



# THE COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

## 2026 Budget Highlights

At the January 29 County Council meeting, Wellington County Council adopted its 2026 budget with a 3.6% increase to the County portion of property taxes. The budget makes significant investments in infrastructure, roads safety and speed management, child care services, the housing and homelessness system, ambulance services and long-term care. Highlights of the 2026 Budget include:

- \$58.3 million in roads capital infrastructure and public works facilities including the construction of the new public works garage in Erin (2026), funding for the reconstruction of four bridges on Wellington Road 109 in Arthur (2026) and the reconstruction of Main Street in Palmerston (Wellington Road 123) in partnership with the Town of Minto over the next three years.
- \$4.9 million capital investment towards projects that improve road safety and measures to manage speed utilizing funds from the trial automated speed enforcement programme
- Creation of 46 new child care spaces at the Mount Forest (31) and Wellington Place (15) Child Care and Learning Centres, supported by the Government of Canada
- \$10.6 million in capital repairs and enhancements within the County's social and affordable housing units
- Increased funding for homelessness prevention and support including additional rent supplement units and an enhanced winter response plan to house a higher number of individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness
- Improvements to ambulance service through the addition of nine new positions, including eight new paramedics to support increased call volumes and to improve response times
- Additional resources for nursing and resident care at the Wellington Terrace Long-Term Care Home, supported by the Government of Ontario.
- Recycling collection for businesses in the County's downtown areas

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND STATISTICS

#### COUNTY TAX LEVY PROJECTION

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
County Tax Levy (\$000's)	\$148,597	\$157,427	\$166,440	\$175,218	\$184,340
Residential tax impact	3.6%	4.1%	3.9%	3.5%	3.4%
	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
County Tax Levy (\$000's)	\$193,393	\$201,829	\$211,254	\$221,028	\$230,658
Residential tax impact	3.1%	2.6%	2.9%	2.8%	2.6%

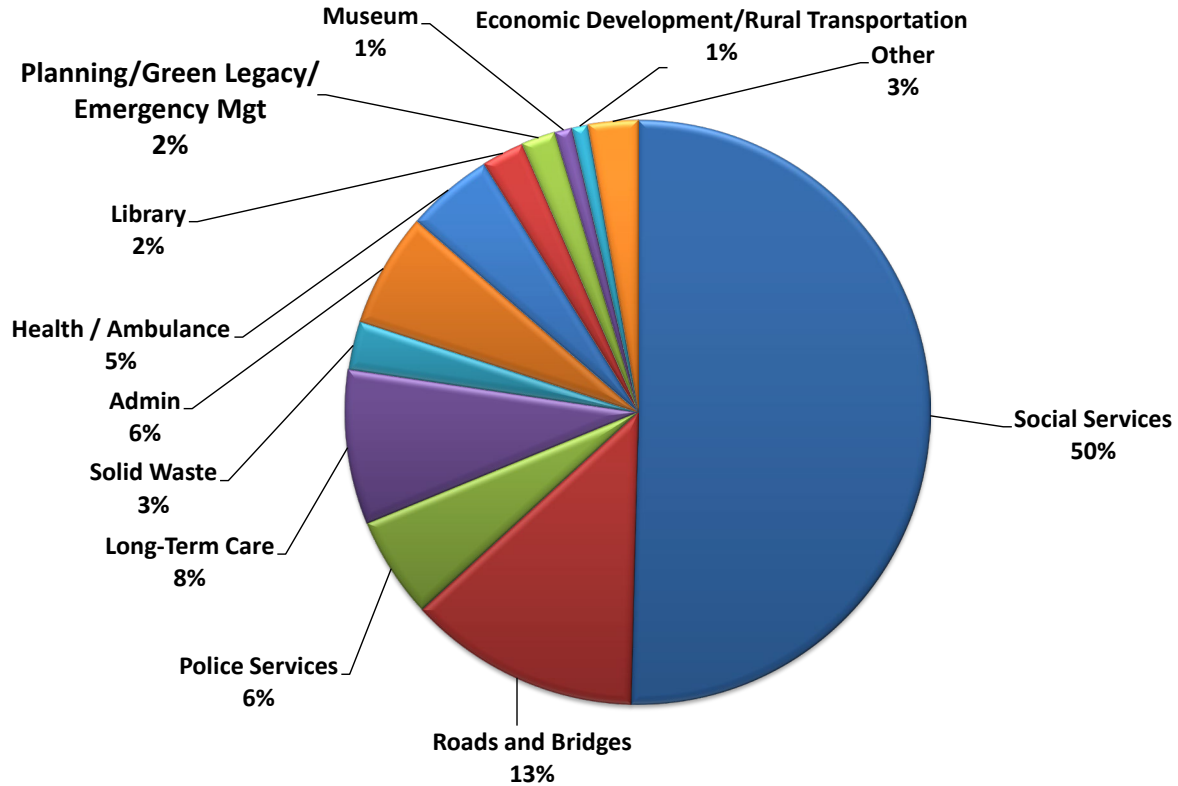
#### 2026 OPERATING BUDGET

- ✓ Operating expenditure = \$387.8 million
- ✓ 2026 tax levy = \$148.6 million
- ✓ County tax impact = 3.6%, which results in an increase of 2.1% on the average residential property tax bill
- ✓ Residential tax impact per \$100,000 of assessment = \$26

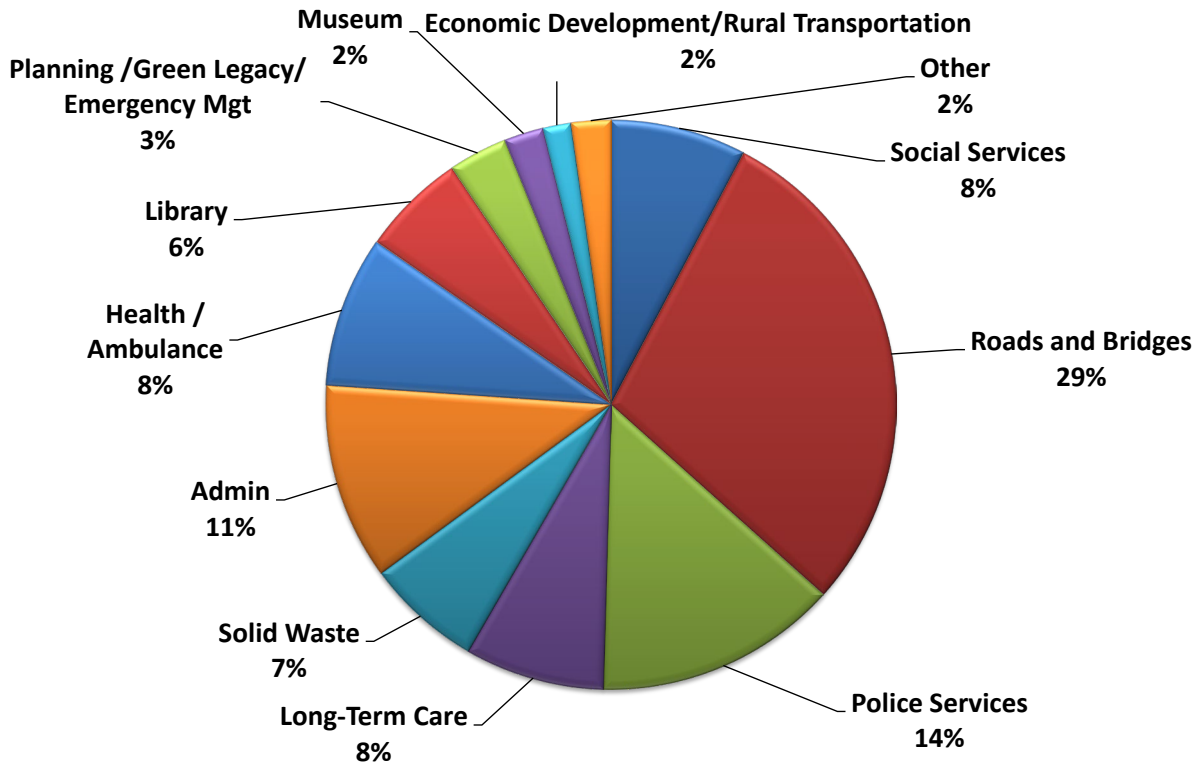
#### 2026-35 CAPITAL BUDGET FORECAST

- ✓ Total 2026 capital investment = \$78.6 M
- ✓ Total 10-year capital investment = \$686.9 M
- ✓ New debt issues are projected to be \$90.2 million over ten-years and include \$11.2 million in tax-supported debt and \$79.0 million in growth-supported debt
- ✓ Total debt outstanding peaks at \$73.9 M in 2033

## 2026 OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES - \$387.8 million



## 2026 COUNTY PROPERTY TAX REQUIREMENT - \$148.6 million



## 2026 OPERATING BUDGET REVENUES- \$387.8 million

