



MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 25, 2021

King Township council approves 2021 budget

No increase on Township portion of tax bill

King Township council approved a zero per cent increase in net levy requirements—the portion of the tax bill that goes to the Township—to support the 2021 operating and capital budgets at the Jan. 25 council meeting.

The other two components of the tax bill are payments to the Ministry of Education and York Region. Those two components still have to be finalized by York Region and the Ministry of Education.

“The past year has been extraordinarily difficult on all of our residents,” said King Township Mayor Steve Pellegrini. “Many of them have seen their work hours cut during the COVID-19 pandemic, while others have been laid off. We could not ask them to pay more on the Township’s portion of their tax bill.”

Mayor Pellegrini said that despite the additional costs of introducing new technology to maintain service levels during the pandemic, staff have looked for efficiencies in other areas in order to keep the Township’s portion of the tax bill flat.

“I’m extremely proud of the work council and staff have done to continue offering not only our essential services like Fire and Emergency Services, waste collection and road and sidewalk maintenance, but we’ve been able to offer new services. This includes virtual recreation programs, a brand new website with many new online services and curbside pickup of blue and green bins,” said Mayor Pellegrini.

Some of the highlights from the capital budget include:

- Improvements to various Community Parks (\$2 million)
 - Blue Heron, Kettle Lake; Tomlinson Gardens, Nobleton Lions Community Park, Tasca Community Park, St. Andrews, OSIN Park
- Schomberg Community Hall renovation and accessibility upgrade (\$1 million)
- Road-related infrastructure repairs and conversion of gravel roads (\$2.5 million)
- Nobleton Sewers Phase 3 (\$14.6 million)

In addition to infrastructure investment, property tax dollars pay for a wide range of programs and services including snow removal from roads and sidewalks, road and bridge repairs and maintenance, fire and emergency services, parks, arenas and four library branches.

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Lying in the heart of the Greater Toronto Area, King Township is located within York Region, one of the fastest growing and diverse economies in Canada. More than 60 per cent of the Holland Marsh, also known as Ontario's salad bowl, lies within King Township. Though predominantly rural, most of King Township's 20,000 residents live in the communities of King City, Nobleton and Schomberg. Residents and visitors are drawn to King because of its rural lifestyle, village atmosphere and quality of life.

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The total approved 2021 operating budget is \$46 million, while the total approved capital budget is \$22 million.

In order to obtain as much input from the public as possible, King Township offered residents several engagement opportunities. These included a virtual Public Information Centre and an online budget priority survey on King's digital engagement platform at www.speaking.king.ca.

King has also put together a budget quick reference guide which can be accessed at <https://www.king.ca/budget> along with a complete set of documents related to the 2021 budget.

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