



 COUNCIL

As adopted November 28, 2024

Mayor and Council

The Town of Aurora’s Council includes the Mayor and six Councillors. Together, they are elected to serve the residents and businesses of the Town in a responsive and effective manner through leadership and legislative action and set policy direction for the present and future of the Town.

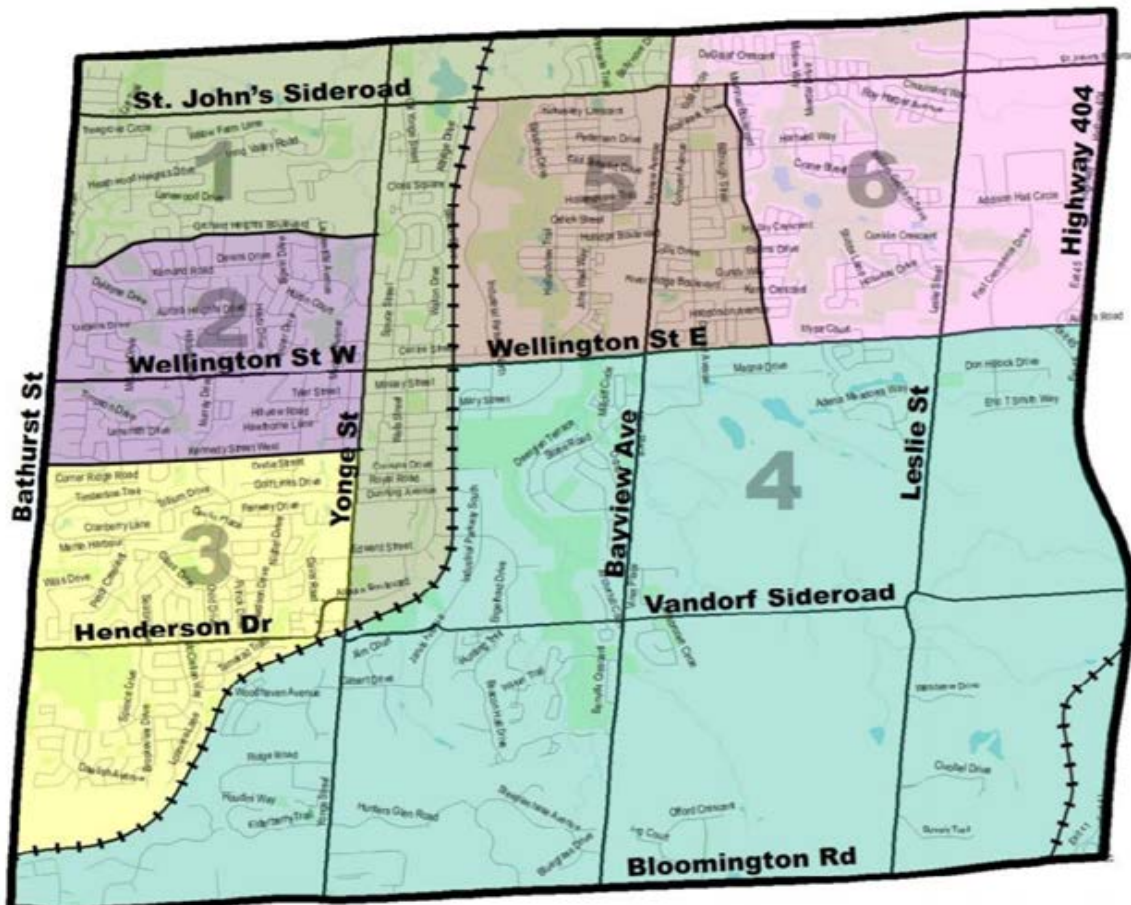
Councillors are elected by ward

On July 14, 2020, Aurora Council passed By-law No. 6271-20 to establish Ward boundaries, effective for the 2022 Municipal Election.

In previous elections, Council members were elected at large. Now, residents in each of the six wards vote for one member of Council in the municipal election to represent their area.

The Mayor continues to be elected at large and represents the Town by sitting as a member of Council at The Regional Municipality of York.

Aurora Ward Map



Advisory Committees

Members of Council also participate in the Town's advisory committees including:

Accessibility Advisory Committee

This committee advises on matters relating to the environment, parks, trails, recreation, active transportation, and other matters of interest to the community.

Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee

This committee advises on various issues relating to the development and implementation of the Transportation and Active Transportation Master Plans and on all traffic safety issues.

Aurora Appeal Tribunal/Property Standards Committee

Appointed by Council to conduct quasi-judicial hearings in respect to appeals pertaining to the Town's by-laws.

Committee of Adjustment (COA)

The Ontario Planning Act establishes the authority for the COA to make decisions on minor variances, permissions and consents on property, submitted by applicants.

Community Recognition Review Advisory Committee

This committee supports the annual Community Recognition Awards event.

Environmental Advisory Committee

This committee was established to address climate change initiatives, energy conservation, environmental matters, and to provide input on the Climate Change Adaptation Plan, Community Energy Plan, Corporate Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan, Corporate Environmental Action Plan, and York Region's Climate Change Action Plan.

Finance Advisory Committee

This committee assists Council and Town staff in fulfilling their fiscal responsibilities by reviewing and making recommendations on the long-range corporate financial planning process, capital planning initiatives, and fiscal policy matters.

Heritage Advisory Committee

This committee advises on matters relating to the conservation of buildings of historic or architectural value and the designation and preservation of heritage conservation districts in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act.

Joint Council Committee (Central York Fire Services)

This is a joint committee of the Municipal Councils of Aurora and Newmarket for purpose of providing and administering fire protection and prevention services for both communities.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

This committee advises the Community Services and Operational Services Departments respecting the delivery of Parks and Recreation programs and activities within the Town.

Council approves the Strategic Plan and other key plans

Council reviews and approves the Strategic Plan and other key plans guiding the Town's governance. Staff develop plans, policies and strategies based on Council direction, which are reviewed at Committee of the Whole meetings. Once approved, Council provides the framework for staff to develop work plans.

In addition to the Official Plan and the Strategic Plan other Council approved plans include:

- Accessibility Plan
- Active Transportation Plan and Transportation Master Plan
- Asset Management Plan
- Aurora Promenade Plan
- Community Energy Plan
- Community Improvement Plan
- Corporate Environmental Action Plan
- Cultural Master Plan
- Customer Service Strategy and Implementation Plan
- Development Charge Study
- Diversity Equity and Inclusion Strategy
- Economic Development Strategic Plan
- Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan
- Fiscal Strategy
- Fleet Study
- Green Fleet Action Plan
- Museum Plan
- Parks & Recreation Master Plan Sports Field Development Strategy
- Recreation for Persons with Disabilities Plan
- Sport Plan and Sports Field Strategy
- Storm Water Management Master Plan
- Stream Management Master Plan & Tannery Creek Flood Relief Study
- Technology Strategic Plan
- Trails Master Plan
- Urban Forest Management Policy

Operating Budget

Overview

The operating budget for Council includes an increase of \$54,300 on the tax levy in 2025 and an increase of \$61,400 in 2026. The main drivers of the increase includes salaries and benefits increases and the annual reduction to the reserve funding to support economic development.

Net budget by division

	2024 Budget		2025 Budget		2026 Budget	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
Budget (\$000's)						
Council Administration	611.8	611.8	635.6	635.6	652.0	652.0
Committees	112.0	37.0	112.5	67.5	112.5	112.5
Net Budget	723.8	648.8	748.1	703.1	764.5	764.5
Budget Change			24.3	54.3	16.4	61.4
2024 Outlook			738.0	693.0	754.4	754.4
Change to Outlook			10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Permanent Full-Time Staffing (FTE):						
Opening Staffing				1.0		1.0
New				-		-
Total Staffing				1.0		1.0
2024 Outlook				1.0		1.0
Change to Outlook				-		-

Operating financial summary

\$000's	Net Actual Results		2024	2024	2025	2026
	2022	2023	Net Fcst*	Budget	Budget	Budget
Expenditures	575.9	651.7	710.2	723.8	748.1	764.5
Non-Tax Revenues	(46.2)	(77.5)	(75.1)	(75.0)	(45.0)	-
Net Tax Levy	529.7	574.2	635.1	648.8	703.1	764.5
% Tax Funded	92%	88%	89%	90%	94%	100%
Net Budget Change	\$	44.5	60.9	13.7	54.3	61.4
	%	8.4%	10.6%	2.2%	8.4%	8.7%

*Net forecast as of August 31, 2024

Changes to the multi-year budget

The change to the outlook presented in the 2024 to 2026 Budget for Council includes adjustments to salaries and benefits for OMERS pension contributions which are partially offset by savings on the photocopier contract.

Budget change to outlook

	2025		2026	
	FTE	\$000's	FTE	\$000's
Starting Budget	1	648.8	1	703.1
Base				
Salaries & Benefits including COLA, step increases, gapping and other approved staffing actions	-	25.3	-	15.4
Reduce contribution from Economic Development reserve	-	30.0	-	45.0
Increase to memberships	-	0.5	-	0.5
Photocopier contract savings	-	(2.5)	-	(0.0)
Other minor inflationary adjustments	-	1.0	-	0.5
	-	54.3	-	61.4
Budget Change	-	54.3	-	61.4
Total Budget	1	703.1	1	764.5

Budget change summary

	2025		2026	
	FTE	\$000's	FTE	\$000's
2024 Budget Outlook	1	693.0	1	754.4
Prior Year Restatements				10.1
Budget Changes to Outlook				
Salaries and benefits adjustments		12.3		0.3
Meeting expenses		0.5		-
Photocopier contract savings		(2.7)		(0.3)
Budget Change to Outlook	1	10.1	1	10.1
Total Budget	1	703.1	1	764.5