

Colwood Connection

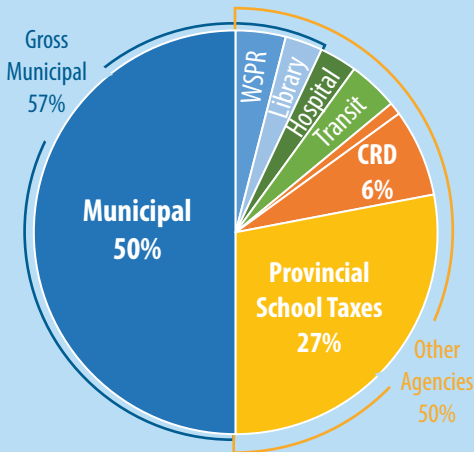
Involving you in decisions about our seaside community connected to nature.

May 2024

Exploring the trails at Lookout Lake
— Jesse Holland Photography

DYK? Only half of your tax bill is municipal tax.

50% is collected for OTHER AGENCIES. It all goes on one tax notice so you don't have to pay multiple bills.



RATE OF INFLATION*
3.9%
*BC Stats Victoria CPI, Dec '23

Increase for CITY SERVICES & CAPITAL PROJECTS
3.26%

ADD: SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE
1.64%

TOTAL TAX INCREASE
4.90%

www.colwood.ca/Budget

Supporting the needs of our growing community

Attracting new businesses

71 business licences issued to date in 2024 including 9 new eateries. With new commercial space and a vision for the future of the Colwood Corners area, we're creating a Retail Strategy to attract the right mix of restaurants and retail to Colwood. Colwood.ca/RetailStrategy

Parks & Recreation New parks and improvements are guided by the Parks & Recreation Plan at Colwood Creek Park and in Royal Bay and the Beachlands. The City has prepared a Community Centre feasibility study to plan for future recreation space as we grow. Colwood.ca/Parks

Access to health care The City is exploring an opportunity to address our physician shortage by establishing a clinic in Royal Bay Commons. Colwood.ca/Health

Supporting youth We are working to connect youth to people, activities, and programs that support their health, safety, well-being, and success. Colwood.ca/Youth

Climate Action Leadership Colwood's Climate Action Plan outlines clear pathways to reduce emissions, adapt to our changing climate, mitigate risk and maximize co benefits. Colwood.ca/ClimateAction

As a rapidly growing community, Colwood faces increasing operational and capital demands. In addition to building new infrastructure, the City must keep pace with maintenance and repair of infrastructure such as roads, parks, storm and sewer systems, as well as serving and protecting the safety of a growing number of citizens. **Municipal services represent a 3.26% property tax increase.**

Shouldn't new development provide revenue that reduces tax rates?

New tax revenue primarily funds the increased costs generated by development, including ongoing maintenance and repair of an expanded network of roads, storm systems, sidewalks, parks, and trails, as well as the public safety and service needs of a growing population.

Improving how we move

In addition to capital projects like the Galloping Goose Bridge, Waterfront Walkway and sidewalk projects, we're updating the Transportation Master plan. Updates will be guided by public input, a traffic model that shows the impact of planned development, technical data, and guiding documents such as the OCP, Active Transportation, Climate Action, and Parks & Rec Plans. Learn more at Colwood.ca/Transportation

Keeping up with housing demand

Colwood's Official Community Plan positions our community well for Provincial housing mandates in transit oriented areas, specifically in and around the Colwood Transit Exchange. Colwood.ca/Housing

Arts & Culture Arts and cultural events, projects, and partnerships seek to support social connections, foster community pride, and enrich quality of life. We're working to strengthen relationships with local Nations and make Indigenous history and culture more visible in Colwood. Colwood.ca/Arts

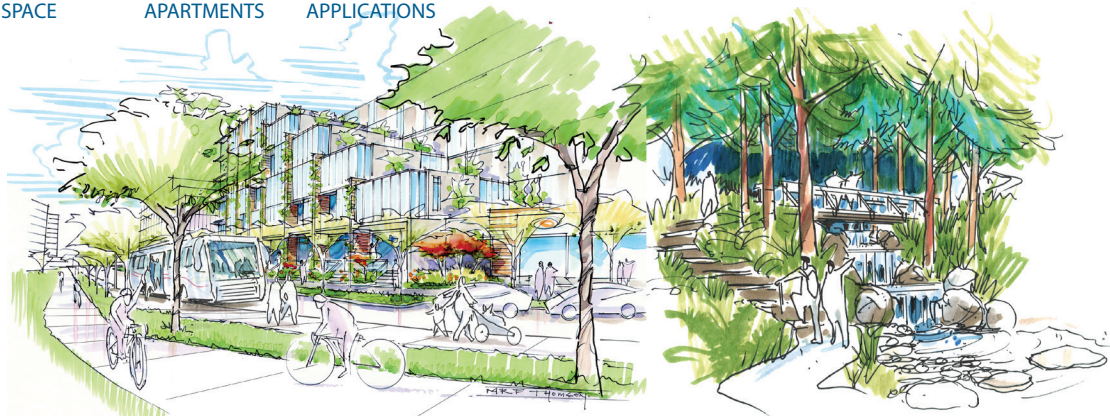
The City ensures funds are set aside for repair and replacement of aging infrastructure: sewer and storm systems, roads, bridges and other critical assets. **Future infrastructure replacement represents a 1.64% increase.** The average single family residential property in Colwood has an assessed value of \$1.047M and will pay about \$2,465 in municipal taxes plus \$1,960 in non-municipal taxes.

Flip for more



2023 Fast facts: Serving & maintaining a seaside community connected to nature

22,256 RESIDENTS	7,688 HOUSEHOLDS	211 NEW HOMES	435 BUILDING PERMITS	240 TREES PLANTED	227 acres PARKLAND	69 CITY PARKS	7.6km OCEANFRONT	1 NATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD SANCTUARY		
722 BUSINESSES	16,605 sq ft NEW COMMERCIAL SPACE	99 NEW RENTAL APARTMENTS	123 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS	12 sq km URBAN FOREST	1 SPRAY PARK	7 PLAYGROUNDS	400m NATURE STAIRS	3 NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES		
1 RCMP OFFICER FOR EVERY 985 PEOPLE								1 LAKE		
857 FIRE CALLS								3 CREEKS		
12 CAREER FIREFIGHTERS								11 BRIDGES		
34 PAID ON CALL FIREFIGHTERS								9 ZERO EMISSION VEHICLES		
\$350M INFRASTRUCTURE	101km PAVED ROAD	45km SIDEWALKS	83m NEW SIDEWALKS	16km BIKE LANES	61km SEWERS	69 NEW SEWER CONNECTIONS	10 PUMP STATIONS	69km STORM DRAINS	1,320 CATCH BASINS	22,047 BRANCH DROP OFFS
555,464 TRANSIT BOARDINGS	233,599 GALLOPING GOOSE CYCLING TRIPS	8 PEDESTRIAN & CYCLING COUNTERS	36 WAYFINDING SIGNS	65 STREET BANNERS	56 FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS	59 LIVE-STREAMED MEETINGS	5,168 LET'S TALK REGISTRANTS	4 VIDEOS PRODUCED	14,701 FOLLOWERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA	



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: ENVIRONMENT ECONOMY INFRASTRUCTURE ENGAGEMENT WELL BEING GOVERNANCE

Top 5 ways the City works to keep you informed and involved

- Detailed plans for our community**
Review the Official Community Plan, Strategic Plan, Financial Plan, Transportation Plan, Parks & Recreation Plan and Climate Action Plan. Colwood.ca/Plans
- Live streamed public meetings** understand the complex considerations of each decision. Colwood.ca/Meetings
- Engagement opportunities** like the Ideas Fair, Citizen Satisfaction Survey, Life in Colwood Survey & Let's Talk Colwood engagement platform. www.LetsTalkColwood
- Citizen committees** to bring your viewpoint to recommendations that Council considers when making decisions about land use, infrastructure, active transportation, parks & recreation, environment, waterfront, heritage and other topics. Colwood.ca/Committees
- Access to information about projects & initiatives** Keep an eye on Colwood.ca as it updated with new tools to provide more timely and complete information about what's being proposed in your neighbourhood. Colwood.ca

Loan Authorization for a Public Works Operations Facility

The City is borrowing approximately \$8.4M to finance the cost to construct a Public Works Operations Facility built to post-disaster standards to also support an emergency operations centre.

The City is conducting an Alternative Approval Process for this Loan Authorization Bylaw, and will go forward with the borrow if fewer than 10% of electors oppose the borrow by signing and submitting an Elector Response Form. If you are supportive of this borrowing, no action is required. If you are opposed to this borrowing, please submit an Elector Response form by June 24, 2024.

Get all the details about Alternative Approval Process, including a copy of the Elector Response Form at www.colwood.ca/AAP



PROPERTY TAX DUE Jul 2, 2024

- 1. Claim your homeowner grant:**
Online only at etax.gov.bc.ca/btp/HOG
- 2. Pay one of several ways:**
 - Through online or phone banking
 - 24 hour drop box at City Hall
 - Mail to 3300 Wishart Rd. V9C 1R1
 - Through your mortgage lender
 - At your banking institution
 - Tax deferral program
 - At City Hall

What's the fastest way to pay?
Through your Online Banking!

CONNECT WITH COLWOOD

We want to make it easy for you to have a say in decisions about your community.

Get in touch, share ideas, and get involved.

Phone: 250-478-5999

Online: www.colwood.ca

Email: info@colwood.ca

Requests: colwood.ca/ActionRequest

Engage: LetsTalkColwood.ca

Subscribe: colwood.ca/subscribe

Social: [@CityofColwood](https://www.instagram.com/CityofColwood)

JOIN US AT SUMMER EVENTS!

Music in the Park Fri & Sat 5:30 -7:30pm

Beach Food Saturday & Sundays 12-7pm

Eat & Beats Beach Party July 27

Arts & Culture Colwood events at
170 Goldfinch Road

Visit www.colwood.ca/Events

LET'S TALK, COLWOOD

We need your input to help guide improvements. Please share your thoughts at www.LetsTalkColwood