

# A BUDGET

## FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 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.

Budget choices shape just how livable our neighbourhoods are. To set priorities for the City's 2026 budget, we measured the investments needed to strengthen well-being and safety across Toronto.

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## FAIR ASKS FOR 2026

- 1. Our police have become overburdened responding to social issues.** Slow the ballooning of Toronto Police Services budget by reducing non-essential police work and refocus on direct responses to crime.
- 2. Community-led models of care are more effective and cost less in preventing violence and crisis.** Redirect safety funding to local supports, including expanding the Toronto Community Crisis Service to send trained mental health and community workers.
- 3. Toronto cannot build enough affordable homes fast enough, but we can protect housing stock we already have.** Keep investing in protecting permanently affordable housing by growing success of the MURA program, tackling repair backlogs of TCHC/TSHC units, and helping tenants navigate available supports better.
- 4. Local shelters work best when they have the resources to be a first step towards stable housing.** Ensure shelters in our neighbourhoods can address high level of need now and are prepared for emergencies.
- 5. Community support systems are working harder than ever right now.** Move forward with planned redesigning of the City's Community Partnership and Investment Programs (CPIP) with \$35 million funding increase to stabilize *and* support more community services.
- 6. Young people are struggling to find work and remain in Toronto.** Support youth employment by providing 10, 000 summer jobs that can connect youth to relevant career paths.
- 7. Reliable, efficient public transit is key to households moving out of poverty.** Continue to keep fares low and extend subway lines to run until 2:30am to accommodate more shift workers.

## INVEST IN US

- 8. Climate change affects everyone's health and safety.** Take climate action now by converting the TTC fleet to electric vehicles, encourage Green Building Standards, and expand programs helping people stay cool during extreme heat.



ASK YOUR CITY COUNCILLOR WHAT THEY THINK!

- 9. Ontario has been spending less than any other province on health and social services.** Work with the provincial government to restore funding for housing, healthcare, education systems that are provincial responsibilities.
- 10. The federal government wants to spend less and invest more.** Work with the federal government to renew investment in housing as part of building a strong economy, including reversing cuts to programs such as refugee housing supports so Toronto remains welcoming.