

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITBY

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## 2010 Budget Speech Councillor Sue Pitchforth

Madame Mayor, Members of Council, Town of Whitby staff, Ladies and Gentleman:

Good evening and thank you for attending this evening's meeting to discuss, deliberate and confirm the 2010 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Before you is the 2010 draft operating budget, the 2010 draft capital budget and the nine year forecast.

Except for the new community center and library in Brooklin, the budget is based on the philosophies of taking care of the Town's assets, providing existing core services and providing for the capital costs of growth.

This budget reflects a 2.9% tax increase or a \$37 increase on the Town's portion of the residential tax bill.

Taking all levels of government into account, the total budgetary increase would be 2.00% on the residential tax in Whitby if the proposed budget is accepted by Council.

As discussed in the public overview last week, the budget is affected by a number of pressures, including normal inflationary increases for our municipality, the economy and external influences, and the opening of the Brooklin Community Center and Library in late 2010.

The recommended budget continues to take care of our infrastructure and allows the Town to meet service standards for its growing population and increasing demands. Ongoing support is provided for the downtowns, accessibility requirements and long term planning.

The budget also allows the Town to plan for the future by completing the Official Plan update, and developing strategies for West Whitby, Transportation, Port Whitby and Economic Development requirements.

We are thankful for the ability to partner with the Federal and Provincial governments which allows the Town to undertake significant, and much needed, facility and park upgrades without additional tax increases for the Town's residents.

I would like to thank the public who participated and provided comments on the budget both at the public meeting or separately.

As I go through the budget tonight, we will go through each department at which point Council may ask questions of the departments. We will be addressing the operating and capital budgets for a department prior to moving on to the next department. We have provided a list of the order and the pages we will review for your convenience.

If any Councillor wishes to make a change to a department's budget, I ask that this request be brought forward during the discussion of the individual department's budget at which point a straw vote will be taken.

If the majority of Council agrees with an individual item, it will be included on a list of additions and deletions considered at the end of the Budget Committee session prior to moving into Council.

With that, I wish you well in dealing with year's budget and would like to thank Ken Nix and the staff in Finance as well as staff across the organization for their efforts in developing the recommended budget.