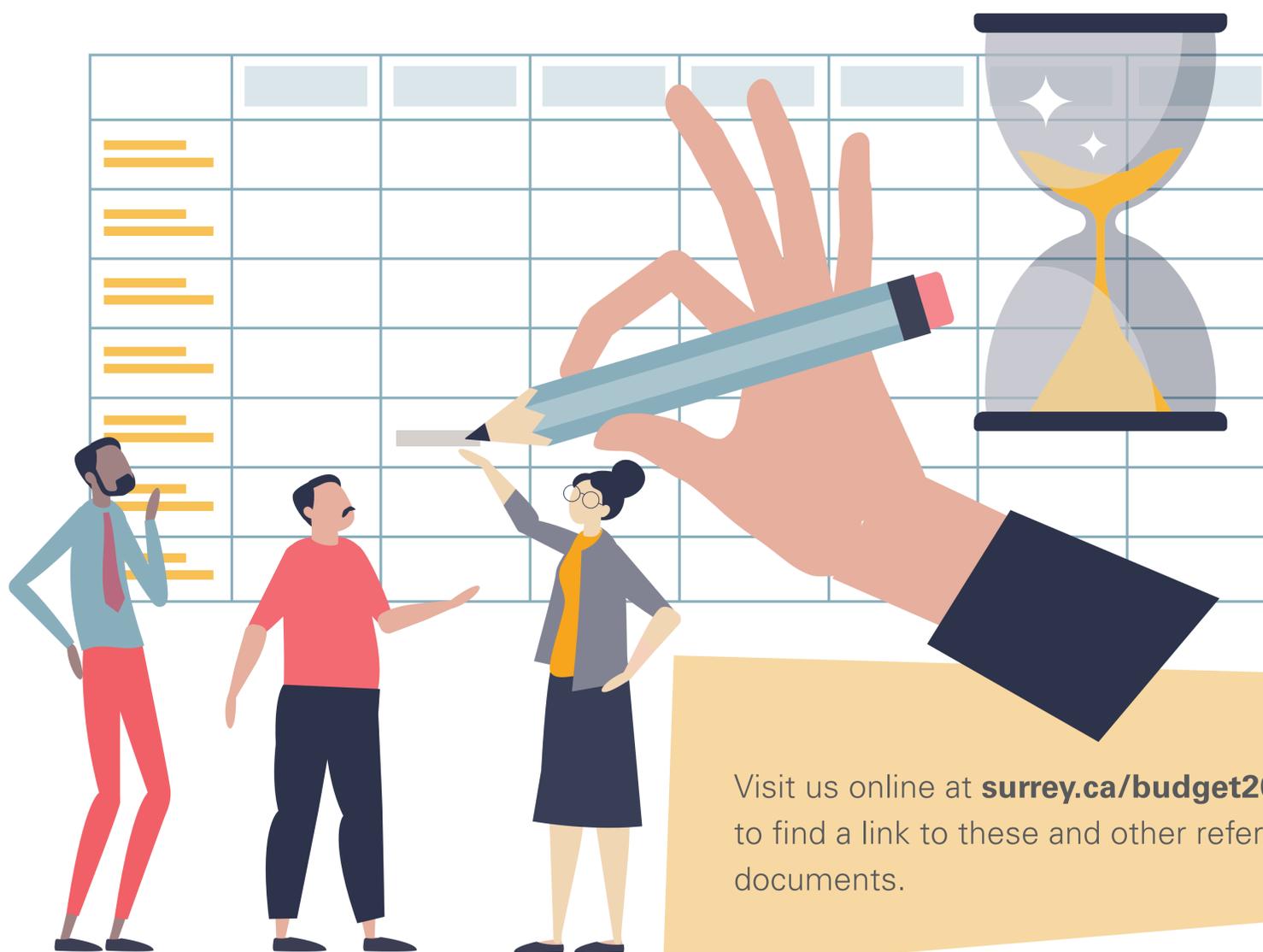
Drafting the Annual Budget

Group 3

The needs and requests of the community are balanced with ensuring service levels fit within the annual budget.

Each year, based on Council direction, City staff develop an annual budget that outlines where, when and how funds should be spent to deliver quality services to meet the needs of the community, support businesses and deliver on strategic priorities for the community, while balancing property taxes.

The following plans guide City decision making, including budgeting: the Sustainability Charter, the Official Community Plan, the Transportation Strategic Plan, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Strategic Plan, and the Surrey Public Library Strategic Plan, as well as Council's key priorities.



Visit us online at surrey.ca/budget2023 to find a link to these and other reference documents.

Economic Challenges

Group 3

There are a number of economic challenges and influencing factors that must be considered when drafting the budget.



These are some of the factors considered:

- Pandemic recovery
- Continued inflation
- Elevated construction costs
- Climate change and extreme weather events
- Ongoing transitions related to public safety

With the upcoming 2023 budget, the City is exploring ways to balance the budget while considering community priorities and ensuring the funding needed to support essential services, facilities and infrastructure. These considerations must be balanced with the desire to keep property taxes and fees at a manageable level.

Budget Balance Options

Group 3

Cities are legislated to have Council adopt a balanced budget each year.

In order to balance the budget while maintaining current service levels and address new funding priorities, the City needs to consider a combination of the funding options for the coming year.

Possible options include the following:

- **Maintain** the current service level through **a combination** of a moderate property tax and user fee increases.
- **Maintain** the current service level using **only property tax increases**.
- **Expand** the current service level through **a combination** of potentially more substantial property tax and user fee increases.
- **Expand** the current service level using **only property tax increases**.
- **Reduce service levels** – continue to offer the same services but not to the same level (e.g., reduced hours or programming in facilities) and keep property tax and user fee increases to a minimum.



Take our online survey **to tell us which of the above options you support.**

What do you think?

Group 4

Do you have any **comments to share** on the 2023 budget priorities?



Write your comments on the sticky notes provided and stick them on this board.



Take our online survey **to share what matters to you.**

Thank you for attending our open house!

Group 4

How to stay **involved**

Visit the Budget Engagement page surrey.ca/budget2023 where you can:

Ask a **question**

Sign up to receive **updates** on the City's budget through an e-newsletter

Check back to see the **results** of the survey



Please remember to take the **online survey** by **January 22** to share what matters to you!