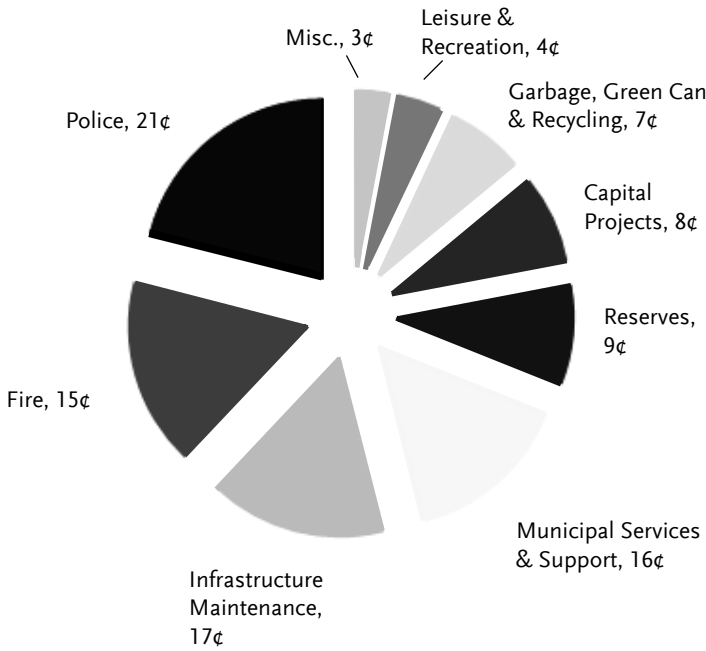


WHERE EACH TAX DOLLAR GOES



Highlights of 2014 to 2018
Planned Capital Projects

Complete road reconstruction of Marine Drive from High Street to Bishop Street

Upgrade Johnston Road and sidewalks between Thrift Street and North Bluff Road

Enhance Waterfront Railway Pedestrian Crossings

Extend promenade (subject to BNSF Railway Company approval)

Enhance Community Public Art

Improve Hillside Walkways

Complete City Hall renovations

Complete White Rock Library Upgrades

Update Strategic Transportation Plan

DATES TO REMEMBER 2014 / 2015

- Jul 1 - City Hall closed
- Jul 2 - Due date for current taxes and levies, as well as Home Owner Grant applications. A 5% penalty will be applied to any current taxes and levies unpaid after this date.
- Jul 15 - Deadline for new prepayment plan applications
- Aug 1 - First prepayment installment
- Aug 15 - Additional 5% penalty applied to unpaid 2014 taxes and levies.
- Sept 29 - Tax sale on properties with unpaid 2012 taxes (delinquent)
- Dec 25 to January 1 - City Hall closed
- January 1 - Interest begins to accrue on outstanding 2014 taxes and levies

Adding more to your recycling!

We're pleased to announce that the City will be able to offer more items to your recycling bin. The City will offer curbside collection of more material including flattened cardboard, aerosol cans, and small plastic plant containers.

There will be a new red bin for glass only items.

Please remember to crush large containers, such as milk jugs, to make room in your box and in the collection vehicle. If you live in a detached dwelling that receives alternate week curbside garbage collection, please take advantage of our weekly recycling and green waste recycling programs! Include all food scraps and leftovers in the Green Can along with yard trimmings. Food soiled paper, such as pizza boxes, can also be included in the Green Can.

Financial Update

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL

In this year's Financial Update you will find detailed information about your 2014 tax bill and the many improvements happening in your City by the Sea.

This year, you will have noticed that your property tax notice looks a bit different. We're pleased to design a new look that is easier to read and find key information about your property taxes.

In 2014 and beyond, there will be continued emphasis on improving infrastructure in White Rock. Our City by the Sea is beautiful and we plan to continue to invest in our parks and public places. Recently, we re-opened Bayview Park with a new plaza and increased seating. We continue work on beautifying the space, expanding our promenade and adding commercial activities along the waterfront.

The promotion of the arts is progressing and strong partnerships have been formed with the arts and business community. Cultural tourism is a rapidly growing industry. Last autumn, we hosted a two-month celebration of the arts titled the Fall Festival of the Arts and the White Rock Moon Festival celebrating Chinese culture.

Moving forward, we will continue to host events that strengthen our community and attract tourists, such as the forementioned festivals along with the Tour de White Rock and Canada Day by the Bay. We are also excited to host the popular air show, the Snowbirds, again on August 6.

It is fundamental that a great community is a safe community. We are cognisant that the single biggest cost drive is our protective services. The White Rock RCMP detachment is 23 members. The White Rock RCMP recently released their 2013 Annual Report, which can be found on our website. In it, they report a continued reduction in crime rates. We hope that this downward trend will continue.

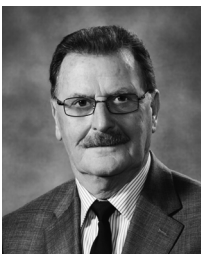
As your City Council, we welcome your feedback at any time. To e-mail any member of Council directly, use their first initial and last name @whiterockcity.ca (ex. wbaldwin@whiterockcity.ca). You can also send an e-mail to whiterockcouncil@whiterockcity.ca, which is automatically redirected to Administration staff to facilitate a timely response. Emails are provided to Council the week in which they are received.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Paying Your Taxes
- PrePayment of Taxes
- Tax Deferment
- Your 2014 Tax Bill
- Where Each Tax Dollar Goes
- Dates to Remember



Mayor
Wayne Baldwin



Councillor
Alan Campbell



Councillor
Helen Fathers



Councillor
Louise Hutchinson



Councillor
Bill Lawrence



Councillor
Grant Meyer

PAYING YOUR TAXES

Property tax payments and Home Owner Grant applications are due July 2, 2014. A 5% late payment penalty will be added to current taxes and levies still owing after July 2. A further 5% late penalty will be applied to current taxes and levies outstanding after August 15, 2014.

You can make your property tax payment...

...at your bank.

Payments can be made online, in-branch or by phone. Use your nine-digit property tax roll number, excluding the decimal point, as your account number. Be sure to save your receipt.

...by mail.

Send a cheque to the City of White Rock. The envelope must be postmarked no later than July 2, 2014 to avoid penalty. Cheques may be postdated to July 2. Please include your nine-digit property tax roll number on your cheque.

...at City Hall.

Pay with cash, cheque or debit card during regular office hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday), or use the convenient, secure mail drop at the front entrance. Please note that City Hall will be closed Tuesday July 1, 2014. Cheques may be post-dated to July 2, 2014. Please include your nine-digit property tax roll number on your cheque.

You can claim your 2014 Home Owner Grant...

...online on the City of White Rock website.

Home Owner Grant applications can be completed online at www.whiterockcity.ca

...or complete the paper application.

Fully complete the application found on the bottom of the Property Tax Notice, and return the application to City Hall.

TAX PREPAYMENT PLAN

The City of White Rock has a property tax prepayment plan. Once your current taxes are fully paid, you can choose to make monthly payments to be applied to next year's property taxes. Terms and conditions of the Plan can be found on the enclosed application form.

If you wish to enroll in the Preauthorized Payment Plan, forward the signed application and Debit Agreement (enclosed) along with a cheque marked "VOID" to the Financial Services Department at City Hall prior to July 15, 2014.

For further information about the Preauthorized Payment Plan, Tax Deferral programs or Home Owner Grants, visit us at City Hall or call the Financial Services Department at 604.541.2100 or 604.541.2107.

save time, claim online

Save time and submit your Home Owner Grant electronically if you're eligible to reduce your property taxes with the provincial grant. All you need is your folio number and access code from your tax notice.

2014 Home Owner Grants can be claimed online from the date the tax notices are mailed until 2 July 2014. Home Owner Grants can be submitted until December 31, 2014, but there will be late payment charges.

You do not need to make a property tax payment to apply for the grant, but make sure you meet the eligibility requirements. To avoid late penalty charges, pay your property taxes by July 2, 2014.

Once you have claimed the Home Owner Grant online, you don't need to submit the paper application form to the City of White Rock. Simply print out the screen confirmation of your grant application for your records.

For more information about Home Owner Grants and the eligibility criteria, please visit the Province of British Columbia's web site at: www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant

TAX DEFERMENT

Eligible homeowners may apply to have the Provincial Government pay the current year's residential property taxes for their principal residence. If you defer, the taxes paid on your behalf become a debt registered against your property's title and interest accrues annually.

The deferment application, payment for utility and other user fees, and the Home Owner Grant application should be received at City Hall by July 2, 2014. Late applications will be accepted until December 31 but late payment penalties apply.

For 2014, there are two property tax deferment programs available.

Regular Property Tax Deferment Program

- must be at least 55 years old, disabled or widowed
- must have a minimum equity in the home of 25% of the assessed value
- interest rate is set twice a year, and is currently 1.00%

Property Tax Deferment Program for Families with Children

- must be financially supporting a dependent child under age 18
- must have a minimum equity in their home of 15 per cent of the assessed value
- interest rate is set twice a year, and is currently 3.00 per cent.

If you deferred your taxes in 2013, you should have recently received a renewal application from the Provincial Tax Deferment Office. If you wish to defer your 2014 taxes, bring your renewal form to the Financial Services Department along with your Home Owner Grant application and payment for your utility and other user fees prior to the July 2 property tax due date to avoid penalties.

Important Information on Tax Deferment

You can defer your taxes as long as you own and live in your home and continue to qualify for the program. If your home is sold, your account must be paid in full. If you refinance your home, your mortgage holder may require the full repayment of deferred taxes upon refinancing.

Additional information about tax deferment can be found on the Provincial Government website, www2.gov.bc.ca under 'Defer your Taxes'.

YOUR 2014 TAX BILL

This year City Council approved a property tax increase of 2.36% but this does not mean every property owner in the City will pay 2.36% more compared to 2013.

How much will you pay?

- A 2.36% tax increase equates to about \$70 on an average detached home and \$25 on an average strata property. However, the exact impact of the increase on an individual property depends on the assessed value of the property relative to other properties in the City. (To learn more, visit www.bcassessment.ca)
- The secondary suite service fee, which is charged to home owners with secondary suites, is \$250. This is the same as 2013. The revenue generated from this fee assists in financing the costs of infrastructure improvements.
- The sanitary sewer user fee increased \$6 this year. The sanitary sewer user fee is now \$253 for each detached home, apartment or condominium. An additional \$253 is charged for each self-contained secondary suite.
- Overall, drainage fees have increased by 5 per cent. The drainage fee for your property depends on the size, type of land use, and the average amount of impervious area for that land use. The amount charged varies for each property, but on average a typical detached home is charged about \$358 and a typical apartment or townhouse is charged about \$103.

A variety of other levies and fees also appear on your tax bill. Some, such as the Fraser Valley Regional Library levy, the Epcor White Rock Water Hydrant charge and the Business Improvement Association levy (certain commercial properties only) are included in the City's budget but set by outside organizations.

Others, such as school taxes and Translink levies, are not included in the City's budget but are collected by the City on behalf of other agencies and are remitted to them. Most of these amounts are affected by property values as well as the overall budget these organizations have set and are not determined by the City. Please contact these agencies directly if you have questions.