



# 2018

## Financial Update

from your  
*City by the Sea*

### A MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL

As your Council, we are committed to strengthening our community by creating economic opportunities that enhance our social and public amenity conditions. This is one of the reasons as to why we invest in festivals and events, strategic partnerships, and capital infrastructure projects because we believe in a healthier, accessible, and more welcoming White Rock. And, 2017 was a big year for our City by the Sea.

**Special Events:** In 2017, the City held 32 community and charitable events, along with six major City led special events to provide opportunities for people to connect, and businesses to attract loyal and new customers. Last year was extra special for the City because we celebrated two major milestones for us as a community and as a country –in April we held two special events celebrating the City’s 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and two events in the summer celebrating Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup>; one on July 1, Canada Day by the Bay and the other on August 18, White Rock Celebrates Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday featuring the Snowbirds Fly for CH.I.L.D.

**Strategic Partnerships:** To continue to attract residents and visitors to our community, last summer we partnered with the White Rock BIA and TD Bank to bring you the Concerts by the Pier series. We also partnered with the White Rock BIA to provide the free Hop-on, Hop-off Trolley service. And, we are proud to have partnered with the Peace Arch Hospital Foundation to enhance Centennial Park by building an inclusive playground for people of all abilities and all ages. The City is providing the land, maintenance, and \$225,000 towards the new playground.

**Capital Infrastructure:** Public amenities play a big role in making White Rock an attractive place for people to live, work, and visit. Development contributions the City receives help deliver facilities that you, your family, and guests can enjoy. These contributions also reduce the pressure on taxpayers who might otherwise fund these projects. Many of our capital projects are possible thanks to community amenity contributions (CACs) and development contributions costs (DCCs) the City has received from developments. For your information, below is a list of some of the City’s capital projects:

**All Abilities & All Ages Playground at Centennial Park:** this initiative will enhance the fun and health benefits of an inclusive outside playground for people of all abilities and all ages at Centennial Park.

**Johnston Road Streetscape Revitalization:** will ultimately improve accessibility, safety and ease of use along Johnston Road and re-establish White Rock’s commercial and cultural ‘high street’ as the gateway into our beautiful City by the Sea. It will also provide a beautiful canopy of trees along the corridor, create areas for seating, including outdoor Café seating along the new widened sidewalks, and revitalize the Town Centre.

**Memorial Park & Pier Washroom Upgrade:** this major tourist attraction, will have a new pier washroom, a wider promenade at Pier entrance, improved accessibility, flexible plaza space, a splash zone water feature for little ones to enjoy during those hot summer days, green lawn to relax on, more lighting for added safety and ambience during the night, and amphitheater seating so you can enjoy the panoramic ocean view.

**Waterfront Parkade:** this four-level parking structure at Victoria and Vidal Street will provide a variety of vehicular parking options near the heart of White Rock’s West Beach community, and address the lack of parking concerns raised by, residents, visitors and White Rock businesses; especially on sunny days, during peak season or when there’s a special event.

**Water Treatment Plant:** through our government relations efforts, in 2017, the City was awarded nearly \$12 million through the Clean Water WasteWater Fund (CWWF), which covers 83% of the total project costs for the water treatment plant. The water treatment plant is scheduled to be completed in March 2019 and will provide higher quality drinking water for years to come.

You can learn more about the City’s capital projects by going to [www.whiterockcity.ca/CityProjects](http://www.whiterockcity.ca/CityProjects).

As your Mayor and Council, we are committed to ensuring that new development contributions deliver new facilities and infrastructure, vital to the well-being of White Rock residents; and, in some cases, money is gathered from several projects to deliver much needed benefits to the city, without having to increase your taxes for new facilities and infrastructure.

We recognize that some of the changes happening in our community are long overdue and coinciding with other construction projects. We also understand there will be some challenges as the City undergoes this renewal phase. So, we ask for your continued patience as we work to revitalize our City by the Sea for generations to come.

Thank you,

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# 2018

# PROPERTY TAX HIGHLIGHTS & QUICK FACTS

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Municipal Tax Levy	↓ 2.89%	↓ 2.20%	↑ 3.65%	↑ 3.60%

- » The municipal tax levy increased by 3.60% compared to 2017. The exact impact on an individual property depends on the assessed value of the property relative to others in the City. **Assessed values are determined by BC Assessment.** For more information on property assessments, please visit [www.bccassessment.ca](http://www.bccassessment.ca)
- » Sanitary sewer user fees increased by \$5. The residential fee is \$266 for each detached home, apartment or condominium. An additional \$266 is charged for each self-contained secondary suite. The commercial fee is \$279.
- » 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. On average, a typical detached home is charged \$461 and an apartment or townhouse is charged \$134.
- » The 2018 solid waste user fee remains unchanged at \$333. This is only charged to those properties currently serviced by the City.
- » The secondary suite service fee, which is charged to home owners with secondary suites, increased by \$10 to \$290.
- » A 5% penalty will be applied to any current taxes and levies unpaid after July 3, 2018. An additional 5% penalty will be applied to 2018 taxes and levies unpaid after August 15, 2018.
- » The City of White Rock has launched a new online service which will make accessing your account information easy! **myWhiteRock** is an online service that lets property owners and businesses access information any time about their City of White Rock property taxes, water utility bills, and dog and business licence accounts. **myWhiteRock** also acts as the registration point for property tax and water utility eBilling. Register today at [my.whiterockcity.ca](http://my.whiterockcity.ca)
- » Other levies on your tax notice, such as Provincial (school) taxes and TransLink levies, are collected by the City on behalf of other agencies. Please contact these agencies directly if you have questions.

## 2018 Property Taxes and Home Owner Grant Applications are due on Tuesday, July 3, 2018

For information on the provincial property tax deferral program and the home owner grant program, please phone 1.888.355.2700. You can also find information online at [gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferral](http://gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferral) and [gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant).

## Did you know?

The City offers a property tax Pre-Payment Plan. This plan allows you to make monthly payments towards your 2019 taxes. The plan starts in August. Visit [www.whiterockcity.ca/prepay](http://www.whiterockcity.ca/prepay) for more information.

## Save time, go online!

Claim your home owner grant at [www.whiterockcity.ca/hog](http://www.whiterockcity.ca/hog) and pay online through your financial institute's website.

## Have Questions?

Visit us online at: [www.whiterockcity.ca/taxes](http://www.whiterockcity.ca/taxes)  
Phone: 604.541.2280  
Email: [finance@whiterockcity.ca](mailto:finance@whiterockcity.ca)  
In person: City Hall  
15322 Buena Vista Avenue

## FREE 2018 SPRING & SUMMER TRANSPORTATION IN WHITE ROCK

### FREE WATERFRONT SHUTTLE BUS

7 DAYS A WEEK | 12PM - 8PM  
APR 6 - SEP 30

The FREE Waterfront Shuttle Bus service offers a new way to travel back and forth from West to East Beach. Reach your favourite restaurants and shops without having to find the closest parking spot!

These services are supplemental to TransLink's regular routes in White Rock.



### HOP-ON, HOP-OFF TROLLEY

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, HOLIDAYS & SELECT EVENTS  
11AM - 9PM | MAY 19 - SEP 3

The City of White Rock and the White Rock Business Improvement Association have partnered again to provide the free Hop-on, Hop-off Trolley service! Travel from Uptown to Marine Drive and back, and discover new sights in White Rock.

Find the routes and schedules at [www.whiterockcity.ca/CityTransportation](http://www.whiterockcity.ca/CityTransportation)