



AGENDA

Special Meeting of Council

December 5, 2023

9:00 am

Municipal Operations Centre

408 James Street South, St. Marys

YouTube Link - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzuUpFqxcEI8OG-dOYKteFQ>

Pages

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**
3. **AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the December 5, 2023 special meeting of Council agenda be accepted as presented.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD**

Public input received by the Clerks Department prior to 4:30pm on the day prior to the meeting will be read aloud during this portion of the agenda.

Submissions will be accepted via email at clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca or in the black drop box labeled Clerks Office at the St. Marys Public Library, Queen Street accessible entrance.

5. **DELEGATIONS**

- 5.1 **St. Marys Hospital Foundation re: Annual Support**

4

Cindy Bilyea, Board Chair (in-person) at 9:00am

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the delegation from St. Marys Hospital Foundation regarding the 2024 annual support be received.

5.2 Upper Thames River Conservation Authority re: 2024 Budget

6

Tracy Annett, General Manager (in-person) at 11:00am

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the delegation from the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority regarding the draft 2024 budget be received.

6. 2024 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Supplementary material related to the 2024 budget is posted on the Town's website.

Please see here: www.townofstmarys.com/en/town-services/Annual-Budget.aspx

6.1 Review Draft Operating Budget

6.1.1 Administration

6.1.2 Building and Development

6.1.3 Community Services

6.1.4 Corporate Services

6.1.5 Fire

6.1.6 Human Resources

6.1.7 Public Works

6.1.8 Self-Funded (water, wastewater, and landfill)

6.1.9 Library

Sarah Andrews, CEO and Barbara Tuer, Board Vice-Chair (in-person) at 9:30am

7. UPCOMING MEETINGS

*All meetings are open to the public to attend in-person and may be live-streamed on the Town's YouTube channel.

2024 Budget Meetings

January 9, 2023 - 6:00 pm, Regular Council (budget presentation), Municipal Operations Centre Boardroom

January 23, 2023 - 6:00 pm, Regular Council (tentative budget approval), Municipal Operations Centre Boardroom

8. BY-LAWS

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RECOMMENDATION

THAT By-Law 126-2023, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the December 5, 2023 special meeting of Council, be read a first, second and third time; and be finally passed by Council, and signed and sealed by the Mayor and the Clerk.

9. ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATION

THAT this special meeting of Council be adjourned at _____ pm.

November 17, 2023.

The Town of St. Marys
175 Queen Street East, Box 998
St. Marys, ON N4X 1B6

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

The St. Marys Healthcare Foundation, kindly request your contribution of \$50,000 towards Physician Recruitment, Retention and Education. Happy Valley Health Team is in the process in recruiting 1 new doctor. We also support educational opportunities for our healthcare workers so they can be the best at what they do for the sake of patients that they serve.

Courses the Foundation have supported in 2023:

- Advance Trauma Life Support
- Trauma Program
- Women in Healthcare Mediation Retreat
- Family Medicine Conference
- Society of Rural Physicians
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support Course

Established in 1992 as the St. Marys Memorial Hospital Foundation and now St. Marys Healthcare Foundation, the Board of Directors is a dedicated group of volunteers committed to the health and wellbeing of our community.

Together, we raise and provide funds for a variety of equipment, infrastructure and upgrades that support the St. Marys Memorial Hospital and the Tradition Mutual Centre for Wellness. Our Foundation also passionately supports our community-based health initiatives.

Our priorities are as follows:

- Supporting the needs of the St. Marys Memorial Hospital and the Tradition Mutual Centre for Wellness
- Raising awareness of opportunities for local healthcare
- Establishing quality end-of-life care for St. Marys and area
- Support Mental health initiatives in our community

Please consider our request for \$50,000, showing your continued leadership and commitment to an innovative and unique opportunity that serves the Town of St. Marys in so many ways. We truly value the positive relationship with the Town of St. Marys.

With your grant, you will be directly supporting the development, education and retention of our Healthcare Professionals. Currently we have 11 Physicians and 2 Nurse practitioners as part of the Happy Valley Health Team.

Providers, Patients, Families and Staff of the Tradition Mutual Centre for Wellness in St. Marys and surrounding area will be positively impacted today and for generations to come.

Our Hospital Foundation's Mission: **A HEALTHY, ACTIVE COMMUNITY**

Sincerely,



Cindy Bilyea
Board Chair

November 17, 2023

Attention: Municipal CAOs, Clerks and Treasurers,

Subject: Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) 2024 Draft Budget

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) Board of Directors and Staff are pleased to provide you its proposed 2024 Budget for your information. The 2024 Draft Budget currently forecasts operating expenditures of \$23,242,765 which requires a municipal contribution of \$7,999,589. In 2024, the UTRCA will leverage each municipal dollar to bring in almost three additional dollars towards conservation activities that benefit watershed residents and local communities.

Additional details are included in the enclosed:

- 2024 Draft Budget: Overview
- 2024 Draft Budget

The proposed increase in 2024 is \$2,218,867 for general operating purposes of which 68% is for legislative changes and new deliverables. A deficit of \$912,827 is forecast. The actual change for individual municipalities will vary based on the Modified Current Value Assessment formula used by the province. Capital expenditures of \$1,485,059 are proposed, of which \$1,135,059 is for Water and Erosion Control Structures capital projects where special benefitting rates are applied. Capital projects proposed for Conservation Areas will be funded with existing campground reserves.

Notice is provided pursuant to the Approval apportionment under subsections 25(1) and 27(1) of the Conservation Authorities Act (CAA) and Amounts owing under subsection 27.2(2) of the CAA. It is the Board of Directors intention to finalise and approve the budget and levy at the Annual General Meeting on February 27, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Watershed Conservation Centre (1424 Clarke Road, London, Ontario, N0L 2L0).

Please share the attached 2024 Draft Budget with Council and appropriate staff. I would be pleased to attend and review the proposed budget at a council meeting. Please contact either Michelle Viglianti (vigliantim@thamesriver.on.ca) or Tracy Annett (annett@thamesriver.on.ca) to arrange. We welcome your comments.

Sincerely,



Tracy Annett,
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Encl.



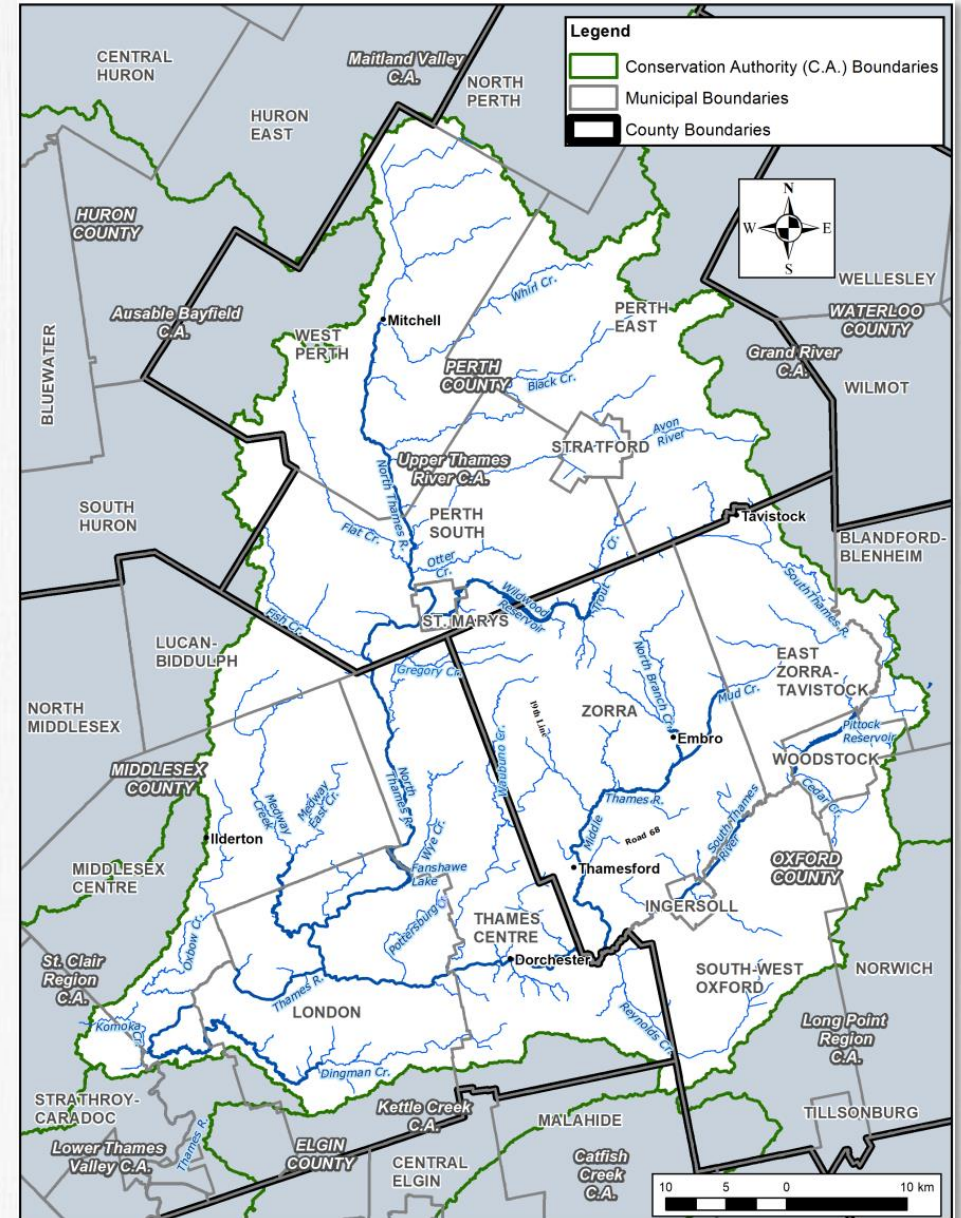
Draft
2024
Budget

October 2023
Updated November 15, 2023

www.thamesriver.on.ca

Inspiring a Healthy Environment

- UTRCA's programs and services reflect this organization's longstanding goal to bring as much value – environmental programming – into this watershed as possible.
- We leverage the municipal investment and enter into partnerships – we provide excellent return on investment for our member municipalities and deliver programs and services that benefit the entire watershed.



Budget Overview

- Draft budget drivers
- Impacts on the 2024 Budget
 - Legislative changes
 - Historical context
 - Operating environment
- Capital projects

Budget Development Schedule

- **August**
UTRCA Board direction regarding budget concepts
- **October**
Draft Budget presented to Board
- **October - February**
Municipal input sessions with Senior Staff and Draft Budget circulation to member municipalities for comment
- **January**
Board review of municipal comments and budget reconsideration
- **February**
Budget review and approval

Impacts on the 2024 Budget

Impacts on the UTRCA 2024 Budget

Legislative Changes

- Reorganization of programs and services into 3 Categories with specific funding restrictions
- New mandatory deliverables due December 2024
- New service delivery standards due December 2024
- No provincial funding to offset additional work

APPROXIMATE COST: \$1.5M

UPPER THAMES RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Historical

- Chronically inadequate and reduced Provincial Transfer Payment
- Insufficient reserves
- Not eligible for Canada Emergency Response Benefit during COVID

Operating Environment

- Accessing qualified staff
- Compensation updates
- Aging infrastructure and increasing cost of capital projects
- Growth development pressure
- Increased land management pressures
- Development review fees frozen
- Reduced access to provincial grant programs
- Inflation

1. Legislative Changes

Note: There is no additional provincial funding to offset the costs of this additional work.

1. O.Reg. 686/21- Requires the completion of new deliverables by the end of 2024
 - Operation and asset management plans for water and erosion control infrastructure
 - Ice management plan
 - Land management strategy (with consultation)
 - Land inventory
 - Land acquisition and disposition strategy
 - Watershed-based resource management strategy (with consultation)



1. Legislative Changes (continued)

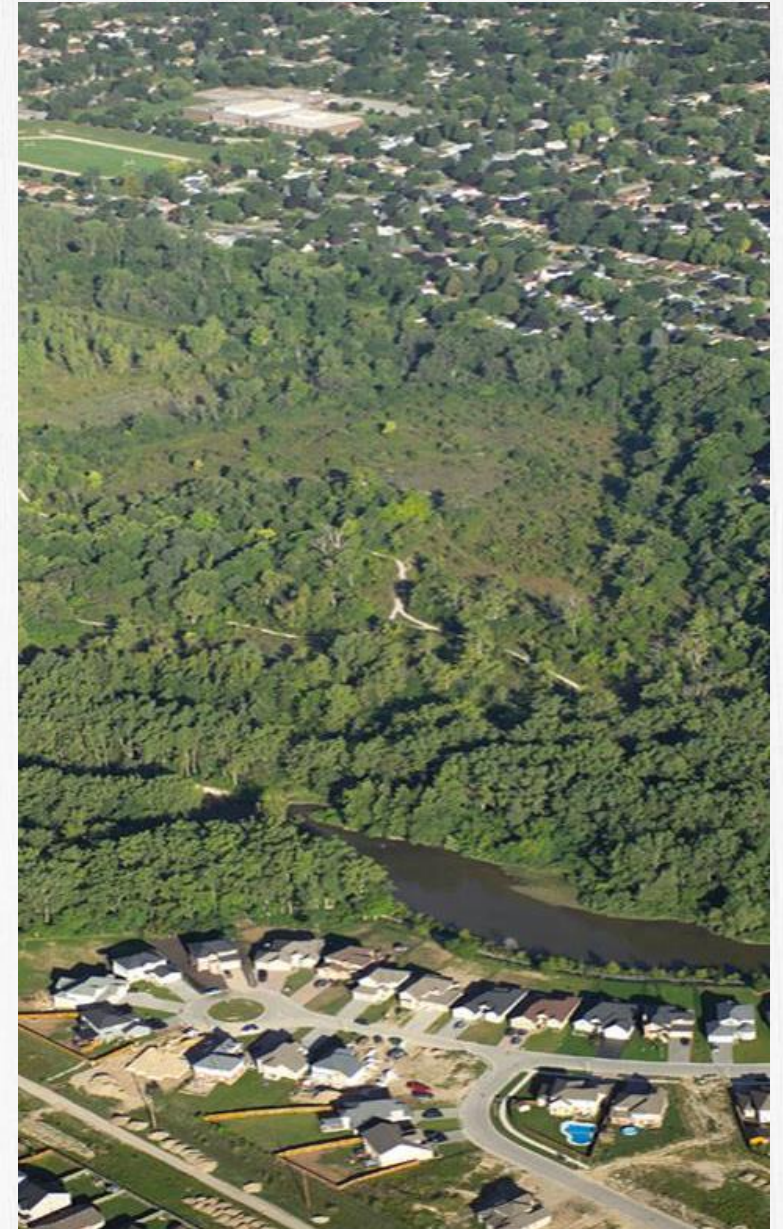
2. More Homes Built Faster and More Homes for Everyone

- Service delivery to meet planning and development review timelines – to expedite the approvals process
- Support consultation on updating hazard mapping

3. Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act

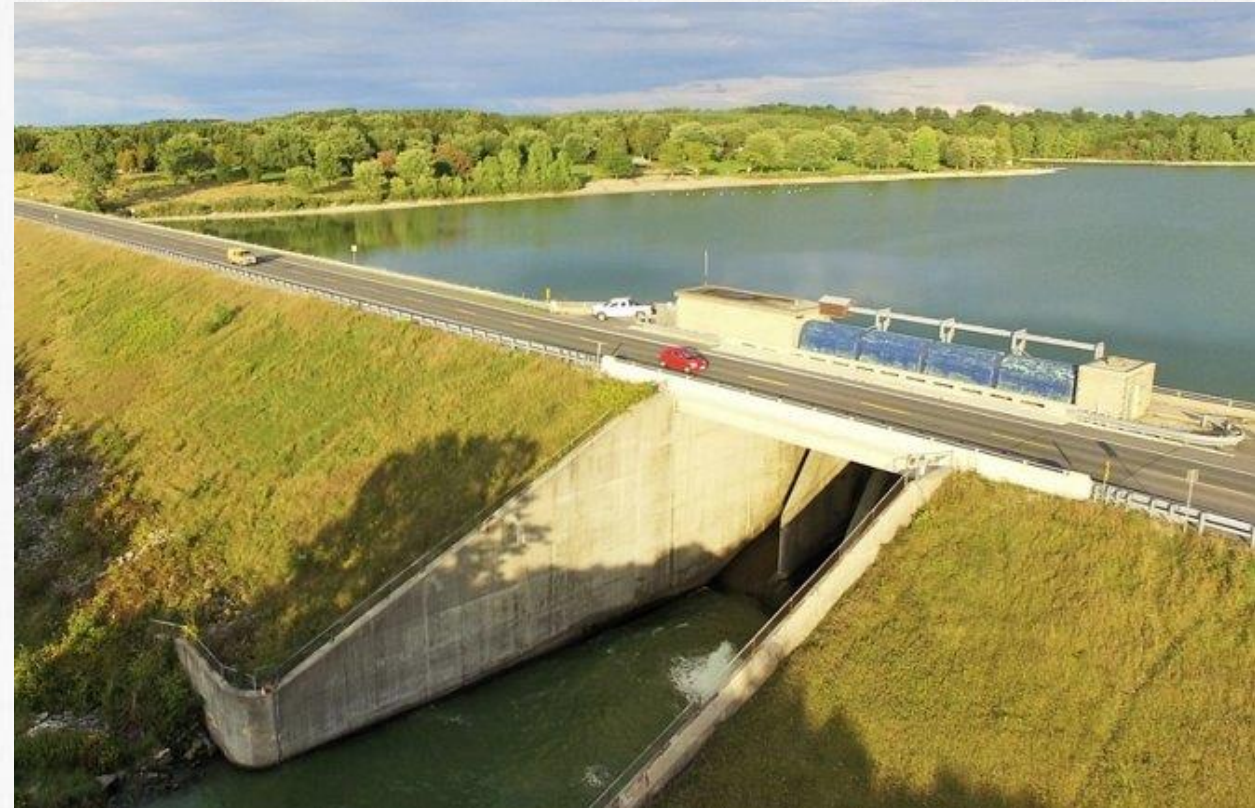
- Updating hazard mapping and modelling under legislation

Total budget impacts of Provincial Regulations and Legislative Changes: \$1.5M



2. Operating Environment

- Inflation
- Staff retention and compensation, our review undertaken in 2022
- Fees freeze on development reviews
- Increased growth demands
- Increased use of CA owned lands
- Significant capital costs increases



3. Historical Impacts

- Provincial transfer payment supporting UTRCA flood control programs was frozen in the 1990s and then cut in half in 2019. **This payment currently covers less than 13% of the program costs.**
- Historically, the UTRCA has kept levy contributions depressed, resulting in lower-than-desirable reserves in the areas of flood and erosion control structure operations and land management.
- Inability to access federal wage subsidies during the pandemic depleted reserves.



4. Capital Projects

- Significant increases to capital projects – municipalities with higher special benefiting rates will see greater impacts:
 - St. Marys Floodwall
 - Mitchell Dam
 - West London Dyke
- Aging infrastructure = more maintenance
- Project proposals have doubled forecasted costs



Categorization of Programs and Services

1 Mandatory

Programs and services that the Province has deemed mandatory. Municipal levy can be used without an agreement.

2 Non-Mandatory

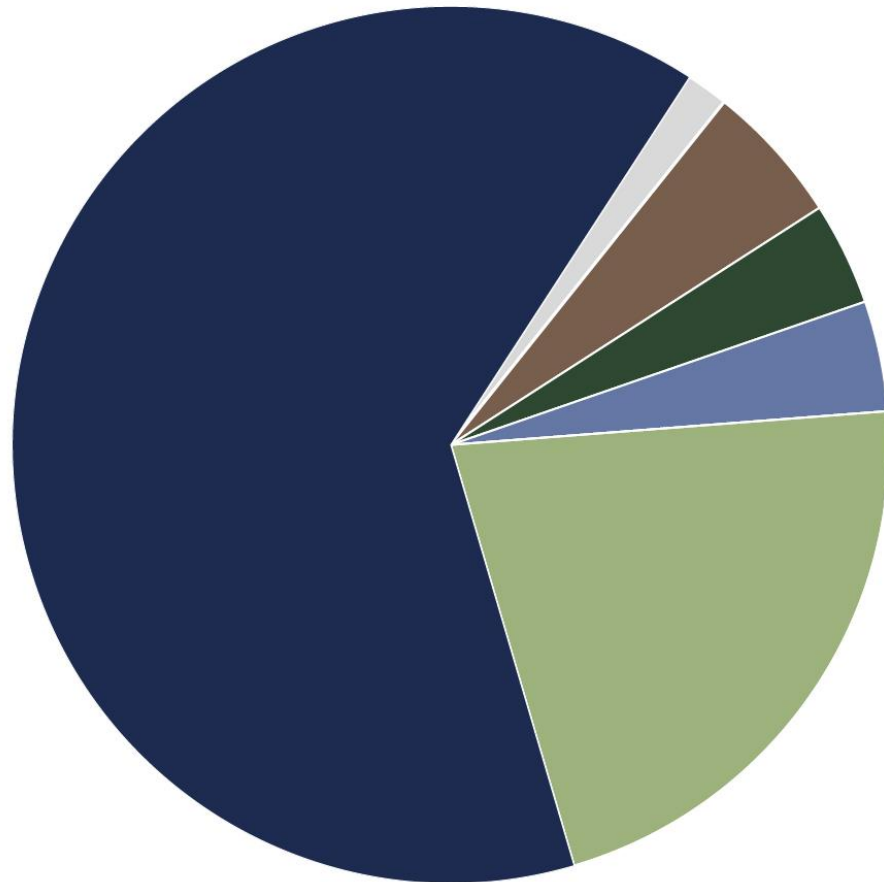
Municipality requests a CA to deliver a program or service on their behalf.

3 Other

Program and services a CA deems advisable to implement in their watershed. Agreement required if municipal funds (cost apportioning) are used.

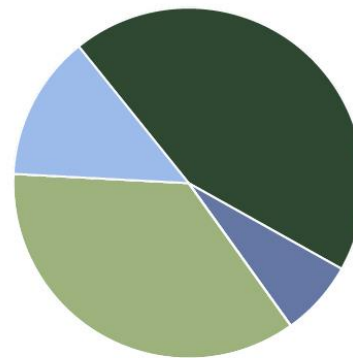
2024 Draft Budget

2024 Funding Sources: Program and Service Categories*

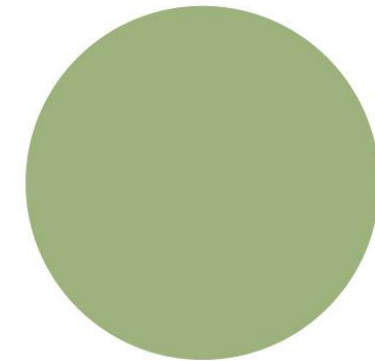


Category 1 (\$11,601,402)

Category 2 (\$1,291,609)



Category 3 (\$4,543,378)



Other Category 3 (Campground Operations)(\$4,893,550)

- Municipal Levy
- Provincial Transfer Payment - CA Act
- Provincial Transfer Payment - Clean Water Act
- Federal/Provincial Grants and Contracts
- Municipal Contracts
- Self-Generated Revenue
- Municipal Cost Apportioning Agreements

*Pies are sized in proportion to category funding.

Draft Municipal Contributions – Town of St. Marys

Category 1 Levy	
General Distribution Levy	\$93,208
Special Benefitting Levy	\$140,246*
TOTAL	\$233,454**

*Note, reduced from \$217,023

** Note, reduced from \$310,231

Category 3	
Proposed Cost Apportionment	\$8,879



Special Benefitting Rates (Operating & Capital)

Wildwood Dam – 14.088%	Total Levy	Transfer Payment	Town of St. Marys
Operations	\$327,000	\$12,739	\$46,067
Conditions assessment of drainage, Handrail replacement, Safety boom design, Stability work, Dam monitoring equipment, Operations Plan	\$180,000	\$125,000	\$25,358
St. Marys Floodwall – 100%	Total	Transfer Payment	Town of St. Marys
Operations	\$56,000	\$516	\$56,000
Operation Plan, and Floodwall repairs	\$20,000	\$7,500	\$12,500
Pittock Dam - .088%	Total	Transfer Payment	Town of St. Marys
Operations	\$222,000	\$17,539	\$195
Safety boom design, repairs etc.	\$145,414	\$77,500	\$127



Final Key Messages

- The largest impact on the UTRCA 2024 operating budget is tied to \$1.5M of new provincially legislated activities. No new provincial funding has been provided to offset these costs.
- Additional budget increases are tied to rising operational and capital costs. With aging flood control infrastructure, continued maintenance costs are also significantly higher.
- UTRCA is mitigating the impact on the municipal levy by applying program revenues to offset costs of mandated programs.



Questions

Tracy Annett, General Manager

Jim Craigmile, UTRCA Board Representative

BY-LAW 126-2023

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ST. MARYS

Being a By-law to confirm all actions and proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys at its special meeting held on December 5th, 2023.

WHEREAS: *The Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25*, as amended, Section 5(3), provides that the jurisdiction of every council is confined to the municipality that it represents, and its powers shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS: The Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys deems it expedient to confirm its actions and proceedings;

NOW THEREFORE: The Council of The Corporation of the Town of St. Marys enacts as follows;

1. That all actions and proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys taken at its special meeting held on the 5th day of December 2023 except those taken by by-law and those required by by-law to be done by resolution are hereby sanctioned, ratified and confirmed as though set out within and forming part of this by-law.
2. This by-law comes into force on the final passing thereof.

Read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 5th day of December 2023.

Al Stratheedee, Mayor

Jenna McCartney, Clerk