

A budget for our neighbours

# INCLUSIVE SHARED FUTURES



Toronto is facing a challenging budget process this year. The province requires the City to pass a balanced budget. This requires difficult choices about how to cut costs, even though our communities have even deeper needs.

# MAKING PROGRESS IN 2026?

BUDGET CHOICES  
SHAPE JUST HOW  
LIVABLE OUR  
NEIGHBOURHOODS  
ARE.

A strong budget means careful choices without compromising the successful investments solving collective challenges. To engage in these difficult discussions, we reviewed progress the City has made in key areas that improve quality of life for our families, friends, and neighbours.

We are asking what investments are needed to truly strengthen well-being and safety here.

Mayor's Budget out Feb 1st



# 2023 ASK

*1) RE-ALLOCATE \$30 MILLION FROM THE TORONTO POLICE SERVICES TO COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS.*

## PROGRESS:

- \$3 million decrease in crime prevention budget in 2024 but increased again by \$7 million in 2025.
- From 2022–2024, the City invested \$8 million in youth violence prevention grants through SafeT0 to 13 community organizations to engage 6,200 youth.

**SLOW THE BALLOONING\* OF THE TORONTO POLICE SERVICES BUDGET BY REDUCING NON-ESSENTIAL POLICE WORK AND REFOCUS ON DIRECT RESPONSES TO CRIME.**

**\*PROPOSED BUDGET OF \$1.43 BILLION FOR 2026 IS AN INCREASE OF \$71 MILLION SINCE 2023.**

# 2026 ASK



# 2023 ASK

*2) PROVIDE AT LEAST 2000 MORE SHELTER SPACES WHILE ...*

## PROGRESS on shelter spaces:

- By 2025 TSSS has procured 7 new shelter sites for 1600 beds to be built by 2033 (Homeless Services Capital Infrastructure Strategy).
- In 2025 TSSS's refugee response program increased funding of \$21.288 million to provide shelter for refugee families with children and pregnant women.

**ENSURE SHELTERS IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS CAN ADDRESS HIGH LEVEL OF NEED NOW AND ARE PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES.**

**\*ONLY 320 BEDS WILL BE NET NEW GAINS FOR TORONTO'S SHELTER CAPACITY, OTHERS ARE REPLACING SHUTDOWN BEDS.**

# 2026 ASK



# 2023 ASK

2) ... GETTING MORE DEEPLY AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROTECTED ...

## PROGRESS on affordability:

- Since the Multi-Unit Residential Acquisition (MURA) program's launch, over 1000 rental homes secured to remain affordable.
- 2024 Multi-Tenant Housing License protects safety in rooming houses.
- 2025 rental renovation by-law created to prevent no fault evictions (known as "reno-victions").
- Over 3100 tenancies maintained with support from EPIC & Rent Bank program

**ALSO - KEEP INVESTING IN PROTECTING PERMANENTLY AFFORDABLE HOUSING, ...**

**\*IT COSTS \$4K/ MONTH TO HOUSE SOMEONE IN SUPPORTIVE HOUSING, \$15K/MONTH IN JAIL OR \$50K+/MONTH IN A HOSPITAL BED.**

# 2026 ASK



# 2023 ASK

2) ... AND MORE DEEPLY AFFORDABLE HOUSING BUILT!

**PROGRESS on new homes:**

- By 2025, almost 30,000 new rent-controlled, affordable, Rent-Geared-to-Income and supportive rental homes have been approved for development
- Toronto approved Inclusionary Zoning which required developments in major transit station areas to include 5-10% affordable housing for 99 years. In 2025, Province finally approved but restricted to 5% of building's residential space for 25 years.

**...GROW SUCCESS OF MURA PROGRAM, TACKLE REPAIR BACKLOG OF TCHC/TSHC UNITS, & HELP TENANTS NAVIGATE SUPPORTS.**

**\*BUILDING A PERMANENTLY AFFORDABLE HOME NOW IS EQUIVALENT TO HOUSING SOMEONE IN A SHELTER BED FOR 10 YEARS.**

# 2026 ASK



# 2023 ASK

*3) ENSURE THAT SOCIAL SPENDING KEEPS PACE WITH INFLATION AT LEAST.*

## PROGRESS:

- **\$31.3 million was invested in 2025 in Community Partnership and Investment Programs (CPIP), which is ~\$2 million increase from 2024 .**
- **Expenditures for recreation programs increased by \$46 million from 2023.**

**MOVE FORWARD WITH PLANNED REDESIGNING OF THE CITY'S COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND INVESTMENT PROGRAMS (CPIP) WITH \$35 MILLION INCREASE TO STABILIZE AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY SERVICES.**

**SUPPORT YOUTH BY PROVIDING 10,000 SUMMER JOBS.**

# 2026 ASKS



# 2023 ASK

*4) MAINTAIN CURRENT TTC FARES AND MAINTAIN AT LEAST THE CURRENT SERVICE*

## PROGRESS:

- Fares have not been raised. Yay :)
- TTC is still restoring pre-Covid levels, e.g. Line 2 is now fully running again.
- 2025 budget for Wheel Trans is a \$19 million annual increase.
- Increased \$3 million into TTC Fair Pass program in 2024 provided over 100,000 users with discounted rides

**CONTINUE TO KEEP FARES LOW AND EXTEND SUBWAY LINES TO RUN UNTIL 2:30AM TO ACCOMMODATE SHIFT WORKERS.**

# 2026 ASK



# 2023 ASK

*5) INVEST IN CRISIS RESPONSES AND THE TORONTO COMMUNITY CRISIS SERVICE (TCCS)*

## PROGRESS:

- City committed to city-wide expansion of TCCS in 2024. It has a goal of full implementation by 2026.
- successful 9-11 Crisis Call Diversion Pilot in partnership with Gerstein Crisis Centre (2021 to 2024)
- Diverted 78% of calls with no police involvement
- New TTC pilot launched 2025 to meet needs on transit lines

**REDIRECT SAFETY FUNDING TO LOCAL SUPPORTS, INCLUDING EXPANDING TCCS TO SEND TRAINED MENTAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WORKERS.**

# 2026 ASK



# A budget for our neighbours

A strong City budget means making smart choices without cutting programs that help people. These priorities support people in neighbourhoods across Toronto who call this city home.

Each year, the City engages in a balancing act between the need to make generational investments that don't sacrifice our collective futures, while having limited ways to raise investments. Toronto is an economic engine for Ontario and the country, including welcoming newcomers into our labour market.

The provincial and federal government collect income taxes - designed to be used for housing, healthcare, education, and other costs. This public money is also shared with cities to fund police, transit, and services. Funding for these services has not kept up with needs.

We support our City government to work with other levels to invest in City and non-profit services appropriately.