

# 2026 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Township of Sables-Spanish  
Rivers

Prepared by:  
Treasurer, Ruth Clare

March 23, 2026



# AGENDA

- ▶ Understanding Municipal Budgets
- ▶ How Property Taxes Work
- ▶ 2026 Budget at a Glance
- ▶ Significant Budget Impacts
- ▶ Property Assessment Overview
- ▶ Municipal Tax Levy
- ▶ Operating Budget Summary
- ▶ Capital Planning
- ▶ Net Tax Increase

# UNDERSTANDING MUNICIPAL BUDGETS

Municipal budgets establish the services Council approves and the funding required to deliver those services.

Two main components:

## OPERATING BUDGET

The operating budget funds the day-to-day services provided by the Township.

Services include:

- Road maintenance
- Fire protection
- Waste management and landfill operation
- Recreation facilities and programs
- Administration and planning services

## CAPITAL BUDGET

The capital budget funds major infrastructure and equipment investments required to deliver municipal services.

Investment in infrastructure includes:

- Road reconstruction and resurfacing
- Bridge and culvert replacements
- Equipment and vehicles replacement
- Municipal buildings and facilities
- Water and wastewater infrastructure

# HOW PROPERTY TAXES WORK

Property taxes are one of the primary sources used to fund municipal services.

Property taxes collected by the Township include two components:

- Municipal services
- Provincial education taxes

Council sets only the municipal portion of the tax rate.

Under the Municipal Act, municipalities must adopt a balanced budget each year, meaning total revenues must equal total expenses.

# 2026 BUDGET AT A GLANCE

## **Municipal Levy**

2026 Municipal Levy: **\$5,388,450**

## **Levy Increase**

Increase: **\$232,036**

Percentage Increase: **4.5%**

## **Operating Budget**

Total Operating Budget: **\$7,637,654**

## **Capital Budget**

Total 2026 Capital Budget: **\$7,549,350**

# SIGNIFICANT BUDGET IMPACTS IN 2026

Some cost pressures affecting the 2026 budget include:

## **Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Costs**

2025: **\$766,273**

2026: **\$850,563**

Increase: **\$84,290 (11.0%)**

## **Insurance Costs**

2025: **\$158,318**

2026: **\$178,555**

Increase: **\$20,237 (12.8%)**

## **Health & Social Services Levies**

### **Public Health Unit**

2025: **\$194,534**

2026: **\$205,214**

Increase: **\$10,680 (5.5%)**

### **DSSAB (District Social Services)**

2025: **\$759,531**

2026: **\$793,015**

Increase: **\$33,484 (4.4%)**

# SIGNIFICANT BUDGET IMPACTS CON'T

## TOTAL IMPACT

OPP: \$84,290

Insurance: \$20,237

Health Unit: \$10,680

DSSAB: \$33,484

**Total = \$148,691**

Total levy increase = **\$232,036**

These increases represent **over 50% of the total municipal levy increase** and are largely outside of municipal control.

# PROPERTY ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

Property assessments are determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC).

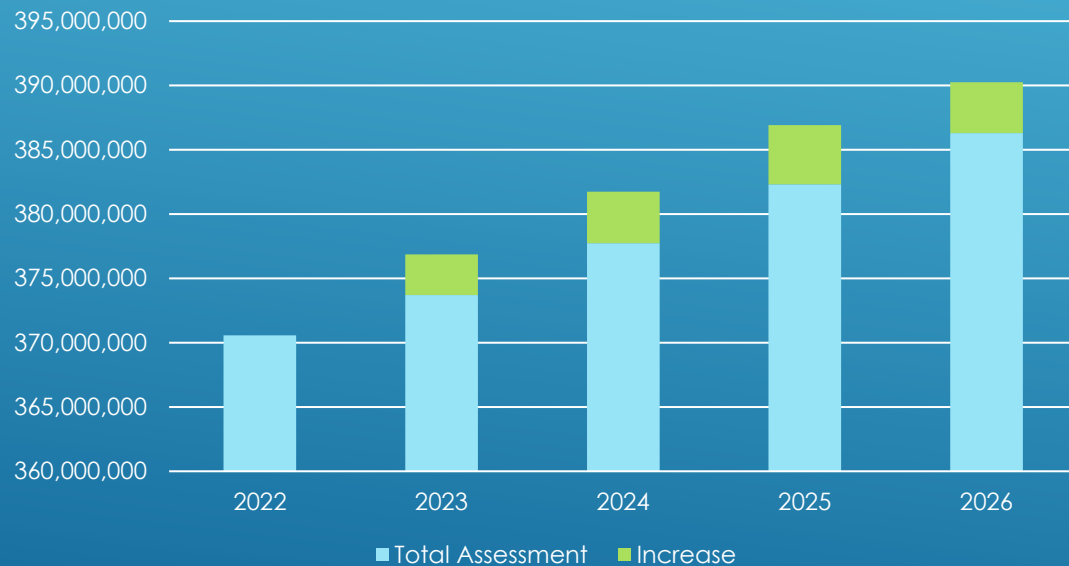
The Township applies the municipal tax rate to these assessments to determine property taxes.

Assessment changes may occur due to:

- New construction
- Property improvements
- Demolitions

# ASSESSMENT GROWTH

Historical Assessment Data



2026 Assessments were held at the previous amounts by the Province for another year.

## Assessment Growth

2026 Taxable Assessment: **\$386,291,500**  
2025 Taxable Assessment: **\$382,324,700**

## Annual Growth

Increase: **\$3,966,800**  
Growth Rate: **1.04%**

*Assessment growth helps support municipal funding; however, growth remains modest and does not fully offset increasing costs.*

# MUNICIPAL TAX LEVY

THE TAX LEVY REPRESENTS THE  
AMOUNT REQUIRED FROM  
PROPERTY TAXES TO FUND  
MUNICIPAL SERVICES.

## Municipal Levy

2025 Municipal Tax Levy: **\$5,156,414**

2026 Municipal Tax Levy: **\$5,388,450**

## Levy Increase

Increase: **\$232,036**

Percentage Increase: **4.5%**

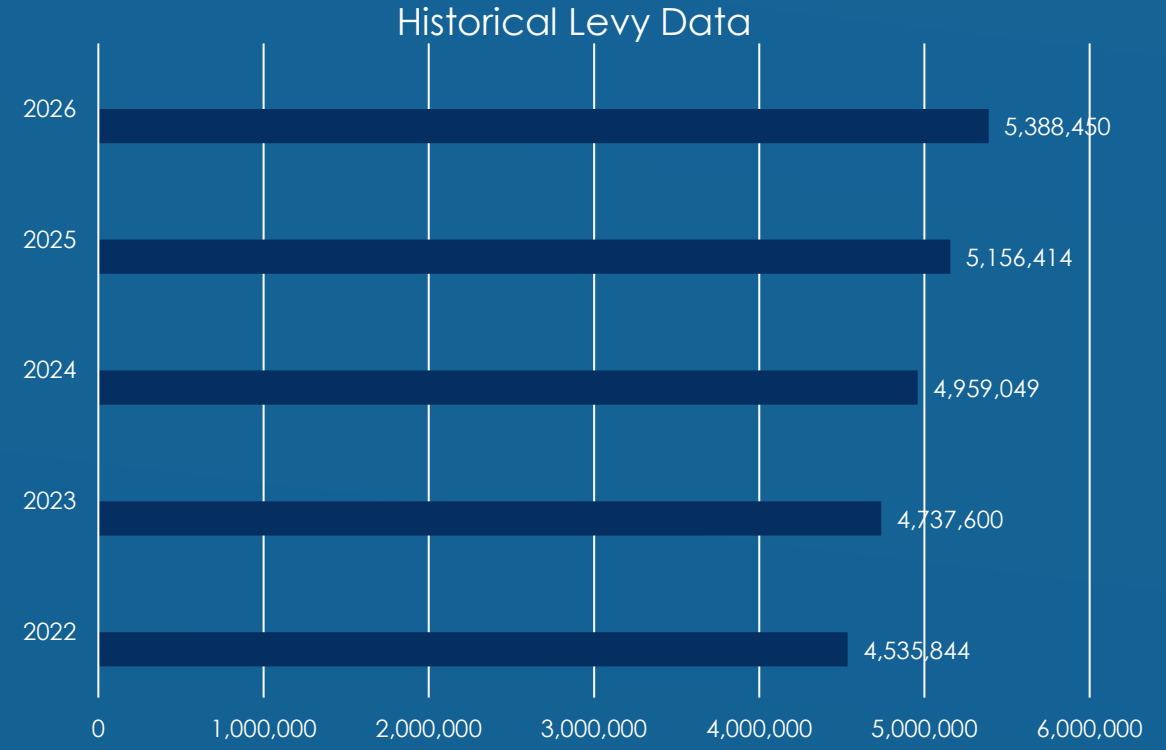
### Estimated Tax Impact \$\$

	2026 Assessment Value	2026 Increase \$
Average Residential Property	\$113,000	\$59
Average Seasonal Property	\$169,000	\$89
Farmland	\$190,400	\$25
Small Retail Commercial Property	\$129,000	\$75

Municipal portion only - Education rates remain the same as 2025

# MULTI-YEAR LEVY TREND

## Municipal Tax Levy 2022-2026



# Where Your Municipal Tax Dollars Go

This breakdown shows how municipal taxes are allocated across Township services, with the majority supporting core services such as roads, health, and emergency services.

## For Every \$1,000 in Municipal Taxes

**\$280** → Transportation (Roads)

**\$210** → Health & Social Services

**\$180** → Fire & Policing

**\$130** → General Government

**\$80** → Recreation & Culture

**\$30** → Building Services

**\$30** → Library Services

**\$50** → Environmental Services

**\$10** → Planning & Development

*This breakdown reflects operating expenditures only and does not include capital investments.*

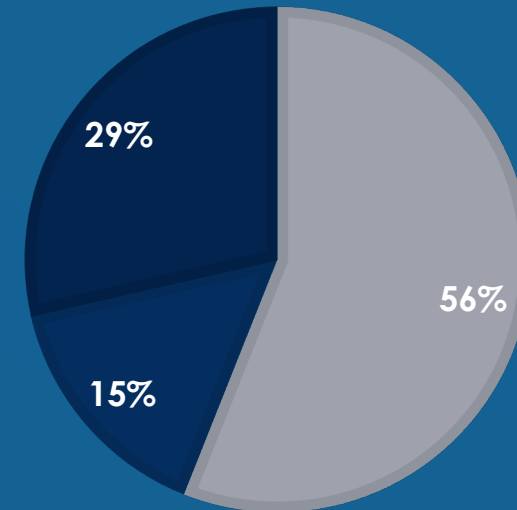
# OPERATING REVENUE SOURCES

Property Taxation → \$4,279,425

User Fees & Departmental Revenues →  
\$1,175,529

Provincial Funding (OMPF) → \$2,182,700

- Taxation
- User Fees & Departmental Revenues
- Provincial Funding (OMPF)



# OPERATING EXPENSES BY SERVICE

Total Operating Budget - \$7,637,654

- ▶ Transportation Services (Roads) 28%
- ▶ Health & Social Services 21%
- ▶ Protection Services (Fire & Policing) 18%
- ▶ Building Services 3%
- ▶ General Government 13%
- ▶ Recreation & Culture 8%
- ▶ Library Services 3%
- ▶ Environmental Services 5%
- ▶ Planning & Development 1%

# WATER & WASTEWATER SERVICES

WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES ARE FUNDED THROUGH USER RATES AND DO NOT IMPACT THE MUNICIPAL TAX LEVY.

## 2026 Water Services

**User Fee Revenue:** \$374,945

**Total Costs (Operating & Capital):** \$540,830

**Reserve Contribution:** \$165,885

## 2026 Wastewater Services

**User Fee Revenue:** \$78,190

**Total Costs (Operating & Capital):** \$102,770

**Reserve Contribution:** \$24,580

Reserve funding is used to support capital & capital maintenance and ensure long-term sustainability of water and wastewater infrastructure.

User rates are designed to recover costs over time, with reserves supporting infrastructure lifecycle needs.

# CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR 2026

\$7.6 MILLION  
TOTAL CAPITAL  
INVESTMENT

## Major Infrastructure Investment

Bell St / Government Rd Watermain Replacement  
\$5,703,750

## Roads & Transportation

- Lee Valley Rd Surface Treatment – \$265,000
- Gravel Road Maintenance Program – \$285,000
- Culvert Replacements & Asphalt Repairs – ~\$415,000

## Protective Services (Fire)

- Equipment & Apparatus – \$245,800

## Recreation & Community Facilities

- Playground Equipment – \$49,500
- Walford Rink Upgrade (pending funding) – \$160,000
- Facility & Amenity Improvements – various

## Municipal Facilities & Administration

- Office Renovations – \$60,000
- PW Roof Repair – \$30,000
- Building Condition Assessment – \$36,300

## Environmental & Waste

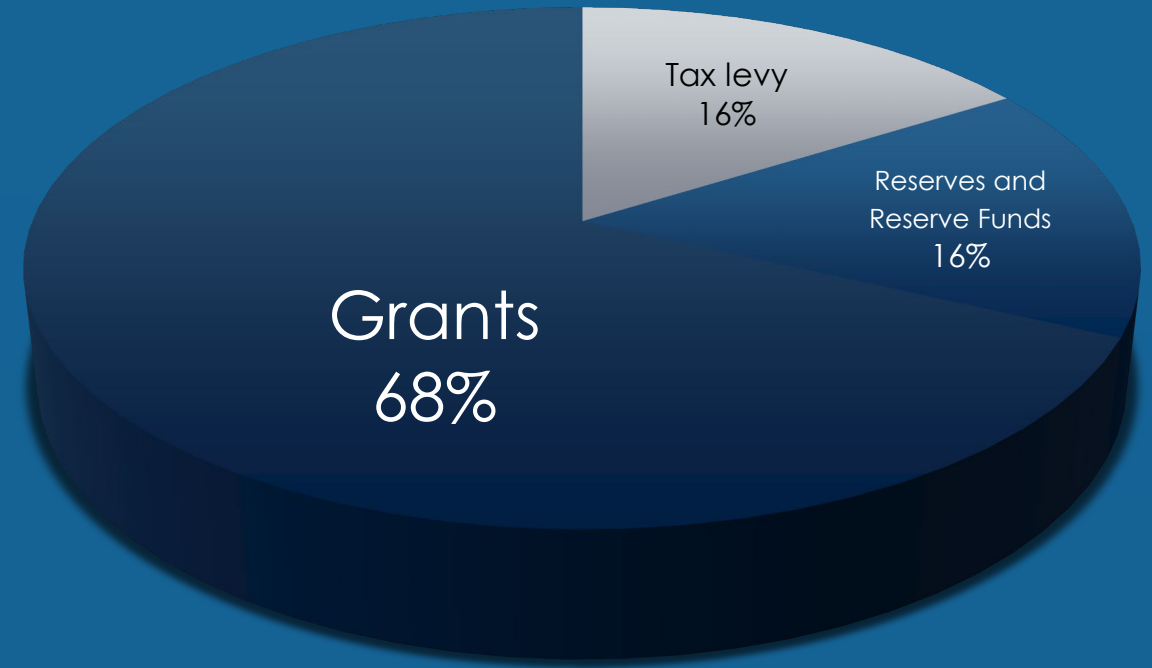
- Landfill Rehabilitation – \$66,000

## Water & Wastewater

- Water Treatment Upgrades – \$135,000
- Wastewater System Improvements – \$40,000

The 2026 capital program is focused on critical infrastructure, with the majority of investment directed toward water, roads, and essential municipal assets.

# 2026 CAPITAL FUNDING STRATEGY



The HSWS (Health & Safety Water Stream) grant is the primary funding source for the capital budget, enabling significant infrastructure investment while minimizing the impact on property taxes.

Beginning in 2026, the Township is implementing a 1% dedicated capital levy to support the Asset Management Plan by funding infrastructure reinvestment and maintaining service levels.

# RESERVES AND RESERVE FUNDS

## Reserves & Reserve Funds

<b>2026 Beginning Balance -</b>	<b>\$5,055,044</b>
Transfers to	\$280,000
Transfers from	<u>\$(1,241,910)</u>
<b>Projected - Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$4,093,134</b>

## Water & Sewer Reserves

<b>2026 Beginning Balance -</b>	<b>\$1,310,945</b>
Transfers to	\$0
Transfers from	<u>\$(180,405)</u>
<b>Projected - Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$1,130,540</b>

## Obligatory reserves

<b>2026 Beginning Balance -</b>	<b>\$464,219</b>
Transfers to	\$412,274
Transfers from	<u>\$(832,603)</u>
<b>Projected - Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$43,890</b>

2026 NET  
MUNICIPAL TAX  
IMPACT

3.5%

# QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Direct comments and questions  
to the Treasurer at the Municipal  
Office, 705-865-2646 or e-mail to  
[rclare@sables-spanish.ca](mailto:rclare@sables-spanish.ca)