



West Hants

something inspiring awaits

2026-2027 BUDGET OVERVIEW

Council approved the 2026-2027 budget on April 14, 2026, Council continues to the Municipality continues to experience sustained growth, development, and improved regional connectivity, supported by strategic investments made over the past six years. The proposed 2026–27 Operating Budget reflects a forward-looking approach that prioritizes service improvement, financial resilience, and long-term sustainability amid challenging economic conditions.

The detailed budgets can be accessed at <https://www.westhants.ca/financial-services.html>

RATE SUMMARY

Commercial	2025-2026	2026-2027
General Rate	0.98	0.98

Communities	Combined Area Rates*	
West Hants Rate	1.78	1.78
Hantsport Rate	3.75	3.70
Windsor Rate	3.85	3.80

Residential	2025-2026	2026-2027
General Rate	0.7831	0.8361

Communities	Combined Area Rates*	
West Hants Rate	1.0123	1.0123
Hantsport Rate	1.3537	1.2637
Windsor Rate	1.6464	1.5564

*Combined area rates means all rates applicable to that community.

Tax bills are due September 1, 2026

TAXES

The tax rate structure is set up with a general rate and three area rates from the former municipal boundaries of the Town of Windsor, Municipality of West Hants, and the Town of Hantsport. Over the last five years Council has been moving items gradually from the area rates to the general rate. This year with the new regional waste collection contract, waste collection is being proposed under the general rate.

The approved budget for 2026-2027 will have maintained the residential tax rate for West Hants, while reducing the Hantsport and Windsor rates by nine-cents. With sustained tax rates for commercially assessed properties in the West Hants boundary. Reducing the Windsor and Hantsport commercial tax rate by five cents.

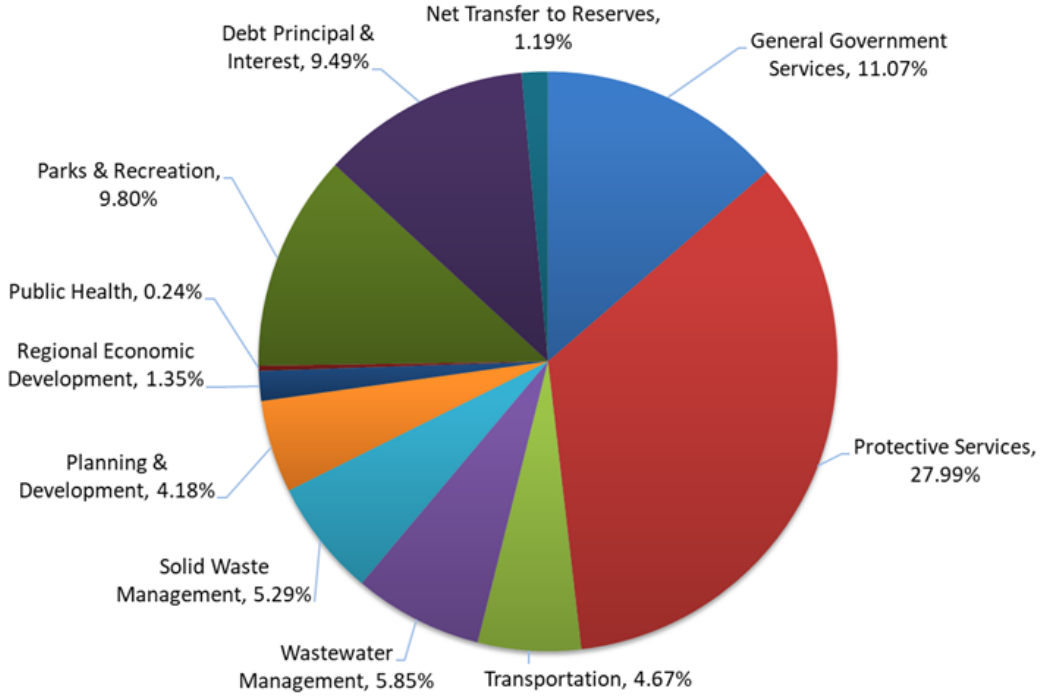
When West Hants Rate is used as the baseline for comparison, the average residential tax burden is approximately 25 percent higher in Hantsport and 54 percent higher in Windsor.

The 2026-2027 operating budget totals \$39.9 Million. Provincial services payments make up \$7.5 million of the Municipal expenses, representing 38.8% of general tax rates. The remaining tax dollars are used to maintain municipal service levels and make up 69.9% of the Municipality’s revenue sources.

2026-2027 OPERATING BUDGET AT A GLANCE

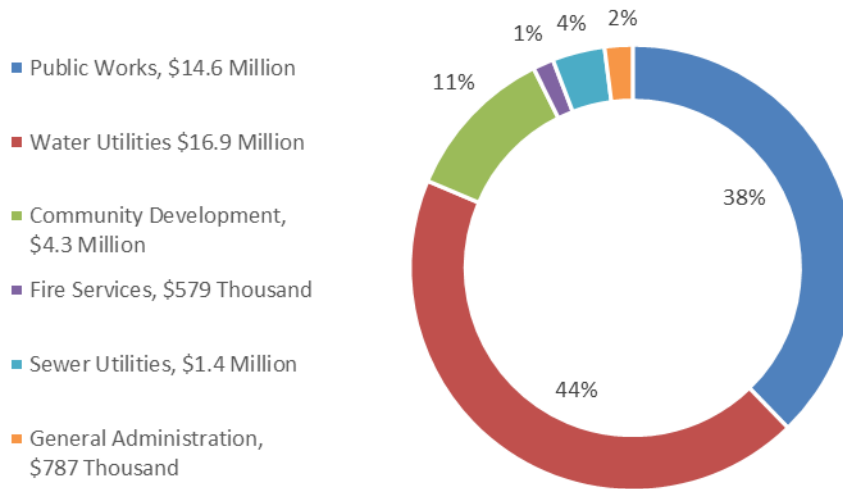
REVENUE	EXPENDITURES Cont.
Assessable Property Taxes	Hantsport Area Rate Expenditures for Municipal Services
\$ 33,674,008	Protective Services
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	\$ -
\$ 240,577	Wastewater Management
Services to Other Governments	\$ -
\$ 1,955,246	Cemetery
Sales of Service	\$ 35,900.38
\$ 978,691	Regional Economic Development
Other Revenue from Own Sources	\$ 3,588.00
\$ 1,091,096	HMCC
Unconditional Transfers	\$ 172,589.03
\$ 1,623,314	Debt Principal & Interest
Conditional Transfers	\$ -
\$ 400,494	Net Transfer to Reserves
TOTAL \$ 39,963,425	\$ 348,885.00
EXPENDITURES	Windsor Area Rate Expenditures for Municipal Services
General Rate Expenditures for Municipal Services	General Government Services
General Government Services	\$ 242,686.80
\$ 4,017,013.46	Protective Services
Protective Services	\$ 1,938,656.03
\$ 4,723,990.74	Roads, Streets, & Sidewalks
Roads & Streets	\$ -
\$ 1,865,321.94	Wastewater Management
Wastewater Management	\$ -
\$ 2,337,763.69	Solid Waste Management
Solid Waste Management	\$ -
\$ 2,115,786.81	Cemetery
Planning & Development	\$ 58,912.75
\$ 1,671,298.92	Regional Economic Development
Regional Economic Development	\$ 104,700.74
\$ 431,453.90	Debt Principal & Interest
Parks & Recreation	\$ 437,555.18
\$ 3,743,279.10	Net Transfer to Reserves
Debt Principal & Interest	\$ 1,198,550.29
\$ 2,665,256.41	
Net Transfer to Reserves	
\$ 258,897.75	Expenditures Mandated by the Province
	Regional Library Board
	\$ 201,600.00
	Provincial Roads
	\$ 221,000.00
	Prosecuting Attorney
	\$ 25,000.00
	Regional Housing Authority
	\$ -
	Assessment Services
	\$ 382,869.00
	Mandatory Education Contribution
	\$ 6,715,945.94
	Total Expenditures
	\$ 39,963,425
West Hants Area Rate Expenditures for Municipal Services	
General Government Services	\$ 166,151.12
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Protective Services	\$ 4,523,530.73
\$ 4,523,530.73	
Roads, Streets, & Sidewalks	\$ -
\$ -	
Wastewater Management	\$ -
\$ -	
Solid Waste Management	\$ -
\$ -	
Debt Principal & Interest	\$ 687,827.46
\$ 687,827.46	
Net Transfer to Reserves	-\$ 1,332,586.55
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2026-2027 Distribution of Tax Dollars



CAPITAL INVESTMENT

There are a number of capital projects identified across the Municipality for 2026-2027 totaling a projected \$38.7 million. These are funded through Canada Community Building Fund, Reserves, General Operations, Long-Term Debt, and Provincial/Federal Funding.



Overall, the 2026–27 budget positions the Municipality to respond effectively to immediate financial pressures while supporting sustainable growth and long-term community well-being.