

March 7, 2024



## Parksville's 2024-2028 Financial Plan (Provisional)

Each year, the City of Parksville prepares a five-year financial plan to meet the needs of our community today and into the future. Guided by Council priorities, the City's annual budget is part of the five-year financial plan which sets the priority services, programs and initiatives for the next five years and how the City will pay for them. Beginning in November, the City held three Committee of the Whole meetings and two special Council meetings to consider input from residents, stakeholder groups and staff.

The 2024-2028 financial plan details the City's operating costs, capital plan, funding sources, and tax and utility rates for the five-year period. The City's plan aims to balance the pressures of a growing community with ongoing maintenance, expected service levels and infrastructure improvements and where possible, reduce the burden on residents.



For the average home value in Parksville, the provisional budget for 2024 includes an increase of 6.6% (estimated to be \$171 for an average priced home) in municipal taxes, 5% (\$15) in water fees and 3% (\$6) in sanitary sewer fees. Highlights from the 2024-2028 financial plan include:

### Increased service levels starting in 2024:

- Fire department - one new career fire rescue service technician
- Policing - one new RCMP member
- Downtown/parks - new special events coordinator position

**2024-2028 investments in capital assets and infrastructure renewal:**

- \$1.5 million asphalt patching, overlays, crack sealing in 2024
- \$400,000 salt shed replacement
- \$100,000 Shelly Road Centre playground
- \$3.675 million per year roads and drainage infrastructure renewal
- \$150,000 replacement of critical emergency communications infrastructure
- \$2 million Parksville Pathway project from Parksville Community Park to Englishman River estuary
- \$500,000 utilities instrumentation and controls renewal
- \$825,000 per year water and sanitary sewer infrastructure renewal

**Investments in reserves for future expenditures:**

Establishment of protective services reserve for policing and fire rescue services' future capital and operating expenditures, starting with an annual incremental contribution of 0.2% of property tax revenues and a one-time transfer of \$1.5 million from unrestricted surplus, totalling \$2.01 million over five years.

- Significant upcoming protective services expenditures include renovation to the fire hall, ongoing replacement of fire apparatus and increased staffing and operating costs tied to growing population (e.g. the City's incremental share of policing costs increases from 70% to 90% when the population exceeds 15,000).

Continuation of the annual incremental increase of 0.5% of property taxes contributed to the capital reserve for infrastructure renewal, totalling \$2.466 million over five years. Reserves support financial sustainability goals with respect to critical infrastructure investment and renewal.

Other strategic priority projects included in the five-year plan:

- \$750,000 drinking water master plan
- \$300,000 downtown lighting project to enhance place making and safetyCity-hosted celebrations and events in Memorial Plaza and Parksville Community Park
- Requirements of new provincial legislation related to housing plan/OCP amendments, short-term rental regulations and the Emergency and Disaster Management Act
- Completion of master plans for water, sanitary sewer, storm drainage and transportation

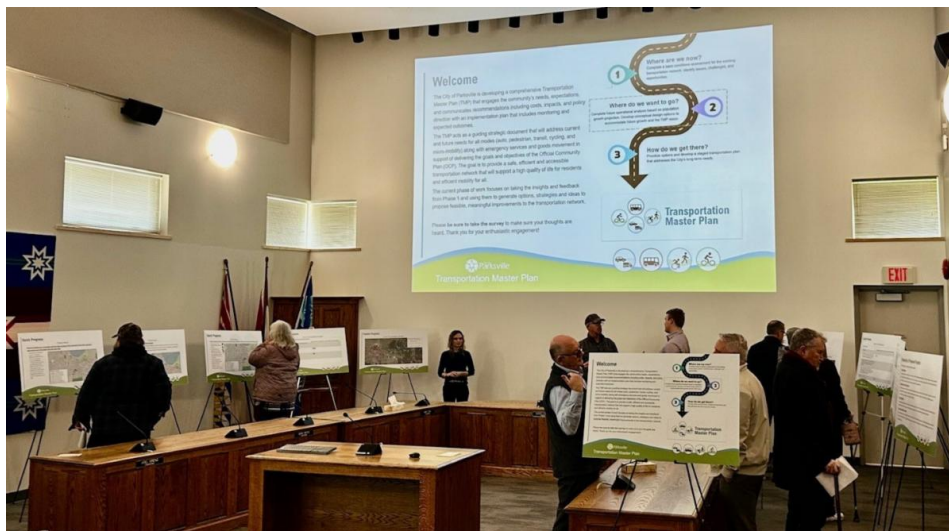
At the meeting held on March 4, Council approved the provisional financial plan bylaw. Both the five-year financial plan bylaw and property tax rates bylaw must be adopted by May 15 of each year.

On March 4, Council approved the provisional financial plan bylaw. The April 8 meeting will revisit the provisional plan and 2024 property tax rates with further meetings in April and May. The five-year financial plan and property tax rates bylaws must be adopted by May 15. Residents and taxpayers are encouraged to provide feedback on the plan by attending meetings, reviewing information on [Let's Talk Parksville](#) and providing comments by email to [Council@parksville.ca](mailto:Council@parksville.ca).



Thank you to those who participated so far in the City’s transportation master plan project; two open houses and one survey. We appreciate that many people have shared ideas and experiences related to transportation in the City. The information presented to the public at the March 5 open house may be viewed on [Let’s Talk Parksville](#). As part of phase 2 engagement, we are again asking for your feedback. We invite Parksville residents to share their feedback on what’s been accomplished so far and to ensure the new transportation master plan accurately reflects the needs of the community. This [survey](#) is open until April 5.

We encourage residents to review details on [Let’s Talk Parksville](#) which includes information presented at the open houses, the results from the first phase engagement, [What We Heard Report](#), as well as the base conditions report prepared by consultant, McElhanney Ltd.



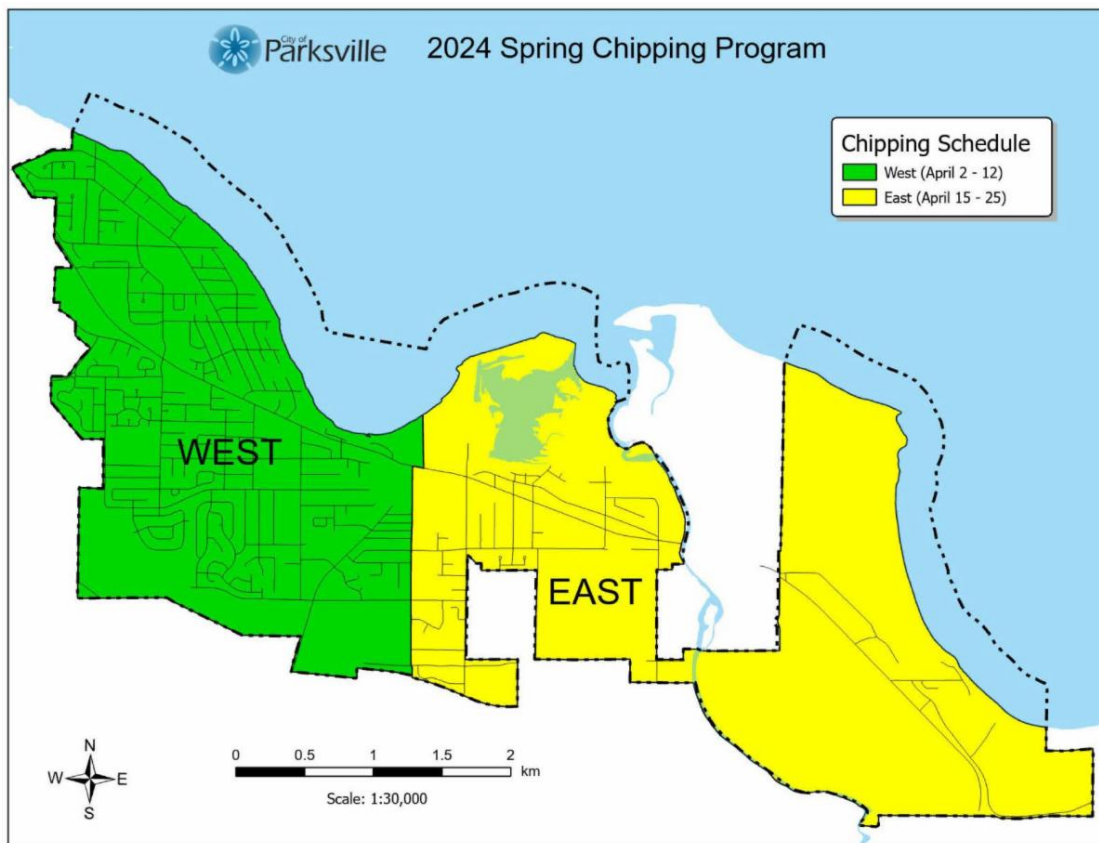
News Release

Take the Survey!

## Annual Wood Chipping Program

The City’s 2024 wood chipping program will take place April 2 through April 25 and will be the only wood chipping program offered this year. The City is divided into

two zones - west of Craig Street and east of Craig Street. Properties located west of Craig Street will receive collection between April 2 and April 12 and collection for properties east of Craig Street is scheduled between April 15 and April 25. Materials must be at curbside by 8 am. More information on our [website](#).

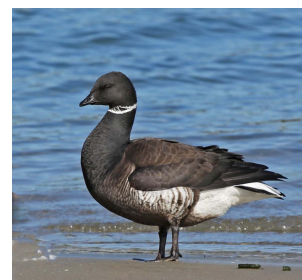


## Watermain Flushing

Our annual program which runs through April, is an important part of our ongoing maintenance program, ensuring the integrity of the water supply system. Flushing occurs mainly between 7.30 am and 3.30 pm, weekdays. Residents can expect some discolouration of water and intermittent drops in pressure and should keep a fresh supply of drinking water in your fridge. Check for discolouration of water before doing laundry and if discoloured, run an outside tap (after 3.30 pm) until it runs clear. [ops@parkville.ca](mailto:ops@parkville.ca).

## No Dogs on Beaches Please

To limit disturbance of migrating Black Brant geese, our beaches are subject to temporary seasonal "no dog" restrictions. This applies to on-leash and off-leash within the Parkville-Qualicum Beach Wildlife Management Area. Rath Trevor Beach and Parkville Bay Beach are closed until April 30.



## Damage Caused by Ebike Riders

Electric motorbikes are a popular way to get around; however, we are experiencing significant damage and vandalism to our parks and trails caused by a few ebike riders who are using the electric bikes as if they were motorbikes, using the torque to rip up our parks and trails.





The new Maple Glen trail worksite was damaged last week, and this senseless vandalism is also an issue in the Parksville Community Park where riders are ripping up turf, riding through gardens and vegetated areas not meant for any bicycle. This same damage has been caused to trails and off trail areas in the Parksville Wetlands and Springwood Park. The City's bylaw compliance officers, security patrols and the RCMP have been made aware of the damage.

We are also concerned ebikes are being ridden at dangerous speeds in pedestrian areas. We encourage residents to report damage or riders tearing up trails to the RCMP.

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## Parksville Pooch Photo Contest

Thanks to all dog owners who sent in pictures of their precious pups to our Parksville Pooch photo contest. Congratulations to Pepper and Pyper whose names were drawn as the winners. The winners receive a free dog licence for 2024 and some delicious doggie treats! Although there can only be two winners, we think every pup is beautiful and deserves the spotlight! Check out the album on [Facebook](#).



**Pepper**



**Pyper**

## REMINDERS AND THINGS TO KNOW...

- **Water Restriction Stage 1** in April allows for watering of lawns between 7 pm and 7 am, any day. Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from water restrictions.
- **Parksville's 2024 Canada Day Celebrations** - planning is underway and event details, parade forms, and more information will be available on the City's website and *Let's Talk Parksville* later this month. Please send us your suggestions and ideas and let us know if you would like to be involved at [canadaday@parksville.ca](mailto:canadaday@parksville.ca).
- **Recycle BC pop-up depot** in Parksville will continue this year, accepting free of charge, flexible plastic packaging, white and coloured foam packaging, glass packaging and paper packaging and cardboard. Materials may be dropped off

from 10 am to 3 pm at 1080 Industrial Way, Parksville. For dates and more info visit Recycle BC [website](#).

# WE'RE HIRING!

We are seeking qualified candidates for these positions:

**Temporary Caretaker/Custodian**  
**Temporary Manager of Utilities**  
**Engineering Technologists II and III**

*Click here to check us out!*

## COMING UP AT COUNCIL

### Next Council Meeting - Monday, March 18 at 1 pm

Our next regular Council meeting will be held on Monday, March 18 at 1 pm. Here's some general information for you:

- Meeting agendas are posted to the website on the Thursday before a Monday meeting.
- Meetings may be viewed from webstreaming on our website, both live and archived.
- We post meeting highlights to the website the day after the Council meeting, a great way to catch up on decisions made by Council at the meeting.
- The public is welcome to attend meetings in person. Meetings are held in the Forum, 100 Jensen Avenue East.
- Comments may be emailed to [council@parksville.ca](mailto:council@parksville.ca). Residents wishing comments to be considered by Council prior to the meetings, should be received by 4 pm on the working day before the meeting.

[Agendas](#) | [Minutes](#) | [Reports](#)

## CITY DATES

March 18	Council Meeting
March 29/April 1	Easter Holidays (offices closed)
April 3	Council Meeting
April 8	Special Council Meeting (Financial Plan)
April 15	Council Meeting
April/May	TBD – Financial Plan
May 6	Council Meeting
May 20	Victoria Day Holiday (offices closed)
May 22	Council Meeting
June 3	Council Meeting
June 6	Dance with Me at Memorial

**For more information:**

Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications  
250 954-3073; [communications@parksville.ca](mailto:communications@parksville.ca)

[parksville.ca](http://parksville.ca) | [letstalkparksville.ca](http://letstalkparksville.ca)



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