

COVID-19 Response: City of Saskatoon Finances

The COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges for the entire economy, and far-reaching financial impacts for citizens, businesses and governments, including the City of Saskatoon.

- › Physical distancing
- › Stay at home orders
- › Facility & venue closures
- › Lost revenues
- › Increased costs to keep employees and the public as safe as possible

On **April 27, 2020**, City Council approved a wide-ranging plan to ease financial stress on the City and to keep up the core civic services Saskatoon residents rely on every day. The City's financial recovery strategy lines up with the guidelines set out in the provincial government's Re-Open Saskatchewan plan.

The City will continue to do its part to make responsible financial decisions to:

- › Reduce overall spending.
- › Address and make up shortfalls by using the Fiscal Stabilization Reserve.
- › Work with other levels of government for solutions and financial help.
- › If discussions with other orders of government do not fully address the City's funding needs, further reductions to spending in 2021, including possible deferral of some capital works, will be considered to address any remaining deficit.

What to expect:

PROPERTY TAXES WILL NOT BE AFFECTED BY COVID-19

Even with a projected deficit, City Council's financial response plan **does not** include any new increases to municipal property tax in 2021 as a result of COVID-19.

In November 2019, the City approved property tax increases of 3.70% for 2020 and 3.87% in 2021. These increases are proceeding as planned and are unaffected by COVID-19.

Core civic services will be maintained:



Fire • Police • Transit • Waste & Recycling Collection • Power, Water & Sewer Landfill • Road Maintenance • Construction & Major Projects • Cemetery Services

Planned capital projects will continue:

Our 2020 budgeted construction projects will go forward this year. Investing approximately **\$390 million** in financial activity will help keep our economy going, and businesses able to hire and keep people employed.

\$390M

Minor changes to some services:

- › **Street Sweeping:**
Yellow signs up May 25+: please move your car if you can. Cars may be towed nearby, but no tickets will be issued.
- › **Parks Maintenance:**
Slight decrease in mowing and watering this summer.



Postponement of projects that impact residents financially:

- › **Lead Pipe Replacement:**
The program previously scheduled for Summer 2020 will not take place.



For the latest updates visit:
saskatoon.ca/COVID-19

 City of
Saskatoon