



News Release

Round One Budget Discussion Wrap Up at the SCRD

Sechelt, BC – December 21, 2021 – The Sunshine Coast Regional District Board (SCRD) wrapped up two days of budget discussions last week with 85 new projects being brought forward to the next round of budget in January. In addition to these 85 projects are 147 projects which have been carried over from previous years.

The SCRD's budget process involves four public meetings.

1. **Pre-budget meeting.** At this meeting, SCRD staff provide information on new budget proposals for projects and initiatives for the coming year. The SCRD Board give feedback on these proposals, including areas where they would like further information to assist with decision making for the next round of budget meetings. The SCRD Board also contemplate projects that are yet to be completed from prior years (known as carry forward projects) so that they can factor workload on staff into their decision making.
2. **Round one budget meetings.** At this meeting new budget proposals which are now accompanied by further information including a business case summary for the proposed project / initiative are brought forward to the SCRD Board. The SCRD Board also receive presentations from community partners and stakeholders that get funding from the SCRD. During this meeting, budget proposals are either deferred to another year, denied or moved ahead to round two budget discussions. At this point, projected implications around taxation for the community are also presented to the Board.
3. **Round two budget meetings.** Budget proposals that were not fully approved at round one are brought forward and a final decision is made as to whether or not they are to be incorporated into the financial plan for the upcoming year. Projected implications for taxation are again presented to the Board. These meetings will take place on January 24.
4. **Adoption of financial plan.** Following budget meetings, the financial plan – incorporating all projects and initiatives that have been moved through and discussed at the budget meetings is adopted by the SCRD Board.

The top drivers for the budget and increases within the SCRD are projects related to water services, emergency services and solid waste. At this time, the preliminary average property tax increase is just under 7%.

Property Tax Increases

After Round 1 Budget, the following are the preliminary average increases per area per \$100,000 of assessed value of homes. Please note that updated home assessments will be made available by BC Assessment in January 2022.

The figures below are not final and **only cover the SCRD portion** of your tax bill. More detailed information on each of the taxation areas below will be available in the updated SCRD Financial Plan prior to Round 2 Budget.

SCRD Electoral Area	2021 SCRD Rate	2022 SCRD Rate (Preliminary)	Difference (Preliminary)
Area A	\$257.98	\$298.68	+ \$40.70
Area B	\$274.98	\$305.58	+ \$30.60
Area B (Islands)	\$103.81	\$109.32	+ \$5.51
Area D	\$273.89	\$291.23	+ \$17.34
Area E	\$268.18	\$277.65	+ \$9.47
Area F	\$277.96	\$276.35	- \$1.61
Area F (Islands)	\$130.54	\$121.20	- \$9.34
District of Sechelt	\$169.76	\$177.29	+ \$7.53
Sechelt Indian Government District	\$173.48	\$181.59	+ \$8.11
Town of Gibsons	\$217.51	\$227.84	+ \$10.33

Utility Rates

The rates listed above do not include increases on your utility bills. Utility rates for 2022 can be found [here](#).

Calculating your tax bill

To calculate the proposed 2022 SCRD increases of your tax bill.

- Updated home assessments will be available in January 2022. Take the assessed value of your home which can be found at [BC Assessment](#).
- Divide the assessed value of your home by \$100,000.
- Multiply that figure by the amounts outlined above based off of your Electoral Area.

For example: If your home is worth \$700,000 and the preliminary 2022 SCRD increase over last year is \$20 then the increase would be $7 \times \$20 = \140 .

Information Sessions

In January, SCRD Directors will be hosting virtual information sessions with residents to ensure that they are informed about decisions that are being made in relation to projects and the resulting tax increases. Dates for these sessions are below. Information on how to participate will be shared in advance of the meeting on the [SCRD Website](#), [SCRD Facebook Page](#) and on our public discussion page at letstalk.scrd.ca/budget.

- Area D (Roberts Creek), Area E (Elphinstone) & Area F (West Howe Sound) - **Wednesday January 12, 2022 at 7pm**
- Area A (Egmont / Pender Harbor) & Area B (Halfmoon Bay) - **Thursday January 13, 2022 at 7pm**
- Sechelt Indian Government District – **TBD**
- Town of Gibsons – During regular council meeting on **January 18, 2022 at 7 p.m.**
- District of Sechelt – During regular council meeting on **January 19, 2022 at 7 p.m.**

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