

City of Saint John

2021 Budget

Produced by
Finance and Administrative Services

March 2021



SAINT JOHN



A Message from the Commissioner of Finance and Chief of Staff

Preparing yearly budgets for the city is a huge task under normal circumstances, but 2020 was anything but normal. Despite a pandemic that had many of our employees working from home and a cyberattack that limited access to files, Common Council was able to approve a budget that **continues our sustainable course** for the year 2021.

This year was the first year we used our newly developed **Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP)** as guidance in our budget preparation. The plan includes a comprehensive financial assessment of the City's challenges and opportunities, a suite of best practice financial policies, the establishment of long-term financial targets, and a financial health scorecard that measures results and ensures strong fiscal management. The plan also outlines eight steps to keep the City focused and diligent about its finances: eliminate debt, reduce debt levels each year, fund reserves, follow financial policies, facilitate provincial reforms, focus on growth, diminish infrastructure debt, and monitor progress.

This booklet has been prepared as a "**Operating Budget at a Glance**." It is meant to give you an understanding of how the City will spend its money "operating" in the year 2021.

I would like to thank City Manager John Collin, our Senior Leadership Team, our finance team and Common Council, in particular the Finance Committee and Chair David Merrithew for their leadership and guidance throughout the year.

Sincerely
Kevin Fudge

Finance Committee

Councillor David Merrithew (Chair)
Councillor Greg Norton
Councillor Donna Reardon
Councillor Gary Sullivan
Councillor Donna Reardon
Councillor Gary Sullivan
Mayor **Don Darling**



Did you know?

- The City's Long-Term-Financial Plan **is a first** for Saint John and a first for Atlantic Canada.
- An **Operating Budget** consists of all revenues and expenses occurring over a year, which the City uses to plan its operations. By law, the Operating Budget is required to be balanced.
- A **Capital Budget** is used for long term investments like infrastructure and facilities, that are paid off over time.
- According to the principles set out in the LTFP, the City is increasing its contributions from Capital from Operating. "Pay as you go" contributions in 2021, are expected to be \$3M.
- The **City's fiscal (reporting) year** runs from January 1 to December 31.
- Every year the City's year-end financial statements are audited by a professional accounting firm. **Audited Financial Statements** provide a consolidated and independently verified overview of a local **government's financial** activities over the course of the previous fiscal year and its **financial** position at the end of that year.
- Because of their complexity, these statements are typically presented in early summer.
- Saint John Water employees prepare capital and operating budgets separate from the City's.



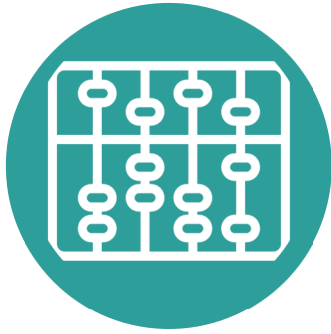
2021 Budget Summary

Maintaining a Balanced Budget

By law in New Brunswick, all municipalities must **balance their budgets** and cannot run a deficit.

The graphic below shows the City of Saint John has balanced revenues and expenses.





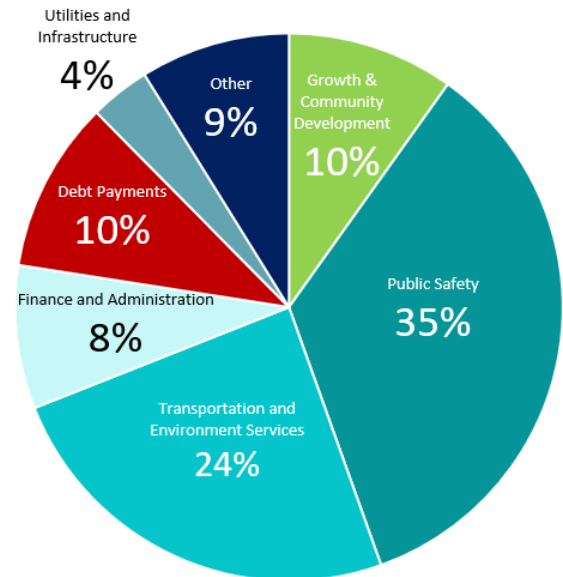
The Budget Breakdown

How is the Money Spent?

See the Operating Budgets for a breakdown of individual service areas.

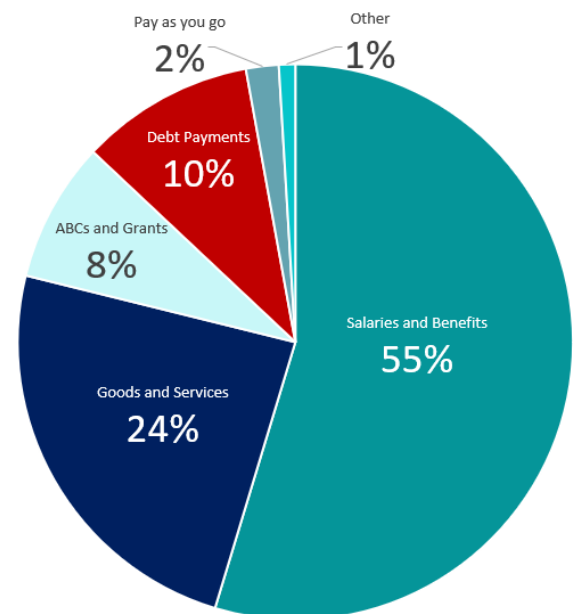
By Service Area

Growth & Community Development	15,508,648
Public Safety	54,563,096
Transportation and Environment Services	38,487,021
Finance and Administration	13,308,819
Debt Payments	15,941,014
Utilities and Infrastructure	5,600,504
Other	13,922,455
	157,331,557



By Expenditure

Salaries and Benefits	86,018,510
Goods and Services	38,046,869
ABCs and Grants	12,827,709
Debt Payments	15,941,014
Pay as you go	3,000,000
Other	1,497,455
	157,331,557





What is the Spend per Service?

For every \$100 of assessed value, a homeowner pays \$1.785 in property taxes to live in the City of Saint John. This means that if you own a home that has an assessed value of approximately \$170,000, you can expect to pay \$3,035 in property taxes. So how is this money allocated?

\$1,096

Public Safety

This includes police and fire services, emergency dispatch & management and street lighting



\$565

Debt Payments & Fiscal Charges

This includes interest & principal payments, commitments to disability, pension and reserve contributions



\$334

Roads & Sidewalks

This includes snow control, the maintenance and repair of roads & sidewalks and traffic management



\$202

Corporate & Support Services

This includes internal services such as IT, Communications, Finance, Legal and Human Resources



\$160

Transit & Parking

This includes transit infrastructure & operations and parking administration



\$155

Infrastructure & Asset Management

This includes building & facilities maintenance & operations, capital from operating & other asset management



\$149

Growth & Community Services

This includes community planning & growth, building inspections & permitting and economic development



\$142

Solid Waste & Stormwater

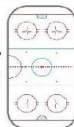
This includes garbage & compost collection, bulky item pick up and stormwater management



\$90

Regional Facilities & Market Square

This includes TD Station, Aquatic Centre, SJ Arts Centre, Imperial Theatre, SJ Trade & Convention Centre and Market Square



\$66

Arenas & Sportsfields

This includes the operation & maintenance of city owned arenas and fields



\$59

Parks & Open Spaces

This includes the maintenance of parks, trails, beaches, and city landscaping



\$15



Mayor & Council

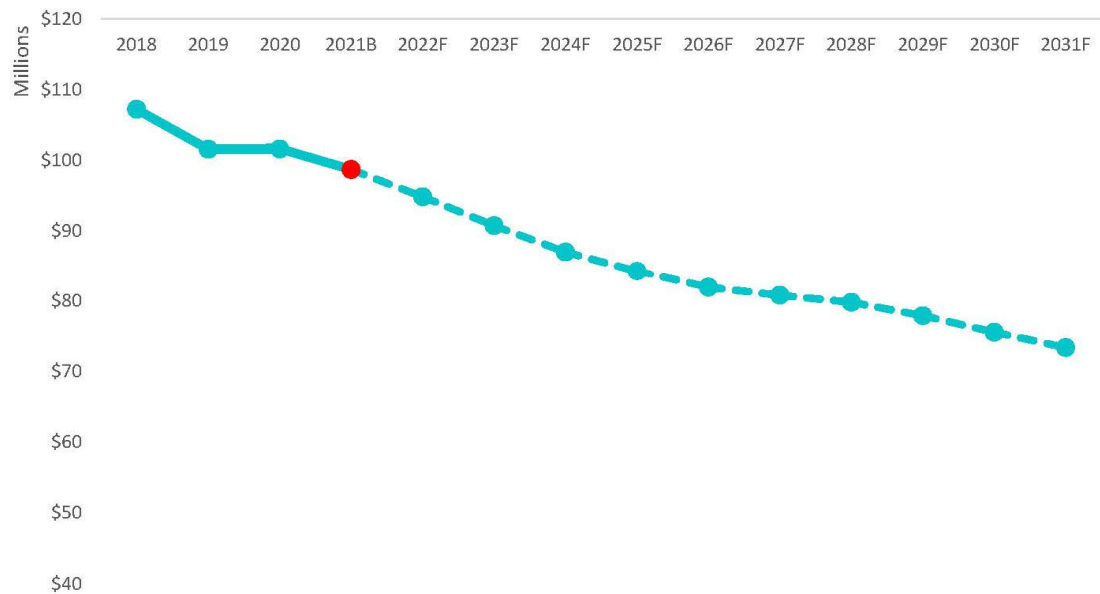
This includes salaries and expenses for your Mayor & Council



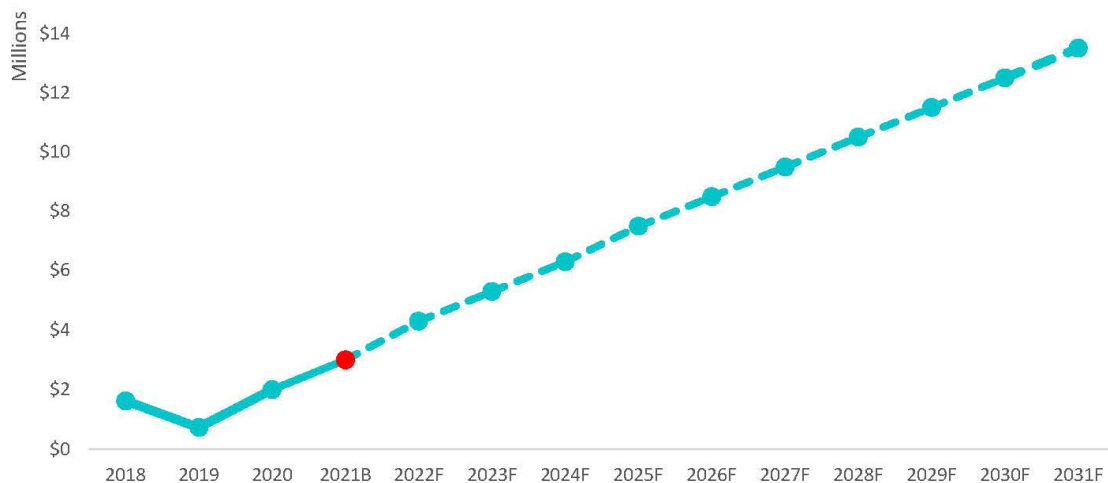
Spotlight on Long-Term Debt

The City continues to focus on debt management and decreasing the debt load. By increasing pay-as-you go each year, the city expects to achieve annual contributions to exceed \$13 Million per year by 2030

Historical & Projected Long-Term Debt Balance



Pay-as-you-Go Contributions





2021 General Operating Budget

	Approved	
	2021 Budget	2020 Budget
Revenues		
Property Taxes	\$ 125,990,634	\$ 125,842,974
PILT Adjustment	-	1,185
Equalization & Unconditional Grant	18,229,402	17,204,756
Financial Assistance	-	9,293,235
Growth & Community Development Services	3,768,545	4,968,607
Transportation and Environment Services	3,773,749	4,094,853
Public Safety Services	2,451,188	1,975,300
Utilities & Infrastructure	332,039	192,514
Finance & Administrative Services	2,786,000	3,135,000
	\$ 157,331,557	\$ 166,708,424
Expenditures		
Salaries & Benefits		
Salaries	58,631,753	62,595,315
Overtime & Other	2,287,044	2,424,110
Fringe benefits	15,674,713	16,941,003
	76,593,510	81,960,428
Goods & Services	38,046,869	37,572,518
Agencies, Boards & Commissions	12,827,709	15,255,260
Fiscal Charges		
Interest	3,019,024	3,725,521
Principal	12,921,990	12,924,752
Previous Year's Deficit	214,971	119,915
Special Pension Payment	8,875,000	9,575,000
Long-Term Disability	550,000	661,572
Pay-as-you-Go	3,000,000	2,000,000
Restructuring Costs	-	2,063,458
Landfill Closure	300,000	300,000
Transfer to Reserves	982,484	550,000
	\$ 157,331,557	\$ 166,708,424



Growth and Community Development Services

Revenues	Approved	
	2021 Budget	2020 Budget
	\$ 3,768,545	\$ 4,968,607
Expenditures		
Growth & Community Planning Services	1,612,509	1,716,242
Development Services	102,884	121,345
Development Engineering	362,645	625,296
Community Development	473,101	259,186
Animal Control	91,244	91,244
Dangerous and Vacant Building Program	472,032	501,524
Minimum Property Standards	297,895	285,085
Heritage Conservation Service	195,630	194,358
Cultural Affairs	126,031	124,110
Other By-Laws	425,278	413,596
Permitting & Inspection Services	1,040,806	1,061,368
Regional Economic Development	-	475,000
Destination Marketing (Tourism)	-	2,018,608
Develop Saint John	-	838,727
Regional Economic Development Agency	2,175,000	-
Market Square	2,250,000	2,488,248
Saint John Trade & Convention Centre	572,270	586,193
Imperial Theatre	344,165	367,285
Saint John Aquatic Centre	400,000	625,821
Saint John Arts Centre	152,920	139,471
TD Station	564,810	602,519
Library	472,892	497,892
City Market	1,047,824	1,012,480
Arts & Culture Board	70,000	70,000
Public Art Maintenance & Repair	16,000	16,000
Remembrance Day	1,500	1,500
New Year/Canada Day Celebrations	15,000	15,000
Acadian Games	-	19,750
PRO Kids	19,163	124,940
Succeed & Stay	205,863	200,343
Local Immigration Partnership	89,863	-
Carleton Community Center	182,700	190,211
Loch Lomond Community Center	45,000	45,000
North End Community Center	169,589	167,083
Recreation Programming	544,953	663,842
Neighbourhood Development	152,000	152,000
YMCA-FGCC/MCC - Contracted Services	137,661	135,627
Boys and Girls Club - Contracted Services	139,950	137,882
Unspecified Grants	184,000	184,000
Lifeguards	181,000	181,000
Play SJ	15,000	15,000
Lord Beaverbrook Rink	159,470	159,470
Growth Reserve	-	350,000
	\$ 15,508,648	\$ 17,874,246



Public Safety Services

	Approved	
	2021 Budget	2020 Budget
Revenues	\$ 2,451,188	\$ 1,975,300
Expenditures		
Fire Rescue and Suppression Service	22,124,187	23,776,029
Fire Training	1,000	1,359
Medical First Responders	-	17,830
Technical Rescue Response	46,256	75,850
Hazardous Materials	72,626	103,312
Fire Prevention	856,920	866,034
Fire Investigation	61,647	70,931
Emergency Management Services	341,535	336,152
Water Supply and Hydrants	2,500,000	2,500,000
Public Safety Communications Center	2,505,681	2,583,013
Street Lighting	959,982	999,159
Police Administration	1,893,381	2,023,778
Criminal Investigations	4,264,066	4,645,588
Police Commission	112,052	162,052
Automotive Equipment	1,059,833	1,000,500
Support Services	1,949,931	1,920,869
Dentention	174,000	174,000
Police Operations	14,695,871	15,212,146
Stations and Buildings	944,128	956,700
	\$ 54,563,096	\$ 57,425,302



Transportation and Environment Services

	Approved	
	2021 Budget	2020 Budget
Revenues	\$ 3,773,749	\$ 4,094,853
Expenditures		
Snow Control Streets	5,327,402	5,700,022
Street Cleaning	1,671,894	1,556,365
Utility Cuts	710,263	727,403
Street Services - Surface Maintenance	8,448,368	7,122,040
Snow Control Sidewalk	910,718	1,101,593
Sidewalk Maintenance	580,965	793,399
Pedestrian & Traffic Management Service	1,979,926	2,241,753
Stormwater Management	-	3,643,330
Solid Waste Management	3,759,606	3,781,035
Regional Services Commission	20,000	20,000
Landscape - Parks & Open Spaces	2,047,995	2,310,698
Rockwood Park	407,788	571,447
Urban Forestry	313,445	313,565
Mispec	-	5,000
Saint John Horticultural Association	40,000	40,000
Arena Operation & Maintenance	1,168,546	1,568,144
Sportsfield Operation & Maintenance	1,195,592	1,393,873
Other Facilities Operation & Maintenance	406,222	449,103
Parking Administration	581,470	616,756
Transit Debt	1,961,195	2,037,026
Transit Subsidy	5,044,787	5,894,787
Fleet Stockroom	219,494	-
Stormwater Rural	1,691,345	-
	\$ 38,487,021	\$ 41,887,339



Finance and Administrative Services

	Approved	
	2021 Budget	2020 Budget
Revenues	\$ 2,786,000	\$ 3,135,000
Expenditures		
Finance & Administrative Services		
Finance	1,176,140	1,640,459
Assessment	1,388,221	1,367,705
Supply Chain Management	399,446	1,207,895
Information Technology	3,073,774	2,966,799
Continuous Improvement and Performance	311,448	503,224
Corporate Communications	573,001	573,547
Insurance	272,932	171,500
Liability Insurance	340,000	340,000
Customer Service	877,809	-
	\$ 8,412,771	\$ 8,771,129
City Manager		
City Manager's Office	625,173	800,584
Mayor's Office	216,333	218,130
Common Council	519,902	549,067
Common Clerk	594,499	605,438
Human Resources	1,826,083	1,565,654
Legal Department	936,521	795,948
Real Estate	177,537	275,891
	\$ 4,896,048	\$ 4,810,712
Other Charges		
Fiscal Charges	15,941,014	16,650,273
Deficit 2nd Previous Year	214,971	119,915
Landfill Closure	300,000	300,000
Special Pension Contributions	8,875,000	9,575,000
Long-Term Disability	550,000	661,572
Restructuring	-	2,040,000
Transfers to Operating Reserves	377,484	
Transfers to Capital Reserves	605,000	550,000
Other Charges	-	23,458
Capital from Operating	3,000,000	2,000,000
	\$ 29,863,469	\$ 31,920,218



Utilities and Infrastructure

	Approved	
	2021 Budget	2020 Budget
Revenues	\$ 332,039	\$ 192,514
Expenditures		
Engineering	914,136	572,934
Carpenter Shop	324,231	324,236
Facilities Management	1,408,663	1,476,376
City Hall Building	1,014,587	1,225,211
GIS	376,224	420,721
Stockroom	269,413	-
Stormwater Urban	1,293,250	-
	\$ 5,600,504	\$ 4,019,478

