

## Media Release

December 12, 2019

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Whitchurch-Stouffville Council Approves the 2020 Capital Budget**

*Highlights include strategic initiatives and growth-related projects*

**WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE, ON** – Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Council approved the 2020 Capital Budget, of a combined total of \$14.9 million, at the December 3 Council Meeting.

The budget focused on the strategic planning priorities of Fiscal Sustainability, Diversified Economy, Asset Planning and Customer Service Excellence, all identified in Council’s Strategic Plan approved earlier this year.

“The 2020 Capital Budget is focused on Council’s commitment to not only maintain but to increase service excellence for our great community,” said Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Iain Lovatt. “This capital budget allows us to maintain our facilities, build new infrastructure and create better services for our residents all while recognizing our fiscal responsibilities.”

Included in the 2020 Capital Budget is \$3.2 million in strategic initiatives, over \$3.7 million in growth related projects and over \$7.8 million in repair and replacement investments.

“Strategic investment will make our government more responsive, make our employees more productive and make our residents’ lives better,” said Town Chief Administrative Officer Rob Adams. “Through these initiatives, Council is investing in critical infrastructure required today, investing in critical infrastructure to manage growth, and investing in critical infrastructure for our community’s future.”

Highlights of the 2020 Capital Budget include:

- Over \$1.7 million in funding of *Customer Services* projects and initiatives, including:
  - major upgrades to the Town’s website and a new mobile app;
  - a Customer Service Strategy to develop consistent service standards; and
  - physical improvements to customer service locations.

- Over \$2.7 million in funding for enhancing *Community Spaces and Parks*, including:
  - \$50,000 for enhancements to Downtown initiatives and events; and
  - additional funding for our tree replacement program to help increase our urban tree canopy.
- Over \$1.1 million in *Community Planning* initiatives, including:
  - the development of a Ward Boundary Study, an Economic Development Strategy and various strategies as part of the Official Plan Review.
- Over \$8.4 million for *Infrastructure Development and Rehabilitation*, including:
  - over \$2 million for road repair and rehabilitation;
  - a Burkholder Neighbourhood Environmental Assessment to help plan improvements to the transportation network; and
  - the implementation of the Lakeshore Road shoreline stabilization project.
- Over \$700 thousand to improve *Community Safety*, including:
  - \$300,000 to go towards the purchase of a new Fire Pumper truck.

Council also approved partial funding for a new Downtown Indigenous Interpretive Centre to commemorate our Huron-Wendat heritage and the Jean-Baptiste Lainé site. Full implementation of this project is dependent on additional funds to be considered at the Operational Budget deliberations in February.

“I am very proud of Council and staff for coming together and working hard on this budget. They made many tough decisions,” Mayor Lovatt said. “The upcoming year will bring many improvements to our community all which will help Whitchurch-Stouffville be the best municipality in York Region.”

Capital projects are largely funded through development charges, reserves, developer contributions and grants. The 2020 Capital Budget report and other supporting documents are available online at [townofws.ca/budgets](http://townofws.ca/budgets).

Town Council deliberates the Operational Budget on Tuesday February 4, 2020.

-30-

Media Contact: **Brian Parrott | Treasurer**  
 Phone: 905-640-1910 or 1-855-642 8697 Ext. 2243  
 Email: [brian.parrott@townofws.ca](mailto:brian.parrott@townofws.ca)