



2026 2027

Preliminary Forecast

Preliminary 2026/2027 Financial Forecast: **At a Glance**



We're sharing this early forecast with City Council and Saskatoon residents to be transparent about the financial requirements facing the City of Saskatoon over the next two years.

Here's an ***at a glance*** look at the key factors analyzed in preparing this early financial forecast.

Supporting over 80 civic services – every day!

The costs to deliver important city services rise each year for several reasons. Inflation is one core driver of the City's operating expenditures. Price increases for materials and supplies are having significant impacts on the City's operating budget.

From City staff and contractors, to purchasing materials and supplies, it all adds up. And - *like your household* – the City continues to face ongoing and significant inflation on everything we buy.

Since January 2024 - - here are some of the products the City buys regularly that have seen prices increase by:

Cement +18.97% • Sand +7.72% • Buses +5.35% • Asphalt +2.93%

- According to Statistics Canada's various producer price indexes (data current to March 2025)

These rising prices are forecast to increase the City's operating* expenditures by:

2026: +2.79%

2027: +2.96%

A growing city - means growing needs.

Saskatoon added 12,896 persons in 2024 alone bringing our estimated population to **308,626**. Saskatoon's growth rate of 4.36% is the highest rate in the province for communities over 5,000 persons, and 1.83 percentage points above the Saskatchewan growth rate. Saskatoon accounted for about 42.2% of the total provincial population growth in 2024.

- According to Statistics Canada

Growth is another core expenditure driver. As the city grows, demands for services do too. The City needs to maintain more kilometers of roadways and hectares of parks, along with building new infrastructure to support new business and residents.



Rapid growth impacts the City's costs as more **construction equipment, fire fighters, transit buses** etc. are needed to service our growing communities.

These pressures are forecast to increase the City's operating expenditures by +1.62% in 2026 and +0.92% in 2027, far less than the population growth rates of above 4%.

** does not include the Saskatoon Police Service Budget forecast, detailed on Page 4*

We're continuing to invest in a better Saskatoon.



We plan to **invest more into roadway and facility maintenance as well as fire apparatus renewal to improve 2025 service levels.**



We plan to **improve the City's financial capacity to respond to major snow events.**



And, to support a great quality of life and to provide for safe communities, over the next years we're planning for our **Link Bus Rapid Transit system, adding two new fire halls, a new Eastside Leisure Centre and more.**

Overall, these new programs, facilities and the restoring of some service levels are expected to increase the **City's Operating Budget** by approximately:

2026: +1.48%

2027: +1.77%

City revenues are projected to grow by about 3.5 % in 2026 and 4.1 % in 2027, mainly from increases in Saskatchewan's Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant and the City's general revenues. While they help reduce the overall property tax requirements for each year, they fall short of the City's expenditure needs.

The City is required by legislation to approve a balanced budget.
Any net increase in the civic Operating Budget is funded via property tax.

What could this early forecast look like for Saskatoon residential property owners?

After analyzing all the financial requirements and savings, the City's preliminary 2026/2027 Operating Budget forecast could result in a **property tax increase of:**

2026: About +\$13/month

2027: About +\$12/month

*~ for a residential property with a median assessed value of **\$397,000.***

What about the Saskatoon Police Service?

In addition to the City's forecast Operating Budget needs, the Saskatoon Police Service—governed separately by the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners—is also forecasting increases to its budget due to inflation and growing service demands of approximately 10.4% in 2026 and 6.4% in 2027. This early forecast could add:



2026: About +\$9/month

2027: About +\$6/month

*~ for a residential property with a median assessed value of **\$397,000**.*

When combined, the City of Saskatoon and Saskatoon Police Service forecasts could result in a property tax increase of:

2026: About \$22/month or 9.90%

2027: About \$18/month or 7.34%

*~ for a residential property with a median assessed value of **\$397,000**.*

We're confident these figures won't reflect the City's final 2026/2027 Budget.

At present, these forecast figures provide important context and transparency around the City's financial requirements as we begin building additional scenarios for City Council to consider during its final budget deliberations this November.

Despite rising costs from inflation and growth, the City continues to find savings—over \$5.4 million in 2024 alone—while maintaining strong service levels. The City remains focused on delivering value for taxpayer dollars and working with Council on a responsible 2026/2027 budget.

City Administration is committed to working closely with City Council to find the right balance— between keeping the City's 2026/2027 budget costs manageable and maintaining the services Saskatoon residents rely on every day.

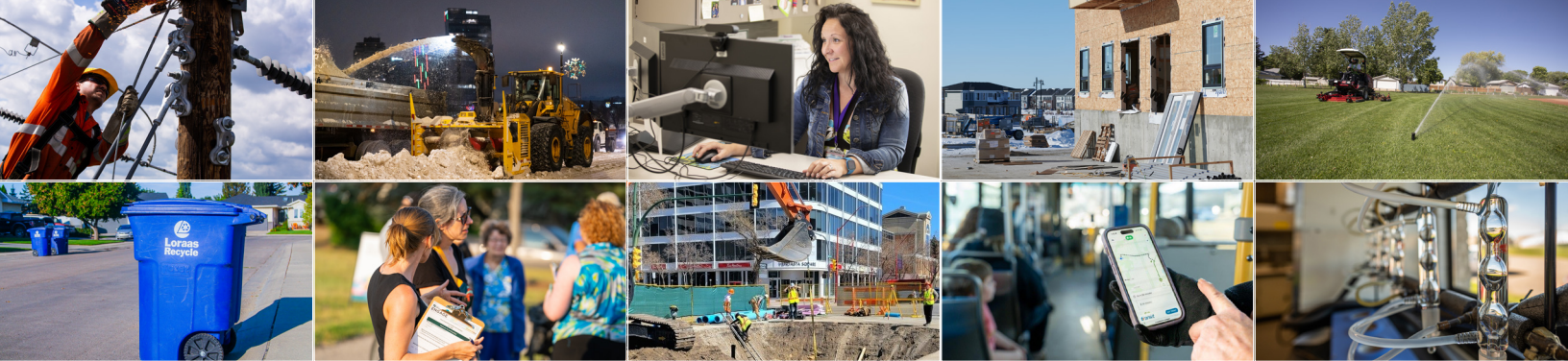


So, what's next?

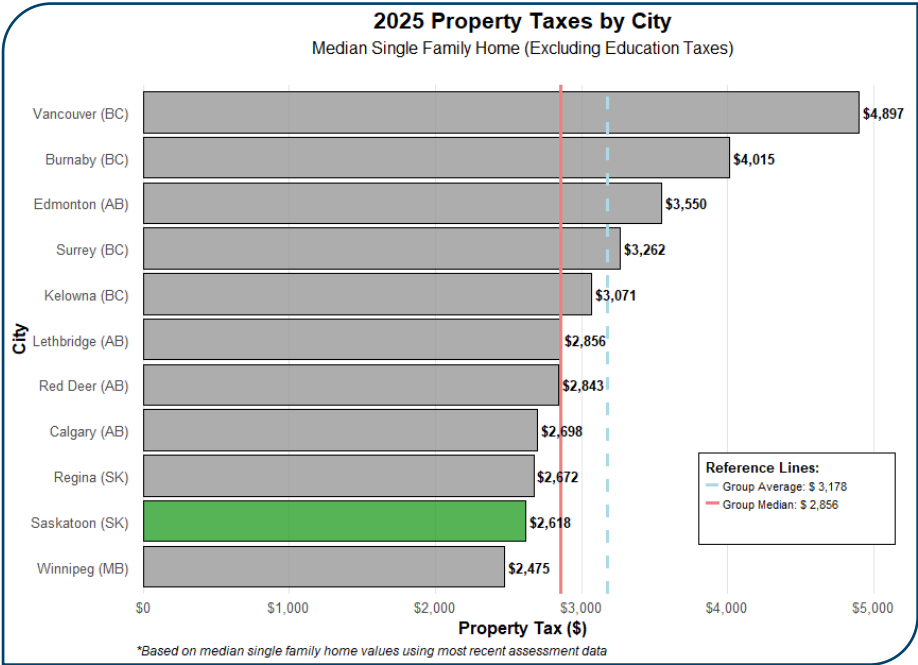
City Administration will keep reviewing & refining the numbers - and look for ways **to reduce** the requirements of the 2026/2027 budgets— **and importantly, your property tax bill.**

City Council will make its final budget decisions at its Budget Deliberations in November 2025.

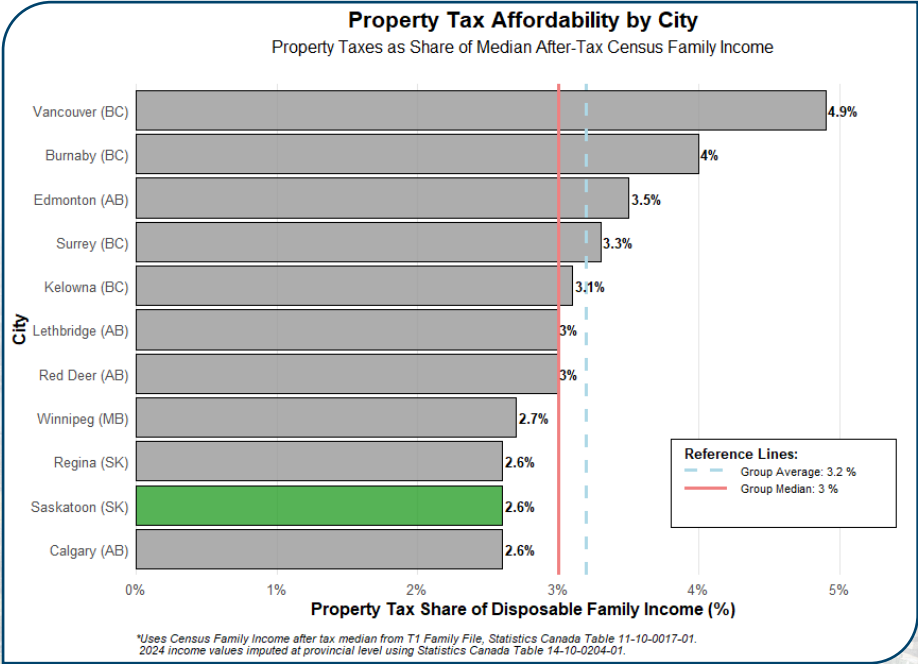
To learn more and follow the budget process visit saskatoon.ca/budget



The City of Saskatoon continues to maintain one of the lowest property tax rates in western Canada.



When benchmarked against other Western Canadian cities, here’s how Saskatoon’s property tax affordability value stacks up when looking at median after-tax census family income.



Saskatoon stands out as one of the most affordable cities in Western Canada for property taxes—residents pay about 2.6% of their *after-tax income* (this means *median after-tax census family income* after paying federal and provincial income tax, CPP, and EI contributions) as compared to the regional median of approximately 3%.