

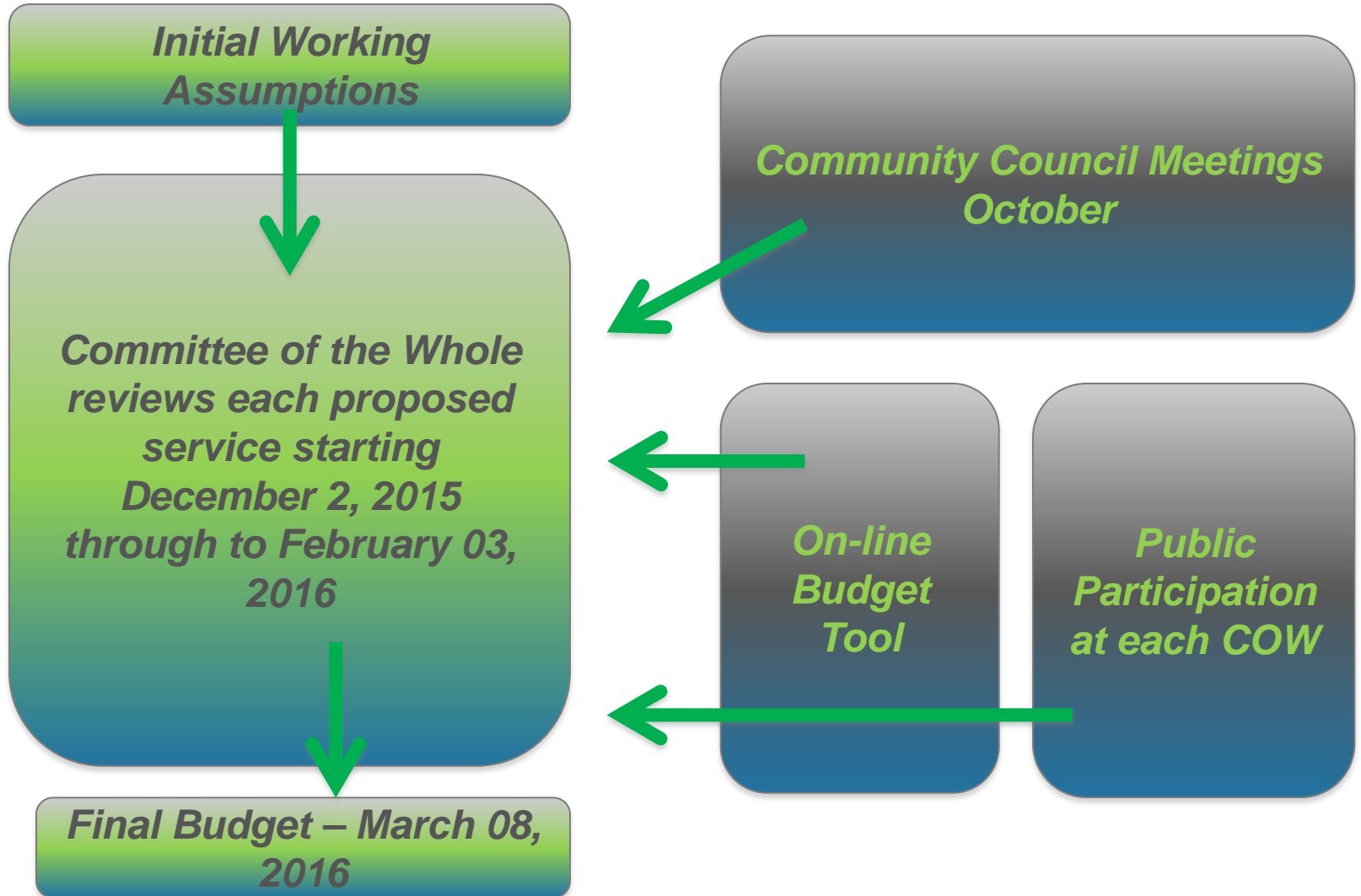
HALIFAX

**Budget
Consultations
for 2016-17**

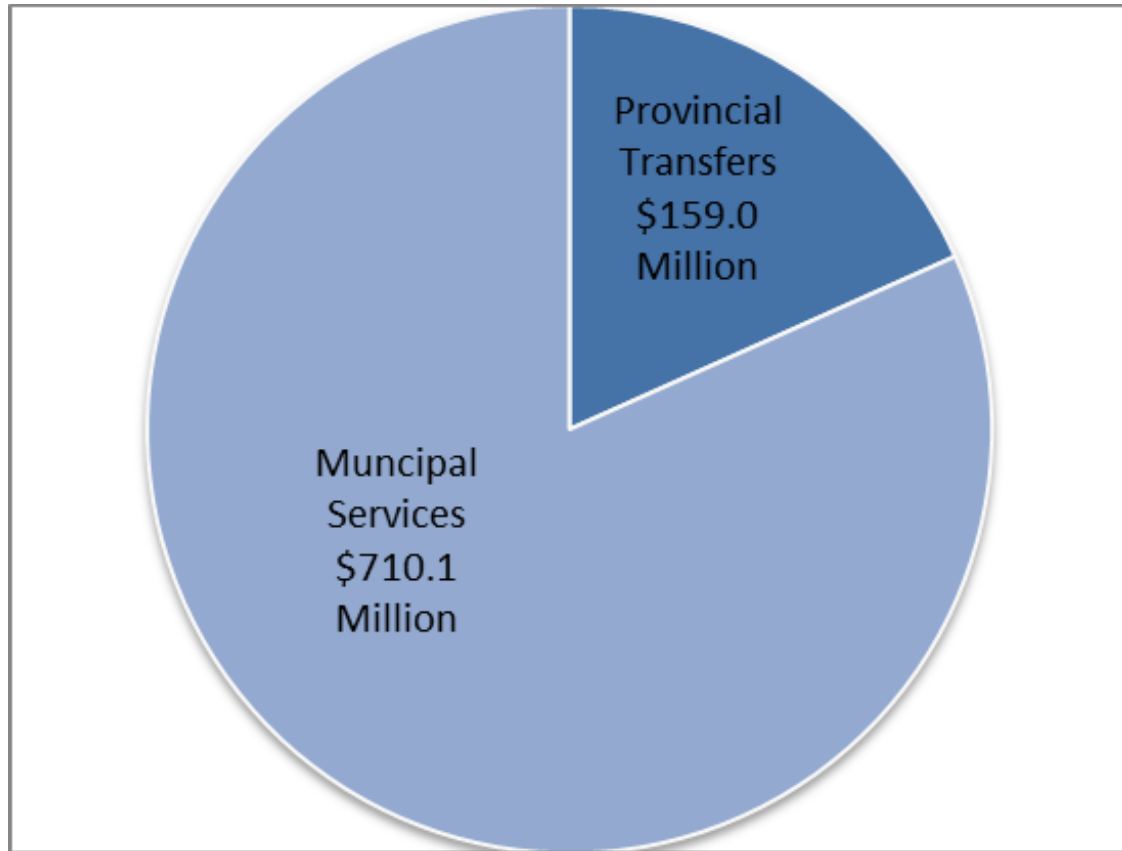
Outline

- Introduction
- Approach to Budget
- Overview of Budget
 - Expenses, Revenues
 - Capital, Debt
 - Taxation
- Public Consultations
- Timeline

Approach to the Budget



Total 2015/16 Expenses of \$869 Million



Provincial

Includes Education (Mandatory & Supplementary), Corrections, Housing and Assessment.

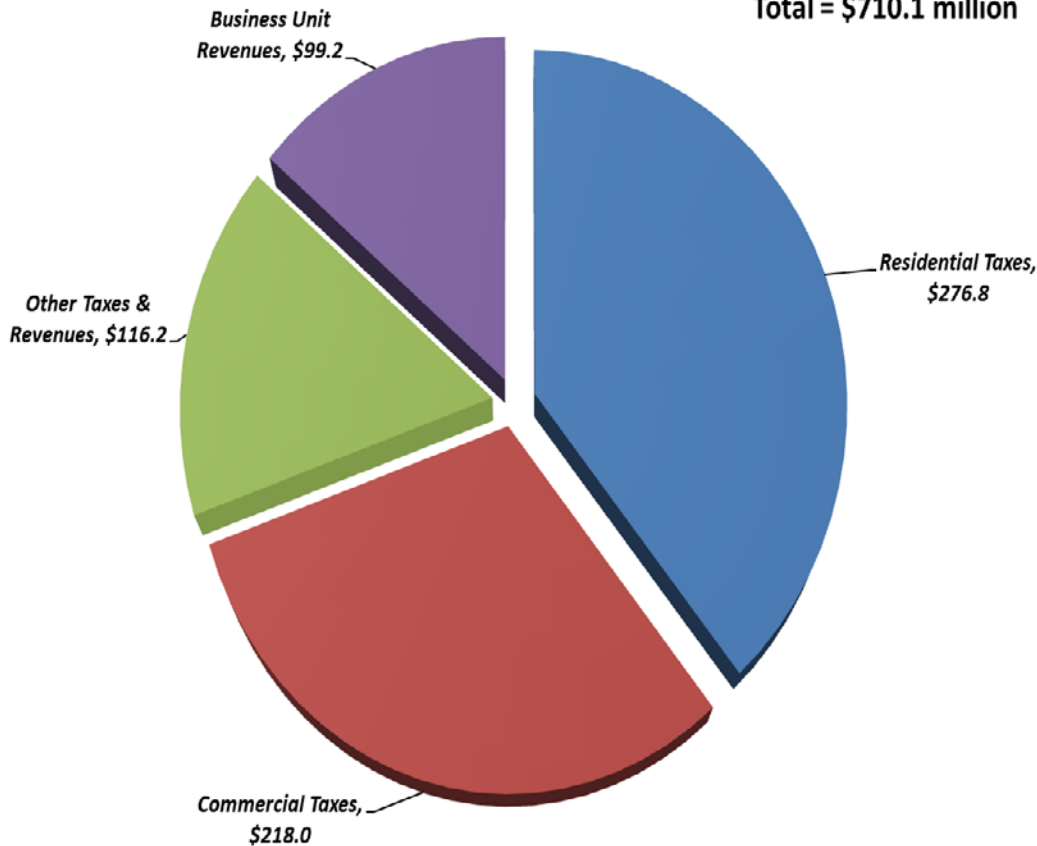
Municipal

includes services under the control and direction of Regional Council.

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Municipal Revenues of \$710.1m

Municipal Revenues (millions), 2015-16
(excludes taxes for Province and school boards)
Total = \$710.1 million



Taxes

Main taxes are General Tax rates and Transit (residential).

Other

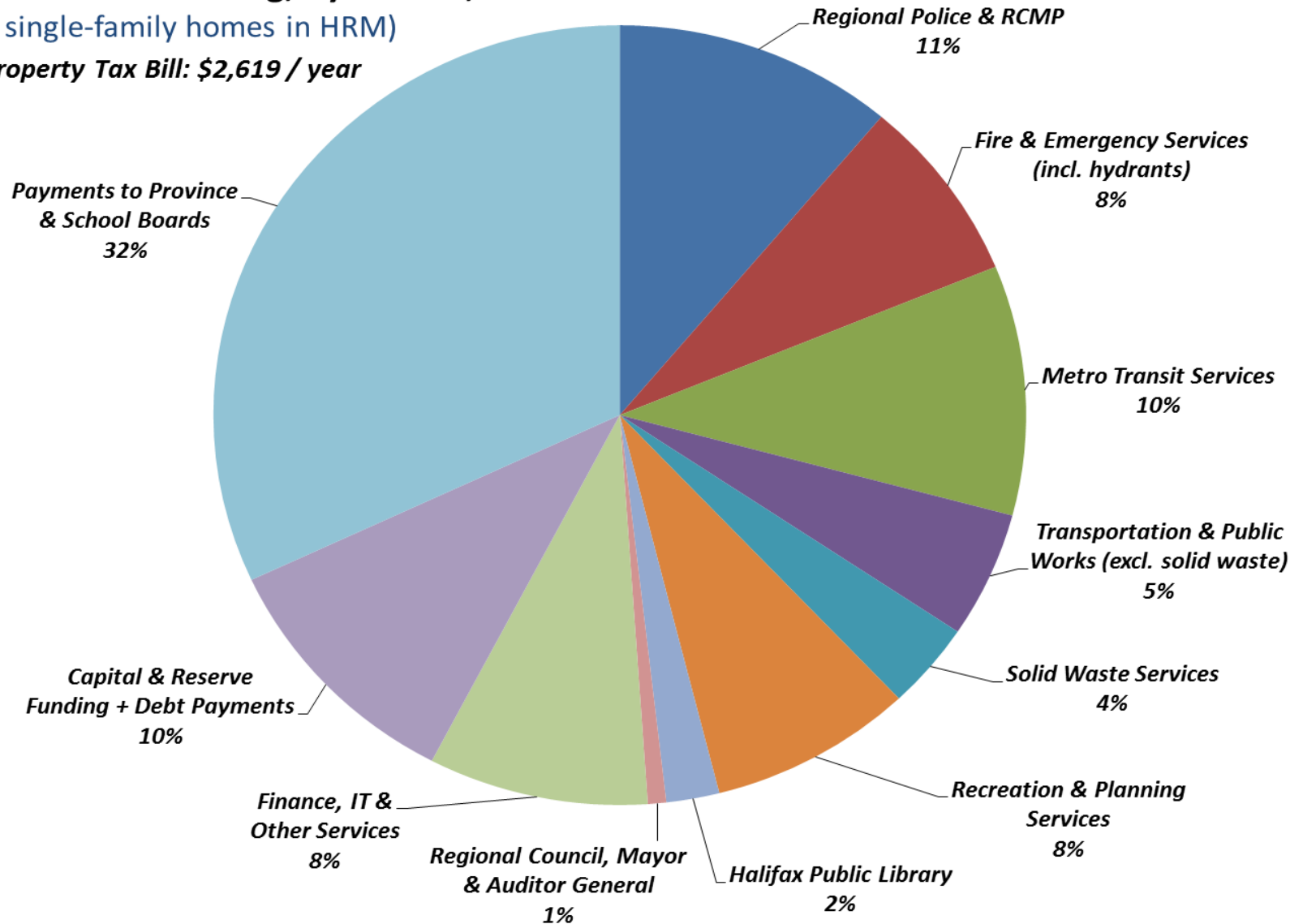
Taxes include Deed Transfer Tax, Payments in Lieu of Taxes (Federal/Provincial), Hydrant Tax, smaller area rates.

Business unit revenues come from services (e.g. Bus and recreation fares, tipping fees).

Household Tax Funding, by Service, 2015-16

(from single-family homes in HRM)

Avg Property Tax Bill: \$2,619 / year



How does your Municipal Tax Bill compare to other Household Bills?

For example, your household communications bill...

Paid by the average Canadian family - \$185 / month or \$2,220 / year¹

Services Provided:

- * Mobile phone
- * Home phone
- * Internet services
- * TV subscriptions

¹. Source: CRTC report - Communication Monitoring Report September 2013

MUNICIPAL TAX BILL...

For average home in the Halifax region - \$149 / month or \$1,782 / year (not including Provincial transfers)

Services Provided...

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

- Police response
- Crime prevention
- Traffic safety and enforcement
- Fire and rescue response
- Fire and injury education and prevention
- Disaster preparedness and response
- School crossing guards

COMMUNITY AND RECREATION SERVICES

- Recreation (facilities and programs)
- Community by-laws, licenses, grants
- Libraries
- Arts, entertainment and culture
- Community relations
- Compliance enforcement
- Public transit and Access-a-Bus

INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS

- Roadway construction and maintenance (local and regional streets, bridges and sidewalks)
- Snow removal and ice control, including in parks and trails
- Transportation planning and traffic management
- Solid waste (garbage) collection and disposal (landfill)
- Recycling and waste minimization
- Parks and urban forestry (parks, athletic fields, playgrounds, natural areas, winter amenities)
- City beautification (public gardens/landscaping, litter collection, street cleaning)
- Industrial parks
- Community environmental and energy sustainability projects

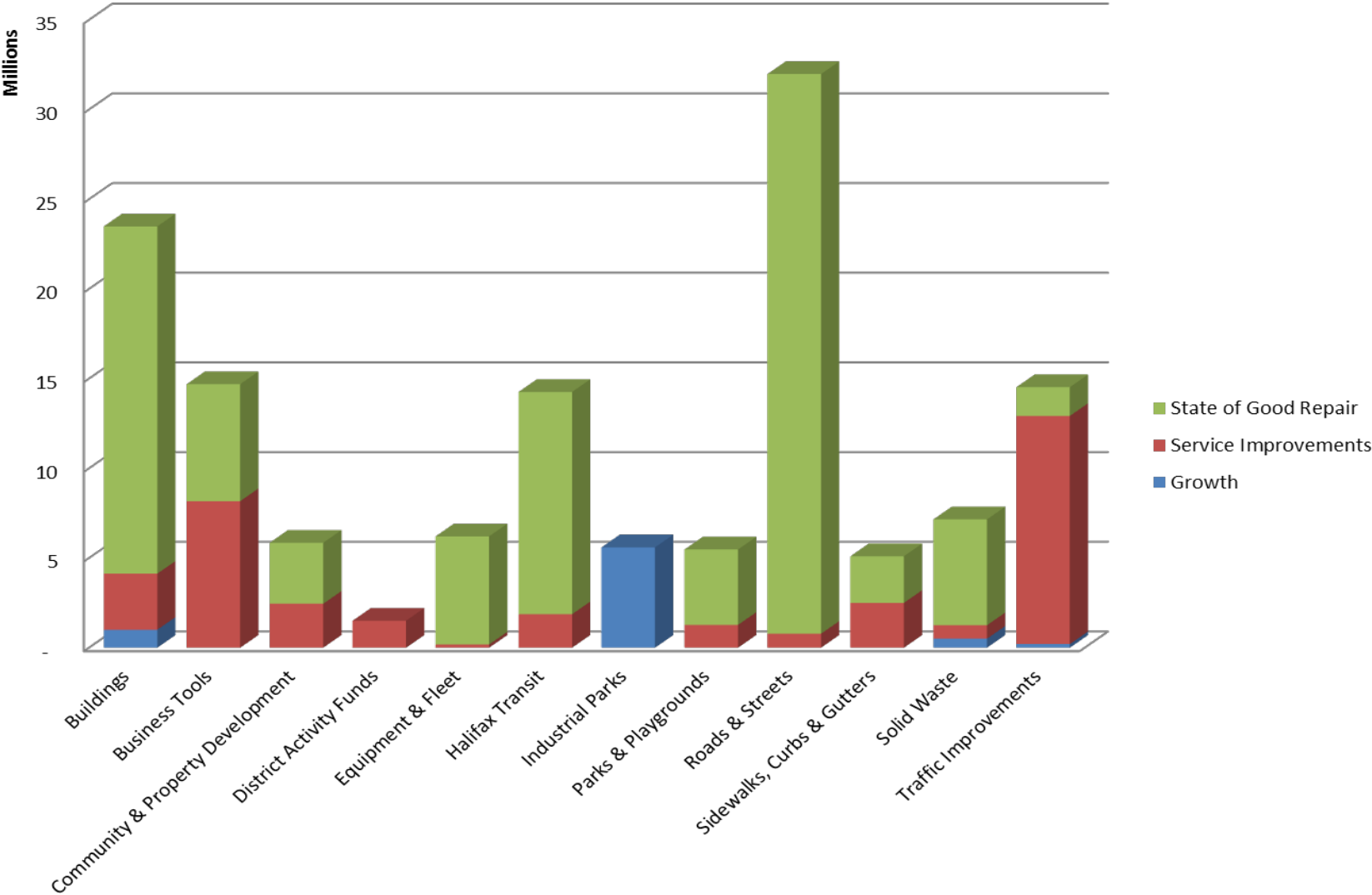
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

- Regional planning
- Development approval, building permits and inspections
- Neighbourhood revitalization
- Economic development
- Heritage conservation
- Cemeteries
- Property asset management

GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Financial planning and services
- Procurement
- Information technology
- Legal services
- Human Resources
- Corporate Communications
- Office of the Municipal Clerk and Council Support

2015/16 Capital Budget by Category



How the Capital Budget works

Home for Sale

Cost to **purchase** is \$180,000

We've **saved up** \$20,000

We can **put down** another \$10,000

So, we need a \$150,000 **mortgage**



Cost to **heat** is \$3,000/yr

Mortgage payments are \$10,500/yr

Painting exterior/replacing roof

Add a **garage/finish basement/hot tub**

Add **another bedroom** over garage

HRM Budget

=Capital budget

=Reserves

=Capital from operating (“pay as you go”)

=Debt



=Operating cost of capital

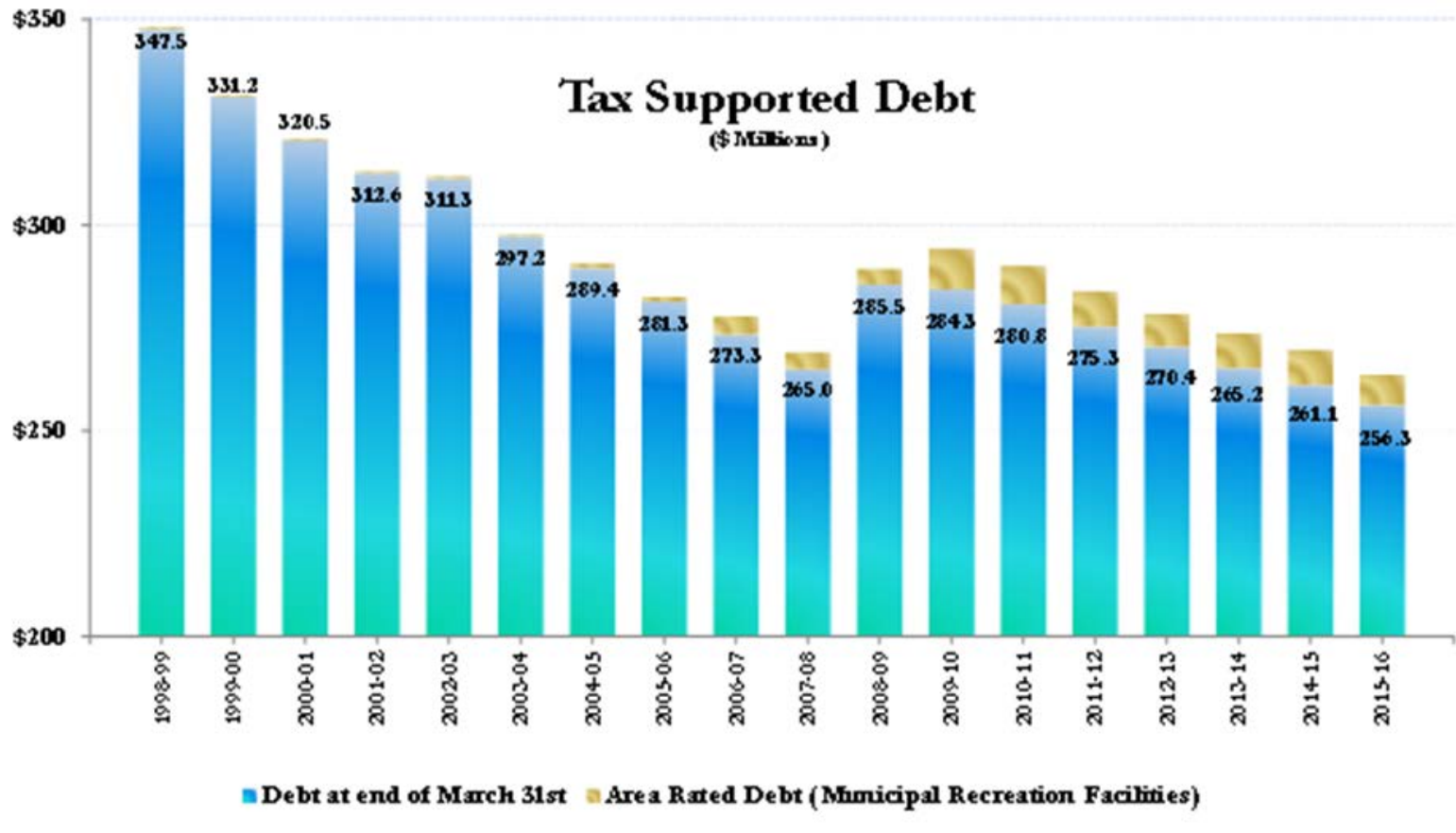
=Debt charges

=State of good repair

=Service improvements

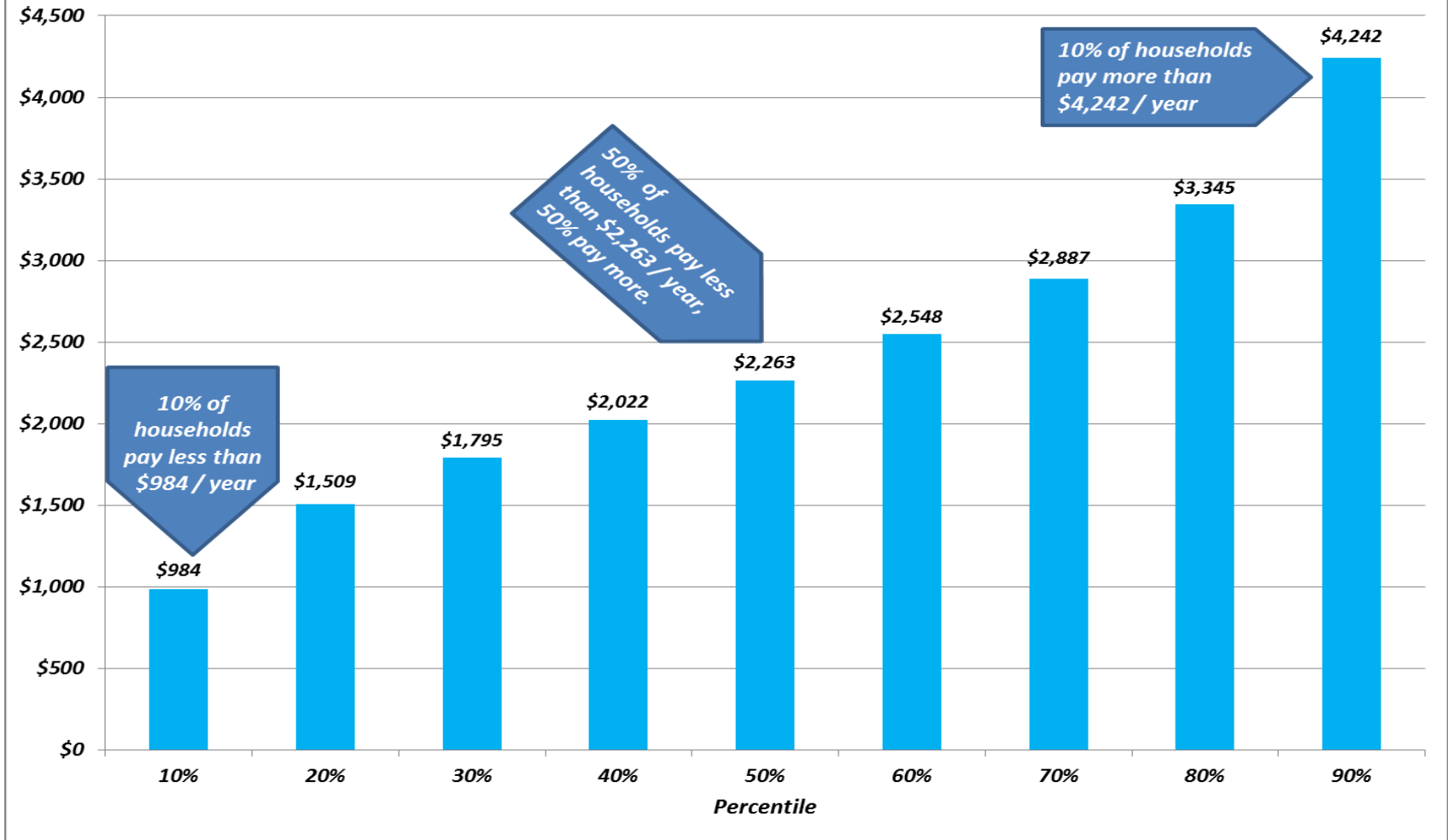
=Growth

Tax Supported Debt

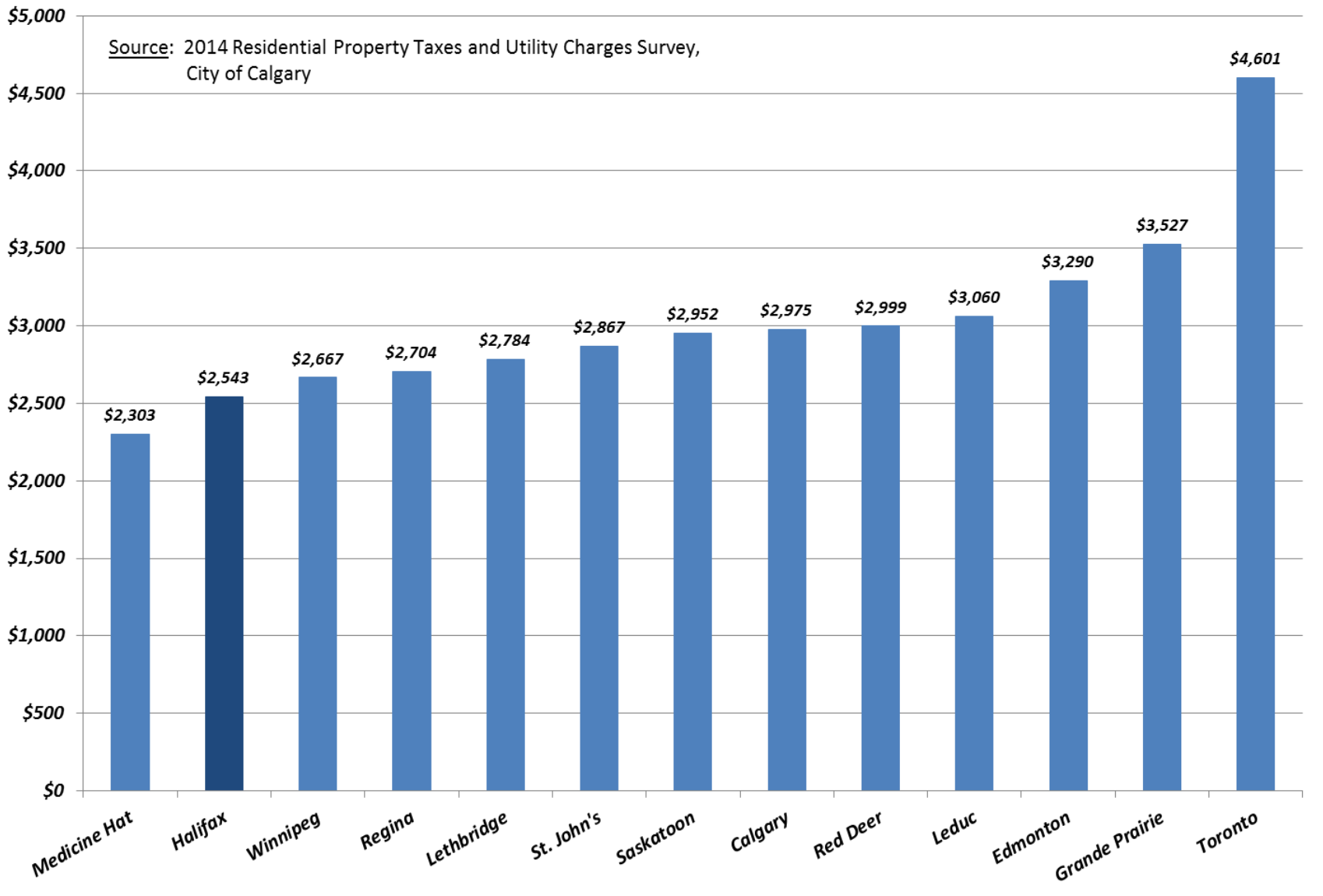


Note: Estimates are for funding purposes. They Include Issued, Approved and Work-in-Progress

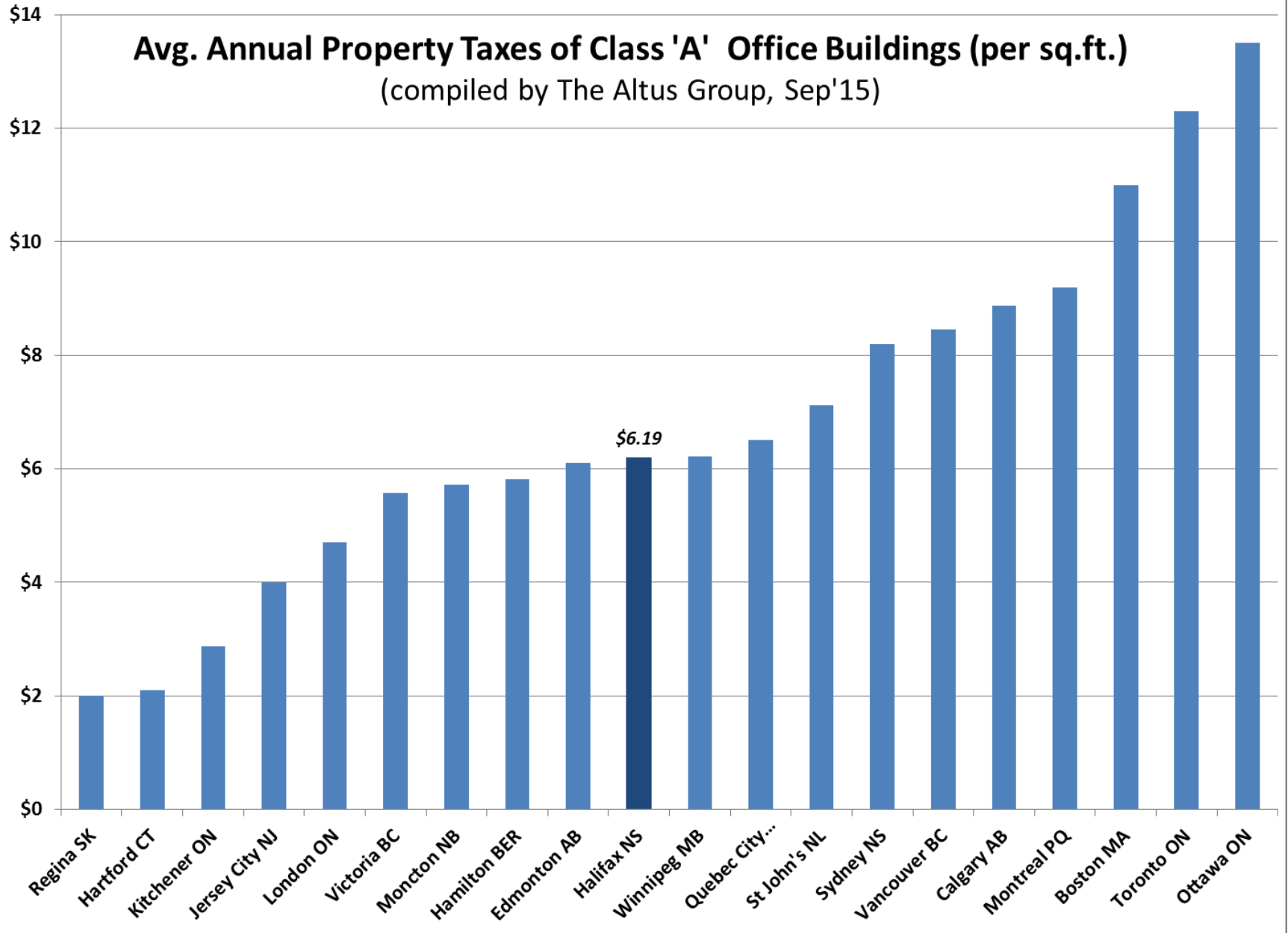
Distribution of Total Property Tax on Single-Family Homes, 2014



Average Property Tax per Single-Family Home (2014)



Avg. Annual Property Taxes of Class 'A' Office Buildings (per sq.ft.) (compiled by The Altus Group, Sep'15)



Our Financial Position

- **Financial position healthy**
 - Debt continues to decline
 - State of Good Repair is well funded
 - Taxation growth below changes in GDP, Income
 - Positive Financial Condition Index (12 of 15)
 - Efficiencies found within existing budgets but must shift focus to changing the way we deliver services
- **Continued pressure on operating budget**
 - Compensation, Municipal Inflation higher than CPI
 - Pressure for new, enhanced services
 - Operating Costs of new facilities
- **Ivany Report stresses risks to Province**
 - Need to review overall strategy to ensure we are sustainable in the long run

Approaches to Cost Pressure

- Continuous Improvement - LEAN
- Technology Solutions
- Strategic Procurement
- Collective Agreement negotiation
- Pension Reform
- Debt and Capital Funding
- Shared Services and Partnerships
- Program and Service Review
- Prioritizing Services – Making Choices

Public Consultations

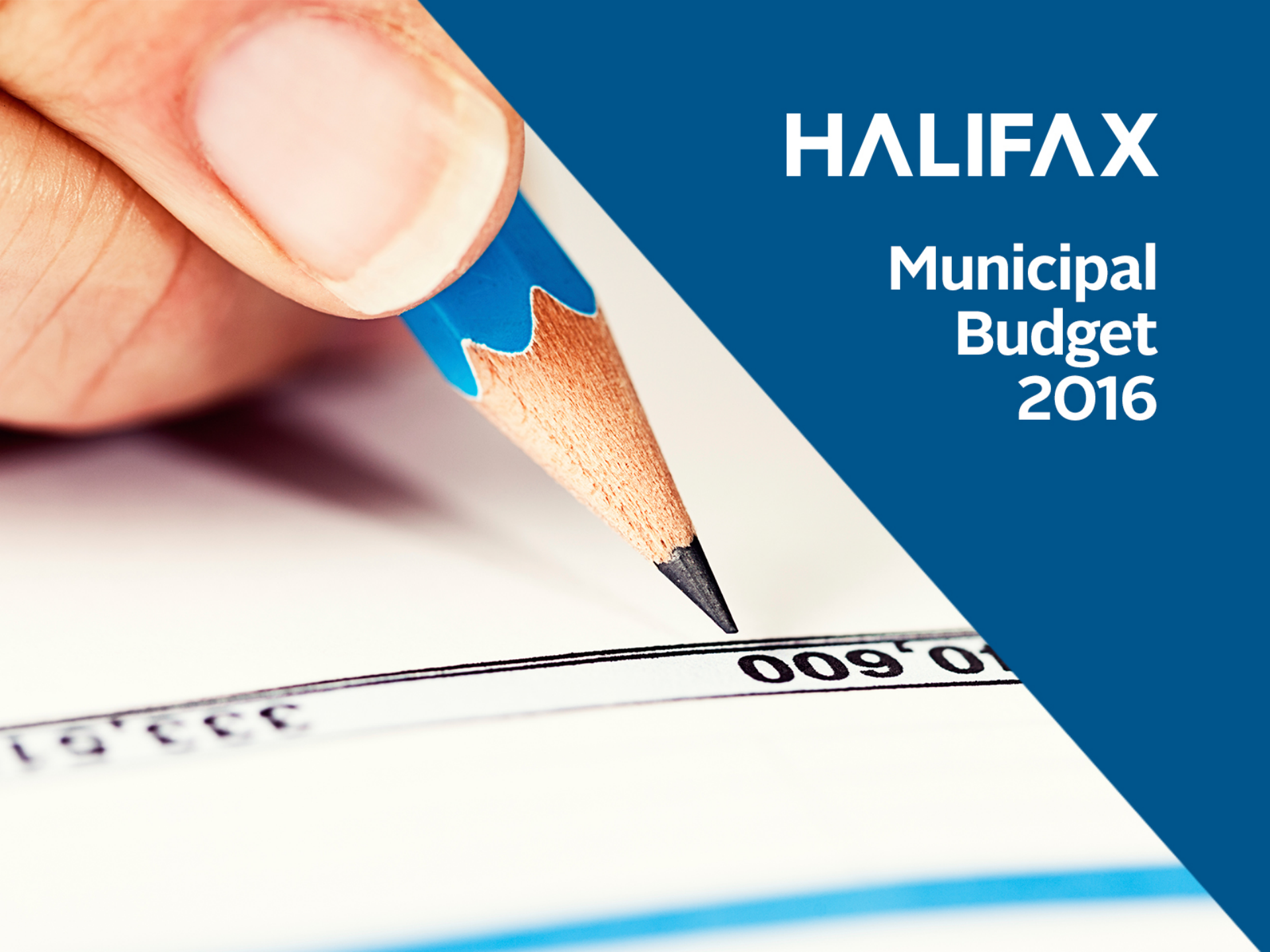
- **Three key ways to improve citizenship engagement:**
 - Community Council Presentations
 - On-line Budget Tool
 - Public Presentations at Committee of the Whole

Community Council

- **Presentations to the Public in October**
 - **Harbour East Marine Drive**
 - **Halifax and West**
 - **North West**

On-line Budget Tool

- **Public is able to provide input using on-line tool.**
- **Allows the public to increase/decrease certain services and see the impact on the budget and taxes.**
- **Its all about priorities**



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Municipal Budget 2016

Example of Budget Tool

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Police

Increase budget by 10% \$86.75m

Would significantly help increase prevention and intervention through more communication and interactive programs; would increase enforcement efforts if the need for more police presence is validated...[Read More](#)

Increase budget by 5% \$82.81m

Would address all inflationary and operational commitment increases, marginally help increase prevention and intervention through more communication and interactive programs; may increase enforcement...[Read More](#)

Maintain existing budget \$78.86m

Would maintain current service levels to implement crime reduction, prevention and enforcement programs through the use of general duty and specialized units to prevent crime, investigate offences and...[Read More](#)

Decrease budget by 5% \$74.92m

Would significantly reduce service levels in patrol and investigative services; would virtually eliminate any additional programming; and would put partnerships and funding from other levels of government at significant risk and/or affect associated service levels

HOW WOULD YOU SPEND ?

Budget
\$422.89m

Your Spend
\$0

You are under budget

Based on the choices you made, the municipal tax rate would **decrease by 74.01%** to cover the spending reductions you selected. A 1% change equals about \$17 per year on a average single family home.

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[Learn more about your municipal services and contribute to 'Your Thoughts' on revenue, debt and capital investments.](#)

Services for On-Line Discussion

Protective Services

- Police
- RCMP
- Fire
- Emergency Measures (EMO)

Community Services

- Recreation Facilities and Programs
- Sportfields and Playgrounds
- Parks, Trails & Open Green Space
- Municipal By-Law and Compliance
- Libraries
- Culture / Heritage / Events
- Customer Service Centres & 311

Infrastructure

- Roadway & Sidewalk Maintenance
- Snow Removal and Ice Control
- Traffic Management & Right of Way
- Solid Waste

Transit Service

Property Development

- Planning
- Development Approvals, Permits and Inspections
- Economic Development & Business Parks

Governance and Support Services

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Public Participation

- **Dedicate time at the end of each Committee of the Whole for the public.**
- **Encourage citizens to comment on that session's topic.**

Timeline

Subject	COW Target Dates
Revenue and Rate Direction	Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Priority Discussion and Direction	Tuesday, November 10, 2015
<p style="text-align: center;">Business Unit</p> <p style="text-align: center;">These are placeholders as the order may change</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COW Meeting (weekly)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesdays 9:30 am – 4 pm</p>
Capital Budget	Wednesday, Dec 02, 2015
<i>Transit</i>	Wednesday, Dec 09, 2015
<i>Parks & Rec and Library, and (if necessary) Capital return</i>	Wednesday, Jan 06, 2016
<i>Admin Services Bundle and Auditor General (CAO, Legal, HR & FICT)</i>	Wednesday, Jan 13, 2016
<i>Police, Fire and P&D</i>	Wednesday, Jan 20, 2016
<i>TPW and Operations Support</i>	Wednesday, Jan 27, 2016
<i>Fiscal and Consolidated Accounts</i>	Wednesday, Feb 03, 2016
<i>Follow-up date if necessary</i>	Wednesday, Feb 10, 2016
Production and Quality Control Period	Feb 8 – Feb 26
Full Review of Final Budget	Tuesday, March 8, 2016
<i>Follow-up date if necessary</i>	Tuesday March 22, 2016