

Public Engagement

City of Saint John Long Term Financial Plan





About the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP)

The Budget Simulator: Public Engagement for the LTFP



About the Long Term Financial Plan?

- Best Practice in Financial Governance and Policy;
- Long term Targets to reduce the City's Infrastructure Deficit;
- Long term Targets to reduce the City's Long Term Debt;
- Long term Financial Strategies to eliminate the Structural Deficit;
- Long term planning of tax rates;
- Long Term Capital Investment Planning;
- Financial Monitoring.



Long Term Financial Plan

Initiatives	Target	Deliverables
Public Engagement	Q1/ 2019	 Obtain community feedback respecting expectations and prioritization of service delivery through the Citizen Survey and online web based tool
10 Year Financial Plan	Q3/ 2019	 Prepare a 10-Year Operating and Capital Plan
Financial Policies	Q3/ 2019	 Council approved financial policies that will strengthen the governance respecting fiscal responsibility and influence decision making during the budget planning process;
Financial Health Report Card	Q4/ 2019	 Annual Report Card on Financial Health (Sustainability, Flexibility, Vulnerability)





Budget Simulator – Public Engagement for the LTFP

- Best Practice in Long Term Financial Planning
- Public input on funding priorities to inform long term strategic direction of the City
- Opportunity to Communicate to the Public:
 - On the Value Taxpayers Receive in City Services
 - On the realities of balancing revenues and expenditures
- We are looking for themes, in terms of what value the community places on various services.

One of many inputs into the development of the Long Term Financial Plan!



Best Practice





Challenge: Beginning in 2021, it is expected that the City will face a \$12 million shortfall. The City will undertake, as part of further austerity measures, efforts to reduce this shortfall by \$3 million by the end of 2020, leaving the City with a \$9 million shortfall to address.

- This tool allows users to increase or decrease service area budgets and to see real consequences expressed as changes to service levels.
- We are featuring employees who agreed to be a part of the videos and demonstrate the work they do in the community.



How can the Public find out more?

- Visit saintjohn.ca, Facebook, and Twitter for updates from the City of Saint John
- Tune in to Common Council March 25 for a presentation and official launch of the Budget Simulator via saintjohn.ca
- Tune in to local media
- Email us: <u>SJBudgetSimulator@saintjohn.ca</u>



Next Steps / Timeline







Thank you

