

## Next Steps for Parksville's 2026-2030 Financial Plan

Approved by Council in January, the financial plan sets priority services, programs and initiatives for the next five years and how the City will pay for them. The next step in the process is Council's consideration of amendments to the 2026-2030 plan to reflect new information, updated BC Assessment data and completion of the 2025 fiscal year.

Residents are encouraged to provide input at the April 13 meeting. Refer to *Let's Talk Parksville* for the full meeting schedule. Final property tax and utility rates for 2026 will be set during these meetings. The rate increases forecasted for 2026 are 6.77% for property taxes, 6% for water fees and 6% for sewer fees, expected to result in an increase of about \$178 for an average residential property. Property tax notices will be mailed in late May. [[letstalkparksville.ca/financial-plan-2026](http://letstalkparksville.ca/financial-plan-2026)]

### Province of BC 2026 Budget Changes Affect Property Taxes

For the benefit of City residential property owners, we have provided information on our website about how the 2026 budget changes affect residential property taxes related to:

- Repeal of Northern and Rural Homeowner benefit
- Additional school tax rates
- Increasing interest rates for property tax deferral



### Public Survey About Group Benefits for City Elected Officials

At Council's direction, we are conducting a resident survey about the proposed provision of extended health benefits to elected officials at the City's cost, with funding from property taxes. Open until April 19, the survey along with background information, is on the City's website. Results will inform the more comprehensive Council remuneration review which will be brought to Council this summer. Paper copy of the survey is available from the administration department. [[parksville.ca](http://parksville.ca)]

Estimated cost to provide elected officials with an extended health and dental plan similar to City staff ranges from \$16,304 and \$40,912 per year or between \$65,217 and \$163,650 over four-year term. Estimates assume all seven members of Council opt in to coverage, and the range depends on individual versus family coverage rates.

### THINGS TO KNOW...

#### Water Conservation [[letstalkparksville.ca/water-conservation](http://letstalkparksville.ca/water-conservation)]

- **Level 1** in April allows for watering of lawns between 7 pm and 7 am, any day of the week. Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from restrictions.
- **Level 2** will be in effect from May 1 through October 31 (unless otherwise advised) and allows for every other day lawn watering between 7-10 am OR 7-10 pm for a maximum of two hours.



### IN OTHER NEWS!

#### Improvements to Canada Day Parade Route

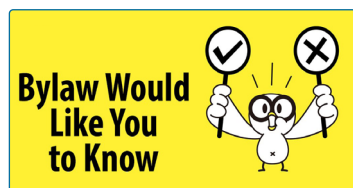
For the third year, we will host Canada Day celebrations in Parksville; our theme for this year is "Proudly Canadian, Proudly Parksville." We recently announced a change to the parade route for 2026. The parade will no longer turn up and travel along Craig Street. This change is done in consultation with local emergency service organizations, City operations, and traffic control management and many factors were considered. We are aware of evolving safety concerns at large events in our country which has caused us to evaluate the route. The decision is a proactive measure to protect participants and spectators. [[letstalkparksville.ca/canada-day-2026](http://letstalkparksville.ca/canada-day-2026).]



#### Evolve E-Bike and E-Scooter Share in Parksville

Residents and visitors in Parksville will soon have a new way to get around with Evolve, created by BCAA. As part of a pilot program, Evolve will introduce 20 e-bikes and 30 e-scooters, offering a convenient and flexible way to move around the City. With the launch later this month, you will see the bikes and scooters at locations throughout the City with access through the Evo app on iOS or Android. Riders simply unlock an e-bike or e-scooter using their smartphone and go. Helmets are included, and pricing offers both pay-per-minute and monthly options. More information at [evo.ca/evolve](http://evo.ca/evolve).

### CITY SERVICES



The City's bylaw compliance department provides residents with a variety of services related to regulatory issues. Refer to our website for info about bylaws and as well as some FAQs.

Thank you to all the responsible and caring dog owners who help make our City a wonderful place to live, walk, and wag! For more information about off leash park or pet related bylaws, contact the City's bylaw department who are happy to help. [bylaw@parksville.ca](mailto:bylaw@parksville.ca)

#### Friendly Reminder for Our Dog Loving Community

We are reaching out to dog owners with a gentle reminder to help keep our parks, trails and neighbourhoods safe and enjoyable for all. To make sure all residents, both the two legged and four legged kind, have a great experience outdoors, we request dogs not be allowed to roam *at large*. A dog is considered *at large* when it is off the owner's property and not on a leash, unless in our designated off leash park.

**Good news:** dogs are welcome to run freely at Springwood off leash park! We simply ask owners to keep their pets under control and within sight to ensure a fun and safe environment. Guidelines help protect pets, prevent accidental conflicts, and support the friendly, welcoming atmosphere our community is known for.

#### Annual Wood Chipping Program

Our wood chipping program will take place April 7 through April 30. The City is divided into two zones - west and east of Craig Street; properties west of Craig will receive collection between April 7 and April 17 and properties east of Craig are scheduled between April 20 and April 30.

Materials should already be at curbside for collection at properties WEST of Craig Street and for collection at properties EAST of Craig, curbside on April 20. Refer to map and collection details on our website. [*Residents/Wood Chipping*] Questions should be directed to operations, [ops@parksville.ca](mailto:ops@parksville.ca) or 250 248-5412.

### City Dates

April 8	Regular Council Meeting and Financial Plan
April 13	Committee of the Whole (Financial Plan)
April 20	Regular Council Meeting
April 27	Special Council (if required)
May 4	Regular Council Meeting (Financial Plan)
May 6 or 11	Special Council Meeting
May 18	Victoria Day (offices closed)
May 20	Regular Council Meeting

### How to Reach Council

MAYOR		
Doug O'Brien	250 937-1389	<a href="mailto:council@parksville.ca">council@parksville.ca</a> 100 Jensen Avenue East PO Box 1390 Parksville V9P 2H3
COUNCILLORS		
Mary Beil	250 927-4097	
Adam Fras	250 228-3727	
Amit Gaur	250 954-3060	
Joel Grenz	250 954-3060	
Sylvia Martin	250 954-3060	Comments welcome 250 954-3073 <a href="mailto:info@parksville.ca">info@parksville.ca</a>
Sean Wood	604 868-7914	