

BUDGET 2021 HIGHLIGHTS



As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 was an unprecedented year that brought forth different public health and economic challenges. However, the Township of Ramara continued to deliver essential services and provided financial relief to both residents and businesses. With the development of the 2021 budget, the Township of Ramara created a budget that would maintain and improve municipal services and include the making of sound investments in order to help meet the future needs of the municipality.

In light of COVID-19 and an increase in the tax rate last year, Council has decided for the 2021 Budget to have a **1.11%** decrease. Please note that Budget is expected to be adopted on Monday, December 14, 2020.

This document outlines the budgeting process and the challenges of balancing the budget. It will outline expenses, capital and operating, and sources of income to cover all anticipated expenditures.

REVENUE

Municipalities use a variety of revenue sources to pay for a wide range of services that residents and businesses depend on and use regularly. The major revenue sources that are typically used to pay for day-to-day services include:

- Property Taxes
- Utility User Fees
- Other User Fees (recreation)
- Permits and Licensing Fees (i.e building permits, business licenses)

Municipalities also have access to other forms of funding,

- Grants from Provincial and Federal governments
- Reserve Funds (funds saved up over time for large projects)

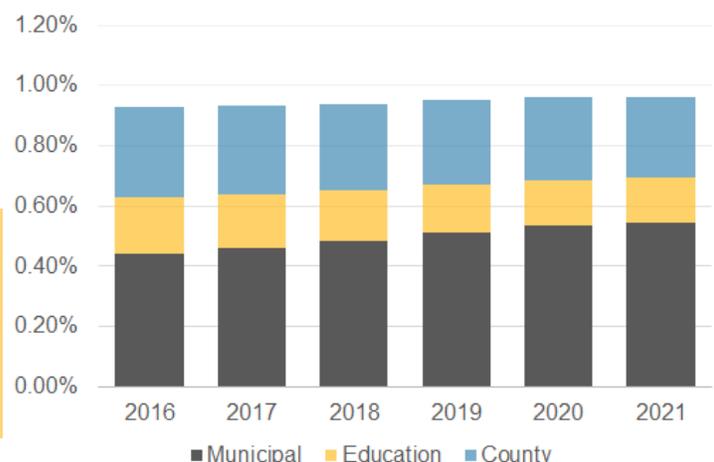
Property Taxes

Property tax revenue represents approximately 61% of revenue in 2020 and 50% of revenue in 2021. Budget and tax rate information related to the County of Simcoe and the related School Boards are not included in the municipal budget as they have no impact on the municipal tax rate. It is the responsibility of the Township of Ramara to collect taxes on behalf of the County and School Boards. The rates from both the County and School boards (Province of Ontario) will be released early in 2021.

For every \$100,000 in assessment, the tax rate increase is \$0.00 or 0% on the municipal portion only. For the Combined Rate (municipal, county and school tax rates) the tax rate increase is -\$10.61 or -1.11%.

The **Total** raised by taxes in **2021** will be **\$12,828,394** compared to **\$12,987,031** in **2020**.

TAX RATE COMPARISON



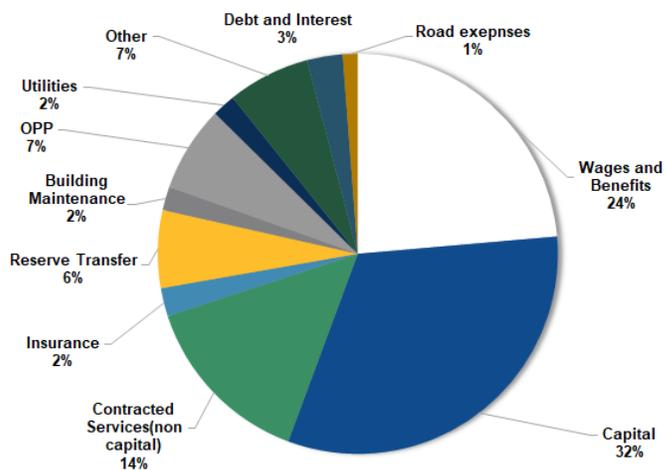
EXPENSES

Municipalities are service based organizations and provide a wide variety of services. The challenge is striving to meet the needs of as many of our residents as possible in a fiscally responsible way. The Township of Ramara is responsible for the following services:

- Fire and Rescue Services
- Parks and Recreation
- Roads
- Streetlights and Sidewalks
- Water and Sewer

The County of Simcoe, who is our upper tier municipality, is responsible for Waste Collection and Community Services. As well, services provided by other levels of government include Education, Health Care, Police and other Community Services.

2021 Expenses



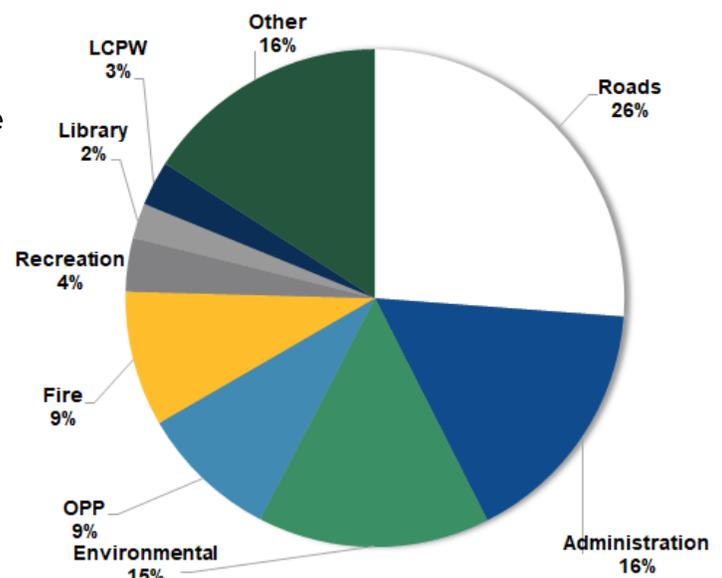
In 2021, the following is an expense breakdown:

- Cost of Living increase on all salaries and wages will be 0%. Decrease in wages of 8.23%
- Decrease in OPP costs of 4.60%
- Reserve transfers decrease by 9%
- Contracted services increased by 18%. Increase is mainly due to the OWCA contract
- Insurance increased by 15%.

2021 Operating Expenses

In 2021, the operating expenses, by department are shown to the right. For 2021, departments show the following:

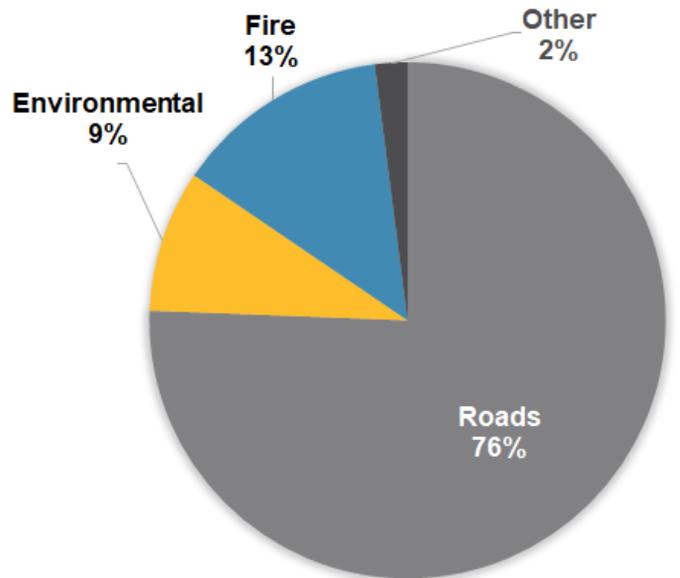
- Increase in Road cost of 9%
- Decrease in Fire budget of 22% due to a reduction in reserve transfers
- Increase in building budget of 5%
- Decrease in LCPW budget of 12%
- Decrease in Recreation cost by 9%
- Library grant to remain the same as 2020.
- Increase in expenses will be funded from reserves.



CAPITAL BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

In 2021, the Capital Cost Breakdown is broken down into the following by department.

- Increase in Roads capital costs by 80%.
 - \$2.15M deferred from 2020
 - 26% increase not including prior year capital
 - Total of \$7.3M Capital and maintenance work planned.
- Increase in Fire Capital by 5%
- Decrease in Environmental Capital by 8.97%
- Budgeted equipment purchase is as follows:
 - 1- Grader (\$380K) and Grade All (\$400K)
 - 1- Brusher
 - 1- Fire Rescue Vehicle
 - 1- Rescue Pickup
 - 1- Marine Rescue Boat



2021 Capital Projects

Project	Dept.	Description	Budgeted Cost
Water meter tower Reader	Infra.	Township will be building a tower to continuity read and monitor residential water meters(funded from 2020 reserves)	\$175,000
Capital asset management software	Admin	The Township will upgrade Citywide software. This will assist with asset management, work orders, and will enhance our GIS	\$70,000
Ramara Rd 47	Infra.	Reconstruct and pave 5.3KM of Ramara Rd 47	\$1,700,000
Bridge work	Infra.	Rebuild Pinetree and Poplar piers. Reconstruct Con 9 box culvert(\$1.065M from 2020)	\$1,265,000
Canal road	Infra.	SAMI and hotmix 3.26KM of Canal road	\$575,000
Lakeshore Drive	Infra.	Reconstruct and hi-float 1.4KM of Lakeshore Drive. \$214K from 2020.	\$414,000
Lift station 4 Repair	Enviro.	Lift station 4 rails and base repair	\$85,000
Replace sand filters	Enviro.	Replace green sand filters and Davy Drive and Park Lane	\$120,000
Lagoon City Plant	Enviro.	New electrical panel, digester roof, side aerator and float system	\$117,000



For more information on the **2021 Budget**, please go to <https://reachoutramara.ca/budget-2021>