

10.1. Correspondence from various interested persons, re: 2021-2023 Current and Capital Budget Approval

1. Antony Fernandez
2. Naseem Syed-Mukri
3. Althaf Nagal
4. Guifa Zhang
5. Aubrey Bacchus
6. Naeem Butt
7. Shawn Bouzan

From: Antony Allwyn Fernandez
Sent: 2020/11/29 9:54 PM
To: City Clerks Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Property tax

TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

Its with deep regret that i would like to bring to the attention of the city that being totally aware of all the circumstances of what really going around and how it impacting the citizens of this country and all beyond this city , we are being treated totally unfair to these kind of tax increases which is really taking a toll in us apart for all the bills that never stop coming .

Please advise what is the strategy being followed where you don't seem to reduce your administrative expenses and expect us to take fall for everything. It would be appreciated if this could be considered as a humble request and see to what's coming and help rather rather than grab every other penny from us .

Thanking you in advance

Regards

Antony Fernandez

From: Naseem Syed-Mukri
Sent: 2020/11/29 10:33 PM
To: City Clerks Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Tax increase

To Whom It May Concern

I am a resident of Brampton and am writing to you today to **kindly request that you do not approve the 2021 proposed increase for the city of Brampton's Property Taxes.**

A tax increase is the last thing taxpayers need right now. The unemployment rate hit a record high in Peel Region at 16%. Many families in Brampton are struggling financially due to job loss and negative impacts to their businesses during this time.

Brampton's 2020 Property Tax Rate is extremely high already at 0.95% while neighboring cities like Mississauga (0.78%), Caledon (0.79%), Halton Hills (0.77%) and Vaughan (0.66%) have much lower property tax rates.

Many city services were reduced or paused for an extended period of time and likely will continue to be impacted in 2021. It is my understanding that City staff have proposed that they would like to hire 44 new employees and increase compensation by 3.2%. Compensation packages for individuals employed by the City are already very generous and exceed compensation when compared to similar job roles in the private sector. Also, instead of recruitment – there should be a focus in 2021 to find process efficiencies within departments and utilize current employees to their full potential so that staff are completing value - added work that equates to 37.5-40 hours/week for which they are being paid for.

If the City cannot find process and people efficiencies and thus operate with the funds generated from our current tax rate then other strategies should be explored without further burdening homeowners through an increase in property taxes. Example: there should be a greater focus on using land for commercial purposes and attracting large companies to Brampton instead of approving residential subdivision after subdivision. This will bring more jobs to Brampton and also large corporations can afford to pay the higher commercial property tax rates (which is a tax write off for them anyway) and this can hopefully translate to a lower residential tax rate for homeowners.

Thank-you for your time.

Sincerely,

Naseem Syed-Mukri

From: Althaf Nagal
Sent: 2020/11/30 7:33 PM
To: City Clerks Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Tax Hike ? Concerned

Dear Mayor & City of Brampton

How are you?
Hope all is well in this unprecedented time

I am writing with deep concern after hearing there will be a tax increase!

For sure in the Pandemic year with loss of jobs, lockdowns & severely affected and stressed period with no money no income
no one wants an increase in spending particularly in property Tax

Please look into cutting City spending and make not to increase any more Property Taxes increase.

Thank you
Yours sincerely
Althaf Nagal

Brampton

From: Guifa Zhang
Sent: 2020/11/30 8:29 PM
To: City Clerks Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Property Tax

Hi Sir/Madam,

It is said that the City is going to increase the property tax. Before made the decision, please consider the following:

1. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, many people have lost their job or have had working hour reduced, they are struggling to make the end meet.
2. As the market value of the houses is increasing every year, even without increasing the tax rate, the property tax to each house is increasing, why need to increase the rate? The actual rate now is already higher than in other cities.
3. Please review the cost first, the salaries, business costs. It is heard (have no evidence in hand) the Mayor, the counselor's salaries are much much higher than the average salaries of the residents in Brampton, plus the annual business cost, how much the Mayor, or counselor would consume the tax money a year?
4. When the property tax is getting high in a city, the city also gets bad reputation at the same time. people could moving out slowly., which would be the worst thing to City of Brampton. Please do not make our city to be an empty town.
5. It is said there are a lot of houses have more than one family living in, some houses even have 4 families. Property tax rate should be based on per house per family.

sincerely yours,

Guifa Zhang

Sent from my iPad

From: AUBREY BACCHUS
Sent: 2020/12/01 10:04 AM
To: City Clerks Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL]No tax hike please especially for seniors

To whom it may concern

We are seniors .

We have set income.

Please do not drive us out of our homes and out of Brampton.

Because of all these inflated values of home our home has been reevaluated as a result taxes is set to be increased and we are behind the eight ball .

Please do not further increase the tax rate .

You are driving us out of our homes and out of Brampton !!

Disappointed Brampton Seniors

Sent from my iPhone

From: naeemuk
Sent: 2020/12/02 5:58 PM
To: City Clerks Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

have heard that Brampton city council's proposed budget is raising taxes despite the economic downturn! That's brutal for struggling tax payers.

A tax hike is the last thing taxpayers need right now. The unemployment rate hit a record high in Peel region at 16 per cent.

While taxpayers have lost their jobs, Brampton's 2021 budget shows the city wants to hire 44 new employees! Employee compensation in Brampton will increase by 3.2 per cent and cost taxpayers an extra \$14 million. Why are bureaucrats getting new jobs and raises when the taxpayers who pay their salaries are struggling?

Can city councillors keep their spending under control instead of increasing taxes.

Thanks
Naeem Butt

From: Shawn Bouzan
Sent: 2020/12/02 7:15 PM
To: City Clerks Office
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Property Tax increase

I'm 49 years old born in Brampton. I've seen a lot of things in this city that I can't believe happened in reference to money being wasted. Some I'm sure are the city's fault, some are the regions then some are probably provincial or Federal.

Here are some examples:

- I've seen Bovaird expand to two lanes and rather than acquiring a progression plan, Brampton spent what I would assume was approximately \$150/tree plus labour to beautify the area only to tear them all up a year or so later to extend Bovaird to 3 lanes. Money wasted!

- I see new cement pads poured for bus stops on Dixie road between Steeles ave and queen st. Only to be destroyed because that area of Dixie went from 4 lanes to 6, again about a year later. I'm seeing the same thing north of queen to Bovaird, new cement pads poured. Let me guess, these will also be ripped and replaced after the planned expansion on that area of Dixie. Maybe Brampton transit and the city don't communicate well enough on planning.

- There are cement pads being poured at bus stops that are 5 x bigger than necessary, a couple of these are located along Nassimith as well as Northpark. Are these bus stops really required to be this big? I drive this area every day and rarely see more than one or two people using them at one time. How many more bus stops are like that in Brampton? 20...30...100? Now multiply that by the average cost of \$25/sq foot at 6" deep... it adds up!

- The water resourver in my neighborhood has had some up grades. When that was done the grass was all replaced with new sods. At least 20 sod delivery trucks dropped off skids of sods. This looks nice! But three years from now it will again be a sea of dandelion. We (Brampton) are doing the same thing when we rework an intersection or replace curbs. Is seeding/ hydro seeding a better more cost effective option? Like I said, in three years it's going to be all dandelions anyway!

- Remember the "Ice storm" we had a few years back. Brampton had a lot of damage, broken branches damaged trees, and we required help with the cleanup. We hired contractors from Quebec to help with the clean up...Ok...if that's what's needed. It appeared that these contractors stayed after the initial clean up to help cut down the trees that could have been left for months as there was no apparent immediate risk of these toppling over... the branches had been damaged not the trunks or roots. How much did we pay for their stays...hotels? Food? I'm sure the bill was quite hefty.

- Trees were cut down on my street along with multiple other locations throughout Brampton and new ones were planted to replace them. I spoke with one of the guys from the city when

they were being planted and was informed that the tree supplier would replace them if they died in two years. In our case, the ones on our street did die and we had another lot of trees replaced...did the city pay for them again or did they actually go back to the original provider/installer or was Brampton given a refund for them?

My daughters went to St Marguerite Bourgeoys school on Northpark drive. Over the ten years that they were going there I heard many times that a crosswalk going across the street should have angled curbs down to the street for parents with strollers and wagons. We kept being told it couldn't be done. Well 6 years after my youngest finished the curbs finally were done. I was glad to see it. I walked by there a couple of days ago and seen a sign saying the cross walk wasn't going to be used anymore because they put a new set of lights up less than 60 meters away. The cross walk was only put in a year and half ago maybe. What planning! I guess we now have to have our taxes used to tear out the curbs and have them replaced.

I can keep going. I hear Brampton "cleans house" in their departments every now again using taxes to pay out severance. Interesting

I may not be an engineer but i have something called common sense... if you leave enough space to accommodate the growth rate and estimate that the city may, in 10+ years, require a six lane road then leave enough green space to accommodate the lanes to the max width that the road will ever be. If we leave a green space in the middle of the two roads when the city needs/wants to expand the roadways, the green space is the only thing that needs to be touched. Hydro and light poles won't need to be moved, storm drains won't need to be touched. Construction would be faster and cheaper at that point. This would have also worked on the 410. The on and off ramps would not need to be touched as expansion would only happen in the middle.

These are only a few of the things I've seen and I'm sure there is a lot more. Brampton can do better when it comes to managing the tax payers money. If we planned properly the impending tax increase would not be necessary

Shawn Bouzan

Sent from my iPhone