# CONCLUSION

#### Conclusion

- The proposed tax increase of 3.5% increases taxes on an average home by \$81 (excluding Police exceptional increase).
  - Tax Stabilization Reserve will have a \$2.7 million deficit in 2025 but return to surplus by 2028 with an estimated ending balance by 2033 of \$7.5 million.
  - The \$7.5 million reserve balance combined with draft tax rates in 2026 of 4% declining to 1.5% by 2033 provides Council with flexibility to address ever changing external pressures such as government legislation and economic factors.
- An increase of \$108 on an average home to the dedicated Future Infrastructure Special Levy (Capital Special Levy) consists of the previously planned \$49 increase and a \$59 incremental increase to offset losses in OCIF funding.
  - Future Capital Projects Reserve will have a \$6.2 million deficit in 2025 but will return to surplus by 2029 with a 2032 ending balance of \$0.3 million.
  - The reserve will be in deficit again in 2033 with the purchase of a \$1.6 million fire truck.

#### Conclusion

- Options for Council considerations include:
  - The \$100,000 operating funding request from the Art School could be reduced or reprioritized as Low (reducing base tax increase by 0.5% or \$11)
  - The \$175,000 project funding request from the Tennis Club could be moved to medium for funding over multiple years for Council to review the tax increase in a future year when rates are proposed to be lower.
  - Eliminating the \$59 incremental Capital Special Levy by:
    - shifting the increase to base taxation (2.5% or \$59), or;
    - reducing the capital spend by \$13 million

## Impact On Average Home

Based on a residential property with a MPAC assessed value of \$314,000



Page 221 of 317

#### Operating Net Income Year-Over-Year (YOY)

(see Attachment I for details)

	Full Year			
	2024 Budget	Forecast	2025 Budget	YOY Change
CAO	2,033,384	2,077,015	2,271,051	237,667
Community Services	2,508,491	2,593,525	3,183,868	675,378
Operations	(2,907,351)	(2,647,483)	(2,082,975)	824,376
Fire Services	1,167,264	1,056,301	1,318,321	151,057
Development Services	1,525,613	1,764,753	2,197,847	672,233
Corporate Services	(22,282,241)	(11,524,981)	(21,970,947)	311,294
Police Services *	4,877,970	4,784,832	5,173,306	295,336
Growth Impact			(580,000)	(580,000)
Levy Increase (3.5%)			(812,000)	(812,000)
Total	(13,076,870)	(1,896,038)	(11,301,529)	1,775,340

\* Police 2025 Budget Presented Day 1 will be added

#### **Operating Net Income Ten-Year Summary**

(see Attachment II for details)			2026 - 2028	2029 - 2033
	2024	2025	Three-Year	Five-Year
			Average	Average
CAO	2,033,384	2,271,051	2,549,880	3,089,006
Community Services	2,508,491	3,183,868	2,512,918	2,493,691
Operations	(2,907,351)	(2,082,975)	(1,628,143)	(1,147,592)
Fire Services	1,167,264	1,318,321	1,422,545	1,538,037
Development Services	1,525,613	2,197,847	2,481,165	2,697,688
Corporate Services	(22,282,241)	(21,970,947)	(21,642,142)	(21,293,896)
Police Services *	4,877,970	5,173,306	5,674,219	6,750,120
Growth Impact		(580 <i>,</i> 000)	(1,794,833)	(4,582,150)
Levy Increase (3.5%)		(812,000)	(2,945,502)	(6,926,878)
Incremental User Fees		-	(833,333)	(1,000,000)
Total	(13,076,870)	(11,301,529)	(14,203,226)	(18,381,974)

\* Police 2025 Budget Presented Day 1 will be added

#### Capital Net Annual Spend

(see Attachment III for	details)		2026 - 2028	2029 - 2033	2024 - 2033
	2024	2025	Three-Year	Five-Year	2024 - 2033 Total
			Average	Average	TOLAI
Community Services	31,600,899	22,242,727	7,190,000	1,144,000	81,133,626
Operations	20,860,660	18,689,500	19,320,195	3,752,907	116,275,278
Fire Services	503,000	567,000	3,539,667	80,000	12,089,000
Development Services	14,257,601	13,501,618	16,102,761	8,108,961	116,612,306
Corporate Services	269,200	291,218	300,535	210,219	2,513,119
Police Services*	55,704	-	8,333	-	
Scheduled Debt Payments	2,909,246	3,801,701	4,527,561	4,055,859	40,572,925
Payments on Future Debt	-	-	2,755,556	7,066,667	(15,000,000)
Debt Proceeds	(38,000,773)	(44,047,727)	(24,333,333)	(2,000,000)	(28,000,000)
Capital Revenue	(3,607,899)	(2,412,552)	(2,009,651)	(1,416,669)	(65,000,000)
Increase to Special Levy **	-	(1,111,042)	(2,566,538)	(4,729,091)	(32,456,113)
Total	28,847,638	11,522,443	24,835,085	16,272,852	228,740,142
* Police 2025 Budget Presented Day 1 will be added Page 224 of 317 ** Includes OCIF loss offset					CIF loss offset

# Reserve Forecast Closing Balances

(see Attachment IV for details)	2023	2024	2025	2029	2033
Water/Wastewater/Landfill	7,718,678	4,368,265	16,915,682	8,711,488	20,019,128
Water Reserve	(49,135)	(1,130,463)	<mark>9,099,986</mark>	(4,280,955)	4,845,682
Wastewater Reserve	4,755,037	3,615,564	5,659,699	9,248,689	9,350,394
Landfill Expansion Reserve	3,012,777	1,883,164	2,155,997	3,743,754	5,823,052
Other non-obligatory	27,328,714	16,555,791	6,412,982	904,883	21,374,290
Tax Stabilization Reserve	1,461,053	(308,225)	(3,064,492)	(5,070,257)	6,825,603
Future Capital Projects Reserve	882,353	(2,155,837)	(8,366,797)	(9,149,755)	(1,611,932)
Legacy Fund	7,073,017	3,571,585	4,915,187	5,505,470	6,095,754
Building Department Reserve	2,162,442	2,300,927	2,311,158	2,282,473	1,736,246
Roads Reserves	1,065,391	1,167,850	1,270,309	1,680,145	2,091,518
Prior Year Capital Reserve	10,473,415	7,973,415	5,473,415	5,473,415	5,473,415
Other	4,211,045	4,006,077	3,874,203	183,392	763,687
Obligatory	17,734,465	17,587,033	16,461,510	12,729,149	8,996,787
Development Charges	15,729,456	15,582,024	14,456,501	10,724,140	6,991,778
Other	2,005,009	2,005,009	2,005,009	2,005,009	2,005,009
Externally Held	7,183,328	7,183,328	7,183,328	7,183,328	7,183,328
Westario Power Reserve	7,626,491	7,626,491	7,626,491	7,626,491	7,626,491
Other	(443,163)	(443,163)	(443,163)	(443,163)	(443,163)
Total	59,965,185	<b>45,694,416</b> Page 225 of 317	46,973,502	29,528,848	57,573,533

#### 2024 Bruce County Municipality Tax Increases

Municipality	2024 Tax Increase	
Brockton	6.71%	
South Bruce	6.87%	
North Bruce Peninsula	8.28%	
Kincardine	6.86%	
Saugeen Shores*	5.30%	
Arran-Elderslie	7.00%	of \$49/average household
Huron-Kinloss	4.60%	
South Bruce Peninsula	3.76%	

Average (Unweighted): 6.45%

Page 226 of 317

#### 2025 Estimated Blended Rate

	% Increase	\$ Per Average Household
Base Increase	3.50%	\$82
Education Rate (Estimated)	0.00%	\$0
County Rate (Estimated)	6.81%	\$107
Police Exceptional Increase (TBD)	TBD	TBD
Total Estimated Blended Rate*	4.30% + TBD	\$189 + TBD

\*Excluding Future Infrastructure Special Levy of \$108 per Average Household

### Summary

- Long-term planning mitigates infrastructure lifecycle issues and allows more effective management of growth.
- Growth requires investment in both capital and operational projects that coupled with inflationary pressures – are putting pressure on both taxation levels and debt levels.
- Plan aims to strike an effective balance between resident needs and cost, ease economic pressures and maintain fiscal responsibility.



