



## THE TOWN'S 2011 BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET

### Continued programs and services

Although the current provincial rate of inflation is running around 3%, the Town's 2011 budget will bring a base level tax increase equivalent to 0.8%. This provides for core services, as well as a number of new initiatives including extended library hours, and the development of an economic development strategy to entice new businesses, expand the non-residential tax base, and provide new employment opportunities within East Gwillimbury. In addition, a number of financial pressures were dealt with, including increased parkland to maintain, necessary road safety improvements, and increased length of roads and sidewalks for maintenance and snow removal.

### How is it possible?

How is it possible to increase services and keep the base level tax increase down to 0.8%? First, Council and staff were committed to maintaining service levels, generally aligning the base budget with the current rate of inflation, and limiting major new initiatives that require sustained funding. Also, there are a few more taxable properties and that reduces everyone's share, and we reduced the Town's debt and took advantage of non-tax revenues.

### We're also investing in public safety and clean drinking water

The 2011 budget also provides for an important investment in public safety for current Town residents. The addition of three new firefighters and a deputy fire chief will cost the equivalent of a 2.5% tax rate increase. Therefore the overall 2011 increase to Town taxes is 3.3%. With regard to water & sewage, although the Region has increased its charges to the Town by 10% in 2011, our rates will increase by only 9%. In summary, quality, cost-effective programs and services will continue with a base level tax rate increase well below the provincial rate of inflation. A modest increase will address public safety concerns and provide the fire and emergency services we need. And the water/wastewater rate increases have been held below the Region cost increase.

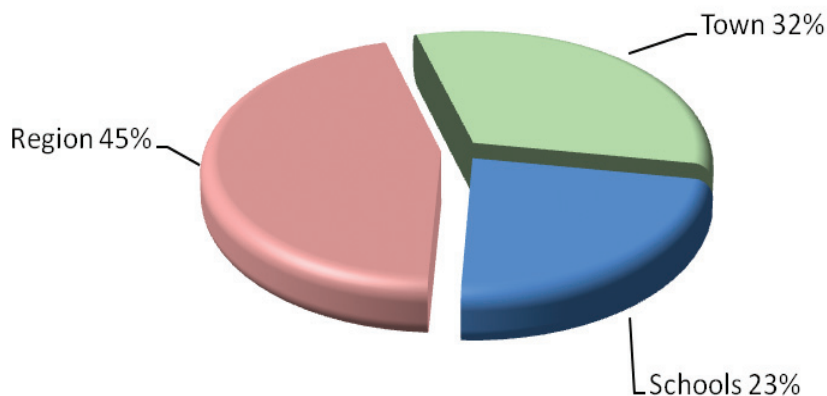
### 3.3% = \$3.50/month

Essentially, the tax increase is about providing the fire and emergency services we need. For an average home in East Gwillimbury assessed at a value of \$375,000, the cost for the enhanced safety and other service improvements in 2011 is about \$3.50 per month.

<b>2010 Taxes</b>	\$1,278
<b>2011 Taxes</b>	\$1,320
<b>Tax Increase</b>	\$42 (3.3%)

### What happens to your tax dollar?

Property taxes are collected by the Town based on the assessed value of each property. Of the total tax bill, only about one-third of it goes to the Town. The remainder is transferred to the Province to pay for public schools, and to York Region to pay for programs such as health services, police, transportation, and roads (about half the roads in East Gwillimbury are owned by the Region).



The Town portion (32%) of the residential property tax dollar is used by the Town to provide programs and services for East Gwillimbury residents.

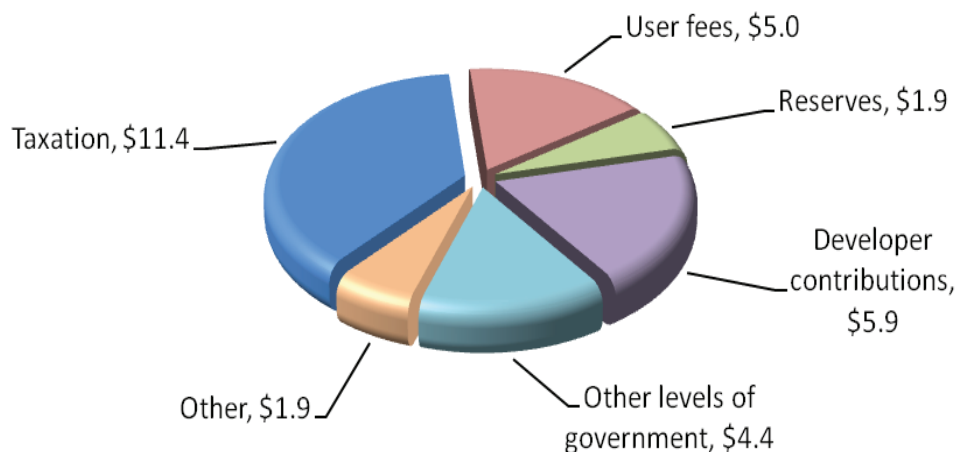
### How Town taxes are spent

Roads, bridges & sidewalks	31¢
Fire & emergency services	22¢
Recreation facilities	18¢
Public library	11¢
Parks services	10¢
Garbage & waste collection	8¢



But the tax revenues that are retained by the Town (\$11.4 million) don't cover all the costs (the total budget is \$30.5 million). The Town is able to leverage other sources of funding to access the additional \$19.1 million.

2011 Sources of Funding  
(Shown in millions, total \$30.5 million)



### Service delivery highlights for 2011

- 3 new firefighters and 1 deputy chief
- completion of the sports complex renovation & expansion
- road and sidewalk repairs
- redevelopment of Grist Mill Park, Parkway Park & Holland Landing Community Centre
- a new picnic shelter at North Union, in support of a community initiative
- a new fire pumper/tanker truck
- walking & cycling trail enhancements
- upgrades to Vivian Creek Park and Queensville Park

### More information

Check out the Town's web site at [eastgwillimbury.ca](http://eastgwillimbury.ca) and click on the "2011 Business Plan & Budget" button.

### Comments

If you have a comment or suggestion, we'd like to hear from you. Please contact us at any of the coordinates shown below.

