

Draft Budget

Title/Question: 2025 Draft Budget Feedback
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ID	Date Submitted	Contribution	Tags
767	Nov 19, 2024, 10:37 AM	Being a senior, every year gets harder and harder. Federal and Provincial governments need to do more to assist Townships with growing costs.	Provincial support; Federal Support
760	Nov 18, 2024, 08:30 PM	The tax increase is ridiculous. I could do without some of the programs like transit services, and would much rather keep some of my hard earned money in my pocket.	Rate increase
758	Nov 18, 2024, 07:42 PM	How much of the increase is due to all the provincial downloads over the years? Maybe someone can lobby province to not give everyone 200 bucks in new year and divide the money up to municipalities	Provincial support
754	Nov 18, 2024, 06:21 PM	Are you aware of the struggles your residents are experiencing. Everyone is struggling to feed their families and you want to raise taxes and make more stress/struggles for YOUR residents. How can you sleep at night. Disgusting. Self Righteous self important. No thought of the effects this will have on people already poor in our community. I hope they stay and create a tent city at babcock mill. I will feed them.	
748	Nov 18, 2024, 02:36 PM	For the increase in our property taxes year after year would be nice to see repairs on side roads. Great that you keep up with the Main Street and down by the mill but takes years to do this work. Need to get better companies doing the work in a timely manner. I've lived in this town for 15+ years both on side streets right in Odessa never had work done on either street both streets are junk.	Road work

745	Nov 18, 2024, 12:44 PM	A 7% increase is a lot for a township that already has extremely high property taxes. What is the draw for people to move to Loyalist when they can move to another nearby area with lower taxes and more services to offer? This will be a big expense for our seniors and others who are already struggling with the fast rising cost of utilities (which are also very high in Loyalist), garbage(which went up this year as well)insurance, gas, food, ECT. I feel the township need to take a hard look at where this money is going and see how they can save people money.	Rate increase; Utilities
735	Nov 18, 2024, 10:37 AM	Increasing the tax bracket as high as you are proposing, for families during a time that financial stress is evident, would be a a negative hit to the community. Please review and make a more reasonable increase that would slightly affect many. Rent these days is astronomical and not financially sound for families. If they loose their homes due to a very high tax increase and unable to make payment, families and single income individuals will be struggling to make ends meet renting as well. Don't take away their assets and growth by hiking up the taxes unreasonably. We love to see the change and growth with in the community but it shouldn't be at an extreme cost to the housing market	Rate increase
733	Nov 18, 2024, 09:32 AM	The proposed tax increase is absolutely inappropriate and inflated, it should more closely align with cost of living increase...especially considering there are no improvements to the services being offered. I understand that costs have gone up in all areas, but there are significantly more residences in Loyalist Township now than there were even a year ago, which in all fairness should offset the costs. I recently moved here from Kingston, the property taxes here are already more than we paid for a significantly larger home in Kingston (same lot size), and in Kingston we received more services than we do here.	New housing; Rate increase; Services

731	Nov 18, 2024, 09:19 AM	The proposed tax increase is absolutely inappropriate and inflated, it should more closely align with cost of living increase...especially considering there are no improvements to the services being offered. I understand that costs have gone up in all areas, but there are significantly more residences in Loyalist Township now than there were even a year ago, which in all fairness should offset the costs. My husband and I recently moved here from Kingston, the property taxes here are already more than we paid for a significantly larger home in Kingston (same lot size), and in Kingston we received more services than we do here.	New housing; Rate increase; Services
730	Nov 18, 2024, 09:01 AM	First I want to say that it is ridiculous to expect people to be able to attend a meeting at 2 pm on a Monday afternoon. People are working and you know that!! Now, a 6.8% increase in property tax?!?! Are we trying to drown people. I do see that improvements have been made in the community, but the council/government needs to smarten up and stop mishandling our money. This Main Street road work has been a disaster and taken way longer than anything I have seen before...and probably cost more to than was necessary.	Rate increase; Road work; Meeting time
729	Nov 18, 2024, 08:07 AM	Please look at ways to cut cost not just reduce spending, an increase of almost 7 % on the Township portion of property tax is way too high. People's income has not gone up so how is this sustainable. If we don't have the money we shouldn't do the work. Taking on more debt is not the answer we need to reduce debt and aim for a balanced budget. These are hard times.	Cut; Debt; Rate increase

721	Nov 17, 2024, 06:09 PM	A 7% increase in taxes is absolutely ridiculous. The people of this township are already struggling. This can be clearly seen by the number of people using the community pantry in Odessa as well as the number of people living in tents in local parks and woodlands. Further, a 5% increase in water rates for the next 10 years is an insult to those who are not on municipal services-water/sewer. Need more money?- Get the developers to pony it up, they want to build 100 homes on a half acre, they can pay for the services. The taxpayers are tapped out!	New development; New housing; Rate increase; Utilities
717	Nov 17, 2024, 01:38 PM	Another tax increase? Honestly, our property taxes have almost doubled in the past 12 years. At a time when everything is already really expensive and so many people are struggling, how can we also afford an almost 7% property tax increase.	Rate increase

716	Nov 17, 2024, 11:50 AM	An almost 7% increase in property taxes is ridiculous. I live on a rural property where I pay for the upkeep of my septic and well so we are rural residents paying the same increase as residential properties who are using the town's water and sewer? I shouldn't be included in the upkeep of those systems when you don't help pay for mine. I lived in the village of Odessa for 20 years and paid the ridiculous rates for water and sewer then. We finally got out of there and even though we're still in the township, we're now in a rural area where we should be exempt from the same property rate increase. Maybe start caring more about your residents than how much your paycheck is. I can tell you right now that my husband and I don't even make half of the median income that you're saying each household in the township makes after taxes. Obviously those are the people from Toronto who live here and work remotely. Hell, we don't even make that amount BEFORE taxes! We are approaching retirement and are closer to homelessness due to the cost of living, property taxes and garbage bag tags. Maybe the township should start caring more about the homeless people and the seniors who are living in this township instead of raising the wages of their employees. How about you give us a break and take a pay cut instead? I take a pay cut every time you raise the cost of living in this township so why shouldn't you take one too??	Rate increase; Rural; Pay Cut
714	Nov 17, 2024, 08:17 AM	Questions about the reasons for the sizeable increase	Rate increase
712	Nov 17, 2024, 07:21 AM	The proposed nearly 7% increase in residential taxes for the upcoming year is ridiculous and unfair to residents. I've lived in 2 neighbouring townships as well as have recently compared notes with family and friends and these townships ALL provide a smaller tax payment and in some cases, improved services over loyalist township. Your tax structure is making it difficult for families and those on fixed retirement income to live in Loyalist Township. In these especially tough economic times, you've got to find another way to generate revenue and/or reduce expenses. Please!! Give us a chance to stay here and give us a break.	Rate increase; Generate revenue

711	Nov 16, 2024, 10:08 PM	This is absurd... 6.98% for what services?!	Rate increase; Doctor
710	Nov 16, 2024, 09:36 PM	I can't even get a family doctor because I live in Loyalist Township. Our property taxes are already ridiculously high, and we get nothing with them in comparison to other townships. To increase them another 6% is robbery, particularly in this economy.	Rate increase
709	Nov 16, 2024, 08:43 PM	Do better. Be better. Think about the impact on people. High taxes with no free garbage and no road work being done	Rate increase; Garbage; Road work
708	Nov 16, 2024, 08:36 PM	The proposed property tax increase is preposterous! People already can't afford anything and our current taxes are already too high. We've lived in neighbouring municipalities with more services, larger property sizes and lower taxes. Garbage didn't cost any extra, ans we had municipal sewer and water (we don't now) and our taxes were lower. Absolutely NOT to the almost 7% increase - insanity! Find it elsewhere. It's the one reason we'd consider leaving this area.	Garbage; Rate increase; Utilities
707	Nov 16, 2024, 08:16 PM	Stop increasing the property tax to a ridiculous amount, elderly and the children are at risk to be homeless. Not sure how you can sleep at night.	Rate increase
706	Nov 16, 2024, 08:01 PM	Increasing property taxes and having to pay for garbage tags, plus plus plus. Half the time, my garbage isn't picked up and I have to call in and request the truck come back. I'm not interested in the upheaval of costs to pay for a mediocre service. If we as residents actually saw a change in services, absolutely, but there is nothing that merits the increase in my opinion	Garbage; Rate increase
705	Nov 16, 2024, 06:48 PM	The increase being proposed is insanely high and not even remotely in line with people's salary increases, the current economy etc. How is the township looking to save costs? Everything just seems to be increasing - garbage tags increases. Taxes increase substantially year after year. People can't handle this burden!	Garbage; Rate increase
704	Nov 16, 2024, 05:30 PM	This is absurd. There's no reason for the property taxes to be going up, especially that much!!!	Rate increase

703	Nov 16, 2024, 05:02 PM	6.98% property tax is way too much. Look elsewhere for funds.	Rate increase
702	Nov 16, 2024, 04:48 PM	It's too much of an increase for older established long time residents. With all the new housing that has been building up we should not be paying more. The tax money you are gaining from new development. Odessa has nothing convenient everything is in Amherstview.	New housing; New development
701	Nov 16, 2024, 04:40 PM	As you are aware and have heard from many residents already. The taxes are way TOO high and with inflation and all other expenses considered it is always a huge challenge for most. If taxes are going to be raised then they should be charged accordingly to the new development area and not current standing/older residents with older homes. We as long term residents already have to deal with the implications of the new development on all levels now we must pay as well. This doesn't make sense. If amendments are not made, you will make residents suffer or have to move.	New development; Rate increase
700	Nov 16, 2024, 04:37 PM	Utilities line item appears in many places or departments. Explain this item. A lot of use of the word other in budget line items, that is too vague. I see something like utilities for Recreation and impact of plus 58% that is huge. Over \$260,000. Perhaps a budget impact report on just the Recreation Centre impacts to taxpayers bottom line is needed both for now and next 5 years impact verses before project and Federal funding. Funding huge impact on people who paid \$7000 in 2019/2020 or more tax per year on house. Now we are well over \$8000 and increases you propose are taking it over \$9000 a year. This is getting very painful. Considering your population base of those 45 and older is about 50% and for Seniors is about 25%.	Rate increase; Utilities; Recreation Centre
699	Nov 16, 2024, 04:17 PM	Please DO NOT raise our property taxes. We have the highest taxes in KFL&A, with frankly, minimal services.	Rate increase; Minimal Service

698	Nov 16, 2024, 03:53 PM	Another almost 7% increase in property is ridiculous! We already pay some of the highest property taxes in the area and don't get much in terms of amenities. With the tax increased building in the area, you'd think property taxes wouldn't go up another 7%. We already pay for garbage tags! Seems like you're robbing your constituents!	Garbage; New housing; Rate increase
696	Nov 16, 2024, 03:39 PM	We are being overtaxed. I live on a secondary road and pay far more taxes than residents in this township along with all other municipalities in our area. Look at ways to cut some of the extras being spent within. I imagine this would help bring expenses more online without raising taxes.	Rate increase; Rural; Cut
695	Nov 16, 2024, 03:37 PM	Keep driving more and more people out of Loyalist Township! 6.98% property tax increases! 6.98!!!	Rate increase
694	Nov 16, 2024, 03:36 PM	Our property taxes are already insane. To hike them up again is cruel considering how families are struggling. Shame on you for your proposed increase. Do better.	Rate increase
693	Nov 16, 2024, 03:30 PM	We cannot afford such a big increase in property taxes. We already have a hard time coming up with the cash for taxes as is since our mortgage interest rates went up. If the purposed property tax increase happens we will need to sell our house and move to a more affordable township. We have already considered this and often look outside of Loyalist for a new home. We love our home and our neighbours but we can't afford Loyalist taxes while raising our family. Make Loyalist affordable and then it will be desirable.	Rate increase
692	Nov 16, 2024, 03:05 PM	We cannot afford such a large increase to property taxes.	Rate increase
691	Nov 16, 2024, 02:41 PM	REALLY! The taxes are ridiculously way to high now...Give us a break...and we dont have any of stores they have in Amherstview, Bath etc..Odessa is always left behind and paying through the nose for taxes...We need them lowered now or the poor house we will all be in except the ones who make big bucks,, money talks in Odessa... 🤔 🤔 🤔 🤔 🤔 🤔	Rate increase

690	Nov 16, 2024, 02:37 PM	The proposed property tax increase is a complete joke. You are going to chase citizens out of the township with this ridiculous increase. Your mismanagement of the townships funds is absolutely embarrassing and I for one can't wait to run for council next election to run out the unqualified idiots that pose for pictures while wasting my money.	Rate increase
689	Nov 16, 2024, 02:25 PM	Another 6.98% increase in property tax is outrageous! You are going to tax people out of the township and force them to move. We don't even get free garbage pick up. Instead, you increase the price of garbage tags. It's unbelievable!	Garbage; Rate increase
688	Nov 16, 2024, 02:21 PM	I think an almost 7% increase in residential is appalling. We already pay higher taxes then most areas around is and have far less in terms of services. There's been a dramatic increase in housing in the area which should of anything help in reducing rates. While I understand the opp contract is a hefty cost the township needs to start looking for alternatives ways to make clawbacks. For example the wages of government officials and town council could be frozen since they are will above standard wages already.	Pay Cut; Rate increase; Services
687	Nov 16, 2024, 12:41 PM	7% property tax increase, are you kidding me? The township is growing exponentially with new builds and families moving in every year, yet we've seen no improvement or increase in services provided in the Odessa area - not only that, one of the few services provided in garage pickup, we pay even more then we did last year per tag! You can't honestly believe that a 7% property tax increase is appropriate, especially when we already pay more tax % per household than neighbouring communities. This is just proves the perception and sentiment that Loyalist Township is wildly mismanaged - how about look to cutting some FTE staff before imposing an increase like this on the average home owner. How embarrassing for those who put this budget together.	Garbage; Rate increase; Services; Staff cuts

684	Nov 16, 2024, 08:23 AM	The proposed increase of 6.98% is too much - cut services - cut the money on restorations of historic buildings - its time to move on, stop clinging to a colonial past. You average annual tax bill seems way low, from the people I talk to. We all pay much more than that. You need to stop going in debt. You need to be more fiscally responsible. Cut costs, reduce services - keep taxes low. Use fines through Parking, Speeding, etc to increase revenue. Too much money spent on W.J. Henderson Recreation Centre - get private funding or close it down!	Rate increase; Recreation Centre; Historic buildings; Debt; Reduce services; Parking; Speeding
682	Nov 16, 2024, 07:12 AM	I wish we are part of the city of Kingston. The increase of nearly 7% is a disgrace for things we will never see.	Rate increase
679	Nov 15, 2024, 09:18 PM	I have concerns about the increasing taxes in Loyalist. The property tax has become completely unreasonable, especially for the services provided within the township. I have been a home owner for the past 12 years and am disappointed in the proposed budget.	Rate increase; Reduce services
678	Nov 15, 2024, 08:50 PM	6.98% increase is absolutely ridiculous. How many more police officers and fire fighters is that going get us? None. Are we going to get more doctors? Nope. A new school being built? No. What about our own Ambulance service? Not this year or any year in the future. You pretend to provide transparency on this but you really don't. What new industry has this Council brought to Loyalist? We have tonnes of land space and yet nothing. Who is out there pounding the pavement and marketing Loyalist as place industry can invest in so tax increases this large are not places on residents. Residents are struggling to pay bills and put food on the table, and you want to make that even more difficult. Sad. That's all I am going to say cause you are going to get 100% negative response to this and you won't do anything about it.	Rate increase; Industry

677	Nov 15, 2024, 06:37 PM	There is no justification for an increase this high. Services have definitely decreased this past summer. Hardly ever saw the lawn crews out mowing the public spaces. Increased the garbage tags, etc. This is not sustainable. If the city of Kingston can keep their increases around 3% why can't you?	Rate increase; Reduce services; Lawn cutting
675	Nov 15, 2024, 06:01 PM	Loyalist has a lot of areas it can trim its budget, you should be looking at around a 2% increase nothing more	Rate increase
666	Nov 15, 2024, 12:56 PM	So can someone there please explain 7% increase? I get the OPP increase but with all the new housing that has been going up should that not drop taxes? In my opinion Loyalist Council should sit back down and sharpen there pencils, no one can afford 7% with the price of everything.	Rate increase
664	Nov 15, 2024, 09:52 AM	Property tax increase proposed is ridiculous. How can the tax rate be increasing by so much with all the increased revenue coming from the new houses being built. The only good service is snow removal. Outside of that, there is nothing to show for the taxes paid and Amherstview stinks a lot of the time due to the sewage works. I am considering moving back to Kingston next year due to this issue. Unacceptable.	Minimal Service; New housing; Rate increase; Sewage
663	Nov 15, 2024, 09:35 AM	The town can absolutely not sustain such a significant tax increase. You need to reduce your operating costs to balance you budget, not place that burden on the residents.	Rate increase; Balance budget