



News Release

117 New Projects Go Forward to Round 2 Budget Discussions

Sechelt, BC – February 11, 2021 – After three days of discussions, the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) Board has put forward 117 new projects for consideration in Round 2 Budget meetings. These projects are in addition to the 109 projects being carried forward from 2020 which means in 2021, SCRD staff will be tackling over 200 projects to improve services along the Sunshine Coast.

“As was noted in a recent letter published in local media and on our website – this is the year for the SCRD to rebuild our foundation,” says Lori Pratt, SCRD Board Chair. “Many of the infrastructure challenges we are facing have not been planned for effectively by past boards and it is up to the current board to ensure that important services such as water and waste management services continue to be available for residents along the Sunshine Coast not just now, but into the future as our communities continue to grow.”

Projects

A number of these projects are listed below with further information on each.

- \$2.5 million to be spent on safely closing off a section of the Sechelt Landfill which has reached capacity - [Budget Agenda](#) / [Video](#)
- \$1.37 million for the next phase of groundwater investigations at Maryanne West Park and the Langdale Ferry Terminal – [Budget Agenda](#) / [Video](#)
- \$390,000 is being spent on engineering studies to allow for upgrades to four SCRD dams in 2022 to ensure they meet requirements under Dam Safety Regulations. A full report on these upgrades can be found [here](#).
- \$1 million to replace the chlorination system at Chapman Creek Water Treatment Plant – [Budget Agenda](#) / [Video](#)
- \$250,000 to purchase an emergency generator and to upgrade a fire truck for Gibsons Fire Department – [Budget Agenda](#) / [Video](#)
- \$220,000 for upgrades to breathing apparatus for Roberts Creek Fire Department – [Budget Agenda](#) / [Video](#)
- Over \$3 million to replace Coopers Green Hall in Halfmoon Bay. Over two million dollars of this funding will be coming from a grant in addition to over \$350,000 raised by the community. An engagement session on this project was hosted recently and can be viewed here - [Video](#)

The top drivers for the budget and increases within the SCRDC continue to be projects related to water services, solid waste such as the Sechelt Landfill and projects for emergency services.

Property Tax Increases

After Round 1 Budget, the following are the preliminary average increases per area per \$100,000 of assessed value of homes. These figures are not final and **only cover the SCRDC portion** of your tax bill. More detailed information on each of the taxation areas below will be available in the updated SCRDC Financial Plan prior to Round 2 Budget which will be taking place on March 4 and 5.

SCRDC Electoral Area	2020 SCRDC Rate	2021 SCRDC Rate (Preliminary)	Difference (Preliminary)
Area A	\$218.64	\$275.77	+ \$57.13
Area B	\$244.73	\$272.89	+ \$28.16
Area B (Islands)	\$95.30	\$103.16	+ \$7.86
Area D	\$251.52	\$271.30	+ \$19.78
Area E	\$244.33	\$266.90	+ \$22.57
Area F	\$255.16	\$275.05	+ \$19.89
Area F (Islands)	\$124.20	\$130.58	+ \$6.38
District of Sechelt	\$153.81	\$166.91	+ \$13.10
Sechelt Indian Government District	\$156.45	\$171.17	+ \$14.72
Town of Gibsons	\$195.77	\$214.34	+ \$18.57

Utility Rates

The rates listed above do not include increases on your utility bills. For further information on these rates please visit www.scrdc.ca/utility-billing

Calculating your tax bill

To calculate the proposed 2021 SCRDC increases of your tax bill.

- Take the 2021 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 2021 SCRDC increase over last year is \$20 then the increase would be $7 \times \$20 = \140 .

The following are examples of the overall preliminary SCRD portion of a tax bill based on a home with a \$500,000 valuation. This is based off of an assumption that you participate in every SCRD service offered in the area.

SCRD Electoral Area	2020 SCRD Rate per \$500k valuation	2021 SCRD Rate (Preliminary) per \$500k valuation	Difference (Preliminary) per \$500k valuation
Area A	\$1,093.20	\$1,378.85	+ \$285.65
Area B	\$1,223.65	\$1,364.45	+ \$140.80
Area B (Islands)	\$476.50	\$515.80	+ \$39.30
Area D	\$1,257.60	\$1,356.50	+ \$98.90
Area E	\$1,221.65	\$1,334.50	+ \$112.85
Area F	\$1,275.80	\$1,375.25	+ \$99.45
Area F (Islands)	\$621	\$652.90	+ \$31.90
District of Sechelt	\$769.05	\$834.55	+ \$65.50
Sechelt Indian Government District	\$782.25	\$855.85	+ \$73.60
Town of Gibsons	\$978.85	\$1,071.70	+ \$92.85

Information Sessions

In the coming weeks, 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](#) and [SCRD Facebook Page](#).

Area A (Egmont / Pender Harbor – presented by local community associations) – **February 26 at 9a.m.**
 Area B (Halfmoon Bay) – **February 22 at 6:00 p.m.**
 Area D (Roberts Creek), Area E (Elphinstone) & Area F (West Howe Sound) – **February 26 at 6 p.m.**
 Sechelt Indian Government District – **TBD**
 Town of Gibsons – **March 2 at 7:00 p.m.**
 District of Sechelt – **March 3 at 7:00 p.m.**

For more detailed information about the 2021 budget, please visit www.scrd.ca/Budget. Agendas for the Round 2 Budget meetings on March 4 and 5 will be available here: www.scrd.ca/agendas

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