

Budget 2024/2025 Recap

- 2024/25 General Operating Budget \$3,112,504
- 2024/25 Capital Budget \$11,015,631 with projected \$3,518,926 in external funding
- 2024/25 Fire Department Operating Budget \$846,205
- 2024/25 Fire Department Capital Budget \$702,945
- 2024/25 Electric Utility Operating Budget \$2,968,058
- 2024/25 Electric Utility Capital Budget \$147,000
- 2024/25 Water Utility Operating Budget \$888,797
- 2024/25 Water Utility Capital Budget \$4,610,241 with projected \$2,144,350 in external funding
- 2024/25 Bayview Cemetery Budget \$22,100; Park Cemetery Budget \$46,150

Projects and Initiatives in Support of Council's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan

- The creation of a new Stormwater Management Reserve supported by the dedicated stormwater management charge with a new Stormwater Management Bylaw to follow this summer
- Support for Lunenburg County Wheels' expanded dial-a-ride service and numerous other community initiatives
- Continued initiatives to implement the Lunenburg County Accessibility Plan as well as support for the new Anti-Racism & Diversity Coordinator for Lunenburg County
- Support for housing development including potential non-market housing development
- Continued development of an Urban Forest Management Plan and additional funds for tree maintenance and planting

Tackling Stormwater

With record-breaking rainfalls in 2023 many Mahone Bay residents have turned to the Town to tackle stormwater.

This year's budget includes an additional charge of \$202.23 per dwelling unit dedicated to stormwater management. These funds will be kept in a special purpose reserve to be used for stormwater management projects and initiatives in the coming years. The new charge and planned capital projects are a first step with a new Stormwater Management Bylaw anticipated this summer.

To assist residents in need, the Town has increased eligibility for low-income property tax rebates of up to \$1,000 to those with household incomes of up to \$45,000.

What's Behind the Budget? The Strategic Plan

The Town of Mahone Bay 2021-2025 Strategic Plan is the document that captures the intentions for this Council's term.

Starting in January 2021, Council began discussions about what they heard from residents and what the Town has learned from public engagement. From that information, Council and staff worked together to identify three strategic priorities for this Council term. The plan is reviewed each year with the second annual review of the strategic plan completed in April 2024.

The Strategic Priorities, as well as the actions that will make those priorities a reality, then serve as a guide for Council at budget time.



Our Mission

To provide high-quality services to our community, through efficient, responsible and accessible Municipal government.

Our Vision

An inclusive, thriving, and healthy community committed to fostering collaborative opportunities for sustainable growth.

Our Core Values

Are the deeply ingrained principles that guide Town Councillors and Staff in the timely and collaborative delivery of services and support to our community.

Accessibility - Accountability - Equity -
Fairness - Honesty - Responsiveness -
Stewardship

Key Measurable Results (to achieve by 2025)

- 10% population increase with diversity in age, ethnicity and income
- Increased supply of affordable housing (costing less than 30% of Mahone Bay's median household income) to 25% of total housing units
- 50% replacement of the Town's core water, wastewater, and storm water infrastructure on Main Street
- 80% of the power for the Town's electric utility comes from renewable sources.

Be sure to read the full Town of Mahone Bay 2021 - 2025 Strategic Plan on the Town website at www.townofmahonebay.ca

Tax Rates

The approved 2024/2025 residential tax rate has been reduced \$0.005 to \$1.11 per \$100 of assessment. Likewise the commercial tax rate has been reduced \$0.005 to \$3.05 per \$100 of assessment. The fire rate has been increased by the same amount to \$0.214 per \$100 as the Town continues to shift the full cost of fire protection services to the fire rate.

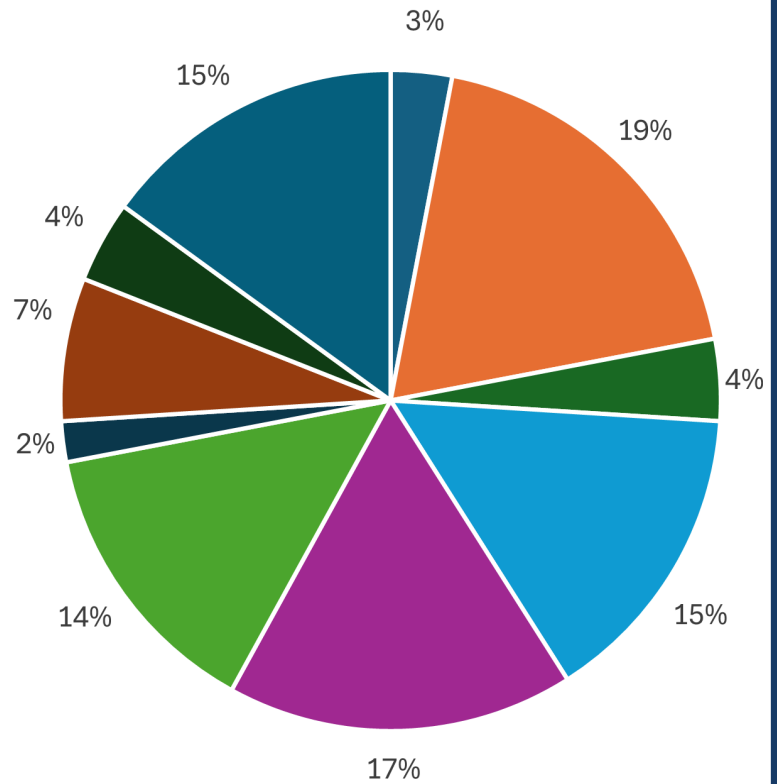


The infrastructure charge, which contributes to everything from roadwork to wastewater mains to stormwater management to recreational facilities, was increased from \$300 to \$502.23. The infrastructure charge is a uniform tax for all residents and commercial property owners of the Town. The deed transfer tax remains the same at 1.5%. Deed transfer tax is charged on dwelling units at the time of sale.

Community Grants

Bay to Bay Trails Association	\$500
MBTCC (Festivals)	\$2,500
MBTCC (Flower Baskets)	\$2,500
Heritage Boatyard Co-op	\$2,000
MB Founders Society	\$500
MB Centre Society	\$1,000
MB Music Association	\$3,000
MB United Soccer Association	\$5,000
Bay Area Legends T-Ball	\$1,000
South Shore Sexual Health Society	\$500
South Shore Summer Theatre	\$1,000
Kinburn Performing Arts Centre	\$1,000
South Shore ICE Storm	\$500
Mahone Bay Tennis Club	\$2,500
Visitor Information Centre	\$2,500
Three Churches Foundation	\$1,000
Unallocated	\$3,000
Total	\$30,000

2024/25 Budget Expenditures



- Legislative Expenses
- General Government Services
- Taxation Rebates & Reductions
- Protective Services
- Transportation Services
- Environmental Health Services
- Public Health & Welfare Services
- Environmental Development Services
- Recreation, Cultural Services
- Education & Tax Rebates

To read the Town of Mahone Bay's full 2024/2025 budget, visit www.townofmahonebay.ca/finance

2024/2025 Capital Budget Highlights

The Town Council has approved new and ongoing capital expenditures for 2024-25 including general and utility budgets - totaling \$16.48 million, supported by a projected \$5.66 million in external funding (34%). Key investments in the 2024-25 capital budget include:

- The planned project on Main Street to improve water and wastewater services to the community while addressing stormwater challenges. This project builds on prior improvement of the lines connecting the water treatment facility to Main Street and is supported by Provincial and Federal contributions. Construction is expected to get underway early in 2025.
- A major project on Edgewater Street to expand the Living Shoreline while extending municipal services and constructing a raised multi-use trail along the shoreline for pedestrians and cyclists. This project is supported by generous Provincial and Federal contributions. Construction is expected to get underway early in 2025.
- Investments in wastewater system infrastructure including lift stations.
- Additional stormwater infrastructure in various areas of Mahone Bay including on Main, Wye, Fairmont and Pine Grove streets where existing infrastructure was overwhelmed in last year's rains.
- Modernizing electrical utility infrastructure to keep pace with growth and meet federal requirements for disposal of PCBs.
- Retrofit of the Mahone Bay Pool to enable it to open for the 2024 season. The Town is planning for the long-term replacement of the pool, an opportunity to improve the accessibility of the facility, but acknowledges this will take at least another year, with fundraising activities ongoing.
- Accessibility improvements to various Town infrastructure, including renewed public washrooms on Edgewater and Main streets and a new pedestrian bridge linking the Michael O'Connor Memorial Bandstand to Edgewater Street, with Provincial and Federal funding support.
- A new home for the Town's Public Works & Utilities – in the former Fire Hall on Kinburn Street – and demolition of the old garage on Aberdeen Lane, which will support expanded public parking at Town Hall.
- Equipment purchases including a new fire truck for the Mahone Bay & District Fire Department – replacing a pumper truck which has reached its maximum years of service – and a needed replacement for the Town's aging backhoe.