

DATE: September 15, 2025

REPORT NO: T-14-2025

SUBJECT: **2026 Budget Survey Results**

CONTACT: Katelyn Repovs, CPA, CA Director, Corporate Services/CFO

OVERVIEW:

- On June 26, 2025, the Township launched the 2026 Budget Survey, with a closing date of July 21, 2025.
- Purpose of the survey was to gather input on priorities, services and spending to help guide the Township's financial planning for the 2026 Budget.
- This report provides a summary of the survey results. Details of the survey submissions are available at **Schedule A**, as attached to the report.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That, Information Report T-14-2025, regarding the "2026 Budget Survey Results" dated September 15, 2025, be received.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

The 2026 Budget supports the following Strategic Plan Themes:

- Build a safe, connected, caring and active community
- Champion strategic and responsible growth
- Enrich our strong agricultural legacy
- Advance organizational capacity and effectiveness

BACKGROUND:

To foster public engagement in the budget process, the Township prepares a Budget Survey on an annual basis. The survey collects feedback on the programs and services that residents and stakeholders value most, helping guide how funds are allocated to match the community's priorities with the strategic plan objectives.

During the 2025 Budget Process, Administration received feedback on the desire to launch

the budget survey earlier on in the budget process. In response, the 2026 survey was launched several months earlier to allow stakeholders more time to provide input and for that feedback to be incorporated into the process.

The 2026 Budget Survey was released to the public on June 26, 2025, with the survey closing for submissions on July 21, 2025. The survey was made available online and on paper, with hard copies available for pick-up at the Township Administration Office, the West Lincoln Community Centre and all West Lincoln Public Library branches. The survey was advertised via a news release on the Township's website and social media platforms.

The final 2025 property tax bills, that were issued in late June 2025, included an enclosure notice for the 2026 Budget Survey, which provided visibility of the survey to all West Lincoln property owners. Administration also distributed physical paper surveys at West Lincoln recreation programming events, such as Canada Day and Music, Market & Park It.

CURRENT SITUATION:

The detailed results of the 2026 Budget Survey are attached as **Schedule A** to this report. Those that responded to the survey have provided observations on various services provided by the Township.

Some key highlights of the 2026 Budget Survey results include:

- 167 survey responses were received, which is 41 more than the 2025 Budget Survey (or a 33% increase).
- 96% of the respondents identified as a West Lincoln resident or business owner.
- 65% of the respondents rated the overall value they are receiving from their Township tax dollars as fair or better.
- Two service areas that 85% of respondents would like to see improvements (and therefore more tax dollars spent) are for road maintenance and asset renewal and replacement (such as for roads, bridges, and facilities).
- 51% of the respondents indicated that they would not like to see Township services reduced (and therefore fewer tax dollars spent). In the comments, several noted they would like to see existing service levels maintained but emphasized the desire for tax dollars to be spent and managed efficiently and prudently.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMENTS:

Administration across the Finance and Communications teams collaborated together to execute this public engagement initiative. The survey results have been shared with the Senior Leadership Team. The results will be reviewed alongside legislative requirements, available funding, and ongoing service needs to develop the draft 2026 budget, for further public and Council consideration.

CONCLUSION:

The 2026 Budget Survey data provides Council with information on community feedback and what stakeholders value most regarding the Township's budget, for use ahead of the 2026 budget deliberations.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. **Schedule A** – 2026 Budget Survey Results

Prepared & Submitted by:

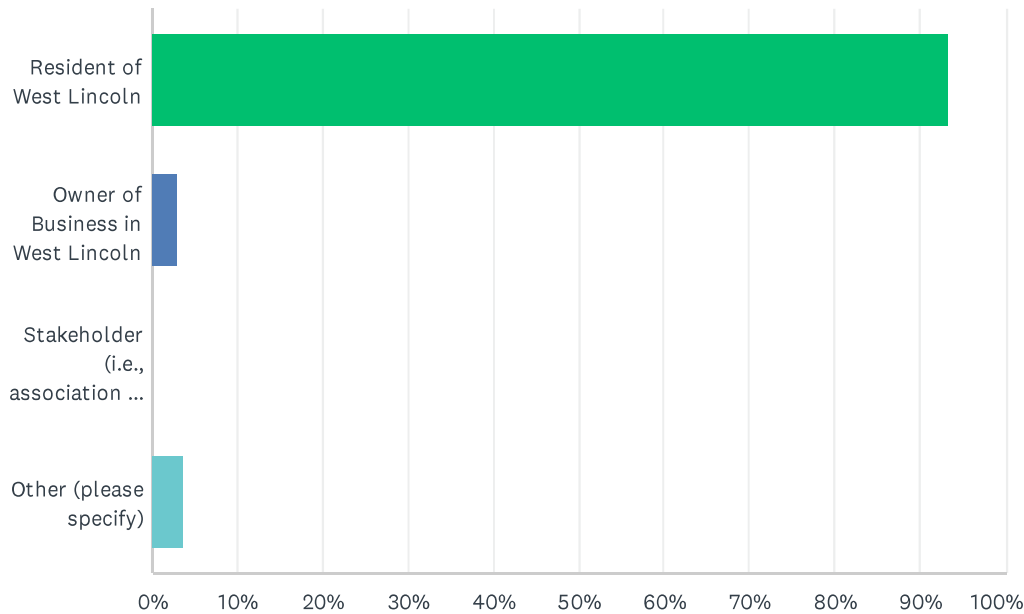
Katelyn Repovs, CPA, CA
Director, Corporate Services/CFO

Approved by:

Truper McBride
CAO

Q2 Are you responding to this survey as a:

Answered: 167 Skipped: 0

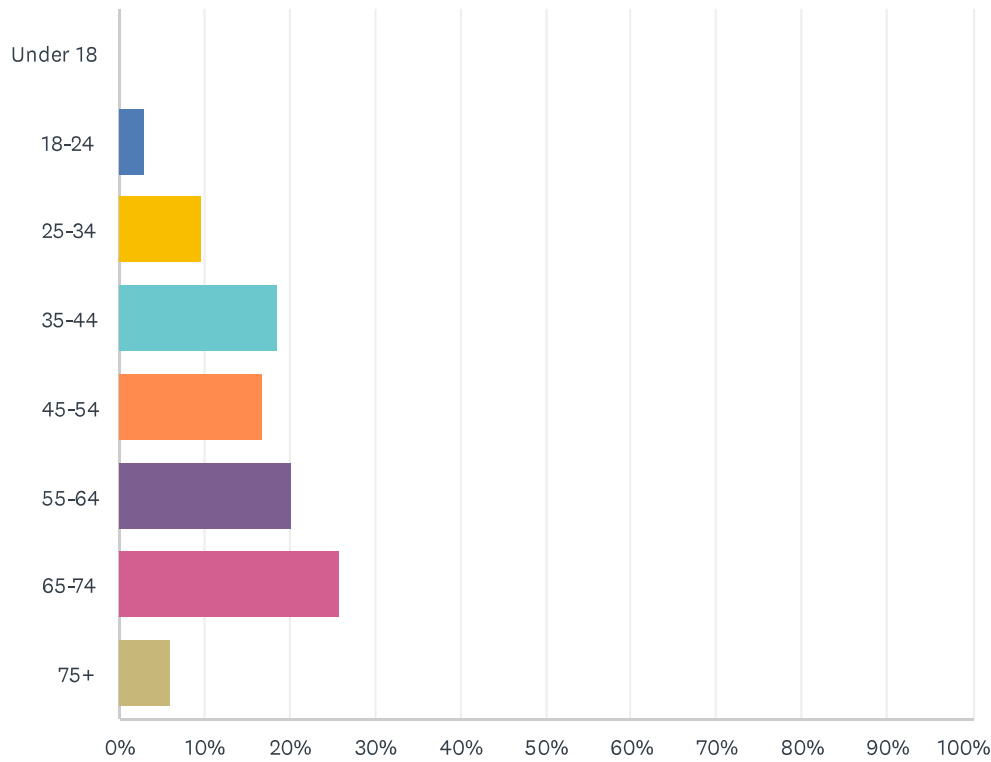


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Resident of West Lincoln	93.41%	156
Owner of Business in West Lincoln	2.99%	5
Stakeholder (i.e., association or service club doing work in West Lincoln)	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	3.59%	6
TOTAL		167

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Haldimand resident - near Caistorville	7/24/2025 1:42 PM
2	Land owner	7/17/2025 8:14 AM
3	Employee	6/30/2025 1:10 PM
4	Employee of Township	6/30/2025 1:07 PM
5	Someone who uses the township of west lincoln often	6/27/2025 8:18 AM
6	Resident and business owner	6/26/2025 5:42 PM

Q3 Which age category represents you?

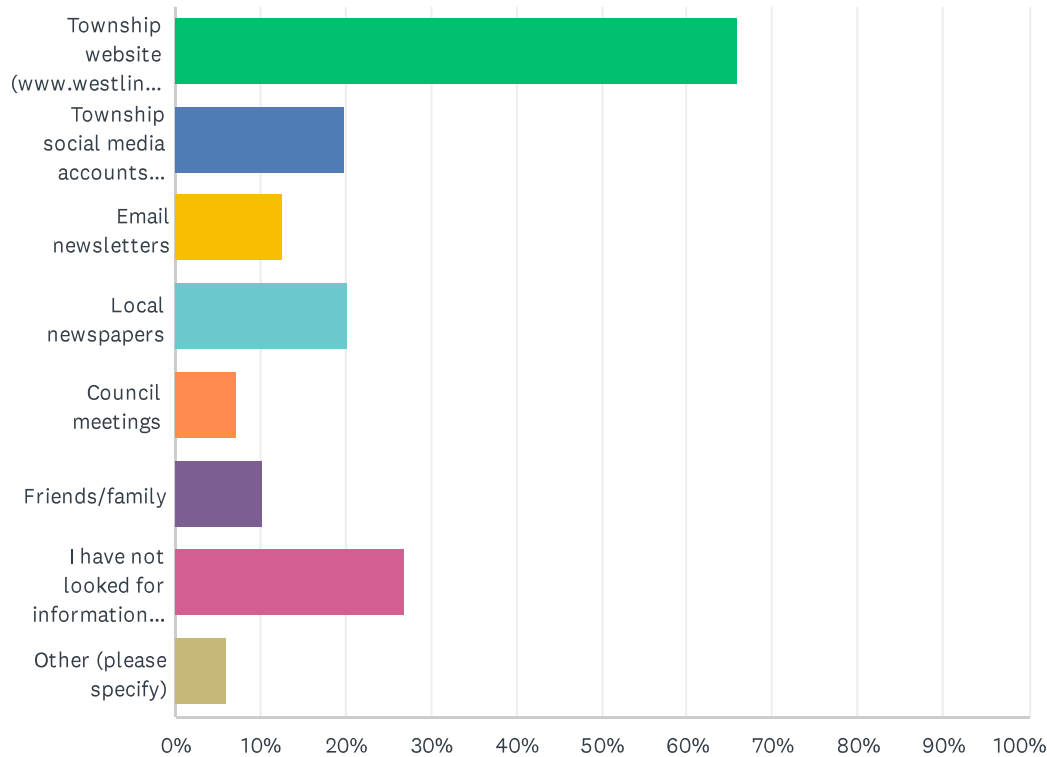
Answered: 167 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	2.99%	5
25-34	9.58%	16
35-44	18.56%	31
45-54	16.77%	28
55-64	20.36%	34
65-74	25.75%	43
75+	5.99%	10
TOTAL		167

Q4 Where do you go to receive information about the Township's budget? (select all that apply)

Answered: 167 Skipped: 0



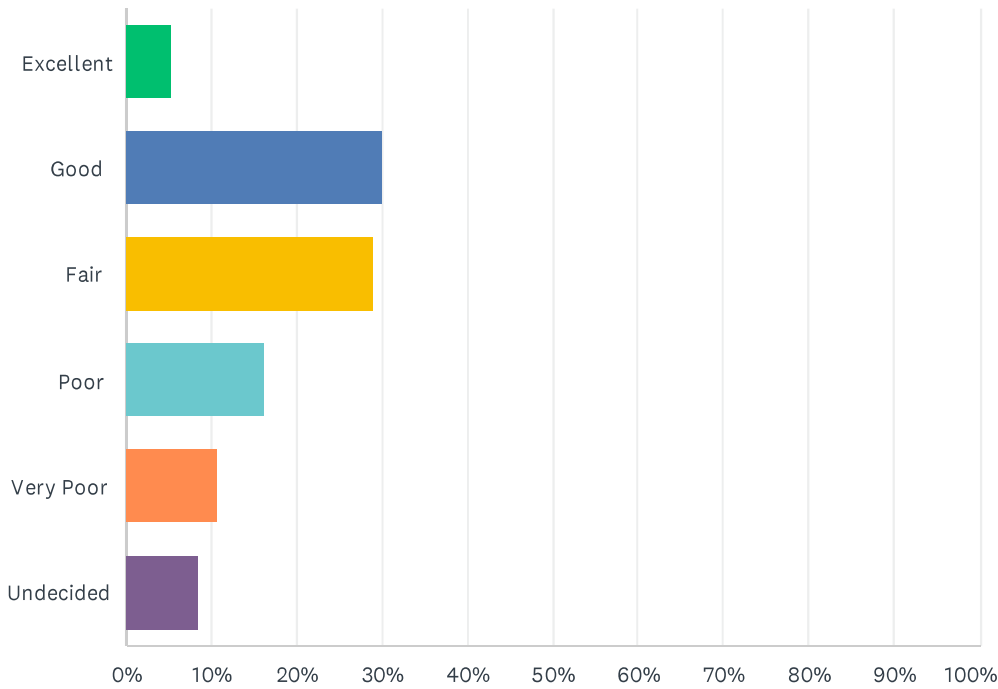
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Township website (www.westlincoln.ca)	65.87%	110
Township social media accounts (Facebook, X, Instagram)	19.76%	33
Email newsletters	12.57%	21
Local newspapers	20.36%	34
Council meetings	7.19%	12
Friends/family	10.18%	17
I have not looked for information about the Township budget before	26.95%	45
Other (please specify)	5.99%	10
Total Respondents: 167		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	NA	7/24/2025 1:42 PM
2	Mailing that comes with property tax invoice	7/24/2025 1:37 PM
3	Tax bill	7/17/2025 9:58 PM

4	by mail	7/11/2025 7:06 PM
5	Small town	7/11/2025 12:48 AM
6	Brochure that came with the tax bill	7/10/2025 1:50 PM
7	Im	7/7/2025 6:16 PM
8	Property tax mail	7/4/2025 4:20 PM
9	In tax bill mailed to my home	7/3/2025 10:12 PM
10	Hdhfhd	7/3/2025 8:36 PM

Q5 Overall, how would you rate the value you are receiving in municipal services from your Township tax dollars?

Answered: 93 Skipped: 74



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	5.38%	5
Good	30.11%	28
Fair	29.03%	27
Poor	16.13%	15
Very Poor	10.75%	10
Undecided	8.60%	8
TOTAL		93

Q6 Please explain the reasons for your rating.

Answered: 93 Skipped: 74

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	NA	7/24/2025 1:44 PM
2	We don't use municipal water delivery or sewer. Nor natural gas.	7/24/2025 1:40 PM
3	We have no water/sewer/gas services and our kids attend private school. However, our roads are pretty decent and cleared regularly.	7/24/2025 1:36 PM
4	32% is not 1769 for me it's 2500 Not sure where I see 2500 being used in WL Why is every tax \$ that is taken clearly documented to show where spent like a CRA audit for a business would require!	7/21/2025 9:47 AM
5	Municipal services are good. We have good parks and rec programs. Our fire department does neat stuff for the community, our roads are well plowed, parks and paths are well maintained... I really can't complain.	7/17/2025 4:28 PM
6	Snow removal is pretty late in the day for us when we have to go out for schools and offices etc.	7/17/2025 1:38 PM
7	The rural areas are very neglected.	7/17/2025 9:42 AM
8	3rd concession rd needs to be paved, we've been asking for years and nothing is being done.	7/17/2025 8:26 AM
9	I think it's pretty normal - nothing outstanding but I'm happy overall	7/15/2025 10:08 AM
10	Over 7000 dollars a year for subdivision home in Smithville is absurd. The root cause of high taxes is high spending. Dollar cost efficiency is not happening in today's municipalities. Be better at spending the money and reduce waste. I know you can't feel good about the amount we spend vs actually seeing our tax dollars improving livability.	7/14/2025 6:56 PM
11	Costs keep going up but don't receive any more benefits. Basically all we get is garbage pickup and snow lowing.	7/14/2025 12:37 PM
12	Huge increases with little reward. Virtually no return from the region on taxes collected. We should be prorated to be paying only for services provided, let the city cover the cost of the city. We should have the option to opt out of paying for public school, those of us paying for a real education in private school, and those without children should not have to pay into a broken system for grooming and exploiting children.	7/12/2025 12:49 PM
13	I feel I get decent quality of services regularly for the price.	7/12/2025 10:36 AM
14	There is no water or sewage service to our farm, despite paying taxes almost equal to major cities.	7/11/2025 7:12 PM
15	My tax bill appears to be significantly higher than my peers when I look at real estate listing in west lincoln. Paying more than double the average and more than the houses I see for sale makes no sense	7/11/2025 8:52 AM
16	The Township provides very good services with a small assessment base	7/10/2025 4:53 PM
17	The basics are covered but not a lot of extras	7/10/2025 2:35 PM
18	Probably good: what kind of protection services are needed, and for what? Since we have a regional police department. I'm happy with the library.	7/10/2025 2:05 PM
19	Roads need repair, security/crime	7/9/2025 7:46 PM
20	MORE OF THE TAX MONIES SHOULD BE SPENT IN WEST LINCOLN, TO REDUCE MAINTENCE COSTS EG. GRAVEL ROADS/POT HOLES ETC	7/9/2025 2:00 PM
21	Local government tries to do too many things. Stick to improving core services.	7/9/2025 9:20 AM

Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

22	Rural areas do not receive the same benefits as the town center. No water, sewers, street lights, the last to have snow plowed and grass on the side of the roads cut. Maintenance of our roads are neglected and the outreach to the rural community is nonexistent.	7/9/2025 8:43 AM
23	There are opportunities to improve in some areas.	7/8/2025 11:02 PM
24	All levels of government bother me. They take our money and use a small portion of it on stuff necessary and spend it on useless stuff	7/8/2025 9:23 PM
25	My street has not been paved, our street light was out for over a year. The snow plow rips up our street and front lawn. I have contacted Town Hall and no one cares!	7/8/2025 9:12 PM
26	Have not seen any improvements and am unhappy with the budget allocation and increase in tax rates during economic hardship.	7/8/2025 6:49 PM
27	Have had interaction with town hall for building permit once and it was fairly smooth. Otherwise, other than well maintained major roads, there is little I can obviously understand or see to be of benefit to me for over \$3G per year. However, glad it helps others e.g. beautiful schools.	7/8/2025 5:47 PM
28	Hiring spree	7/8/2025 4:38 PM
29	I think you're doing a good job.	7/8/2025 3:32 PM
30	The municipality is well cared for.	7/8/2025 9:40 AM
31	We live on a rural road and don't see the benefits of a lot of the dollars that are spent. As such, we would rather see our taxes go down instead of up.	7/8/2025 8:25 AM
32	Every year the taxes continue to go up, I don't see the value in the money spent on taxes. There needs to be better evaluation done before always going to the tax payer.	7/8/2025 8:05 AM
33	There is always room for improvement but generally things are well maintained and available when I need them.	7/8/2025 7:56 AM
34	Without knowing what the 32% of taxes go towards within the township I can't say where it may be used towards more of	7/8/2025 6:33 AM
35	No serious complaints	7/8/2025 6:00 AM
36	The survey ponds get no maintenance and looks like a dump	7/7/2025 10:00 PM
37	We pay so much for police services and yet crime rates are increasing and yet you put up speed cameras to penalize law-abiding citizens who occasionally speed. It's a waste of tax dollars!	7/7/2025 6:20 PM
38	We need upgraded roads!	7/7/2025 5:14 PM
39	Overall I am satisfied with how my taxes are being allocated.	7/7/2025 3:26 PM
40	We love our winter road clearing and our garbage and recycle collection. They both do such a great job and are clearly working hard to not let the schedule fall behind.	7/7/2025 8:45 AM
41	N/A	7/6/2025 10:28 PM
42	Very high taxes for very little service	7/6/2025 4:28 PM
43	I think that some councillors and the Mayor are cognisant of the tax payers ability to pay for services	7/6/2025 9:48 AM
44	Community centres are good, fire stations upgraded, township roads are plowed well.	7/6/2025 8:24 AM
45	I don't have all municipal services and I've had significant increases. Major property tax difference just one street over.	7/6/2025 8:14 AM
46	Always room for improvement I like the way drainage ponds in other municipalities are pretties up as park like areas...the one at Dennis and St Catherine's is disgusting if it's supposed to be "natural" it's ugly. Also not a fan of the crosswalk lights at Dennis and elsewhere in Niagara. People simply don't see them well enough and finally....whether it's the region gauging municipalities or what..... \$4400 a year for a small townhome is kind of steep for taxes already Would like to see some better walking trails/bike trails. Make something scenic and relaxing. See North Bay in West Ferris....from their overpass.....nothing dazzling to walk by but	7/5/2025 8:04 PM

beautiful well maintained bike/walk trail.....see Peterborough from Lakefield down Otonabee river. We need something nice to get people out in this municipality and not feel we have to go elsewhere

47	Stop bleeding us dry. Resign	7/5/2025 6:52 PM
48	Other then the gravel road we live on being graded and snowplowed we don't get any other value from the town.	7/5/2025 11:26 AM
49	We are small town so it is hard difficult to provide for all interests so a decent job has been done. We have a lot of roads so they are surprisingly maintained okay.	7/5/2025 8:31 AM
50	Still new to area and looking forward to any positive changes. So far its been a beautiful place to live.	7/5/2025 7:01 AM
51	Have been satisfied with services to date	7/5/2025 5:28 AM
52	While I do not benefit from all of the municipal services that are provided, I am satisfied with the services that are provided at the municipal level.	7/5/2025 12:07 AM
53	Taxes always are getting raised significantly without meaningful increases in service. We need to find a way to do better with less waste.	7/4/2025 4:47 PM
54	Live in rural area do not use some items that are listed should not have to pay these fees	7/4/2025 4:32 PM
55	Live in Caistor Centre on a dirt Road with water trucked in. No street lights and garbage pick every two weeks.	7/4/2025 4:25 PM
56	What are we getting that we aren't already paying for? Some programs at the library can be cut instead of having something all the time. We actually think that the hours can be reduced. We also don't want the town to grow beyond its means so basic is best.	7/4/2025 2:14 PM
57	We just don't get to see results of what's being spent	7/4/2025 10:50 AM
58	Issues with garbage collection. Road quality on rr20 is poor.	7/4/2025 9:52 AM
59	Very few complaints	7/4/2025 9:46 AM
60	I have no sewer/water, and no sidewalks, I get minimal services from region and local yet pay big taxes.	7/4/2025 9:14 AM
61	Have sky rocketed the last 3 years and services have declined ie snow clearing garbage collection events	7/4/2025 8:30 AM
62	Could be worse	7/3/2025 8:36 PM
63	Too much spending on frills. Home budgets have tightened, no room for frills. Town should follow suit.	7/3/2025 7:08 PM
64	I feel we pay too much for the minimal service we receive. When there's an election no one even comes out here to tract. No one cares about the outskirts. You just want our money.	7/3/2025 6:47 PM
65	We live on a gravel road and must travel over 1 km either way to reach pavement. Conditions are very hard on our vehicles and we would like to see it get paved. Other than that, we really appreciate our services.	7/3/2025 4:03 PM
66	Overall good services. Seems to be less grass cutting on rural roads.	7/3/2025 3:44 PM
67	There can always be improvements and we should always be looking for them	7/3/2025 3:20 PM
68	Tree on our blvd has needed replacement for over 5 years. Nobody does nothing about it. When I ask town workers they draw a blank.	7/3/2025 3:08 PM
69	Taxes are very high, fixed income. And it does not climb.	7/3/2025 2:58 PM
70	Not sure what value I would be expecting.	7/3/2025 1:41 PM
71	I don't believe we needed to be spending our tax money on new areas and sports complex...An indoor pool would have been nice and something we did not have access to already	7/3/2025 1:41 PM
72	I would like more money towards in-town safety and walking areas.	7/3/2025 11:12 AM
73	I'm not sure	7/2/2025 4:40 PM

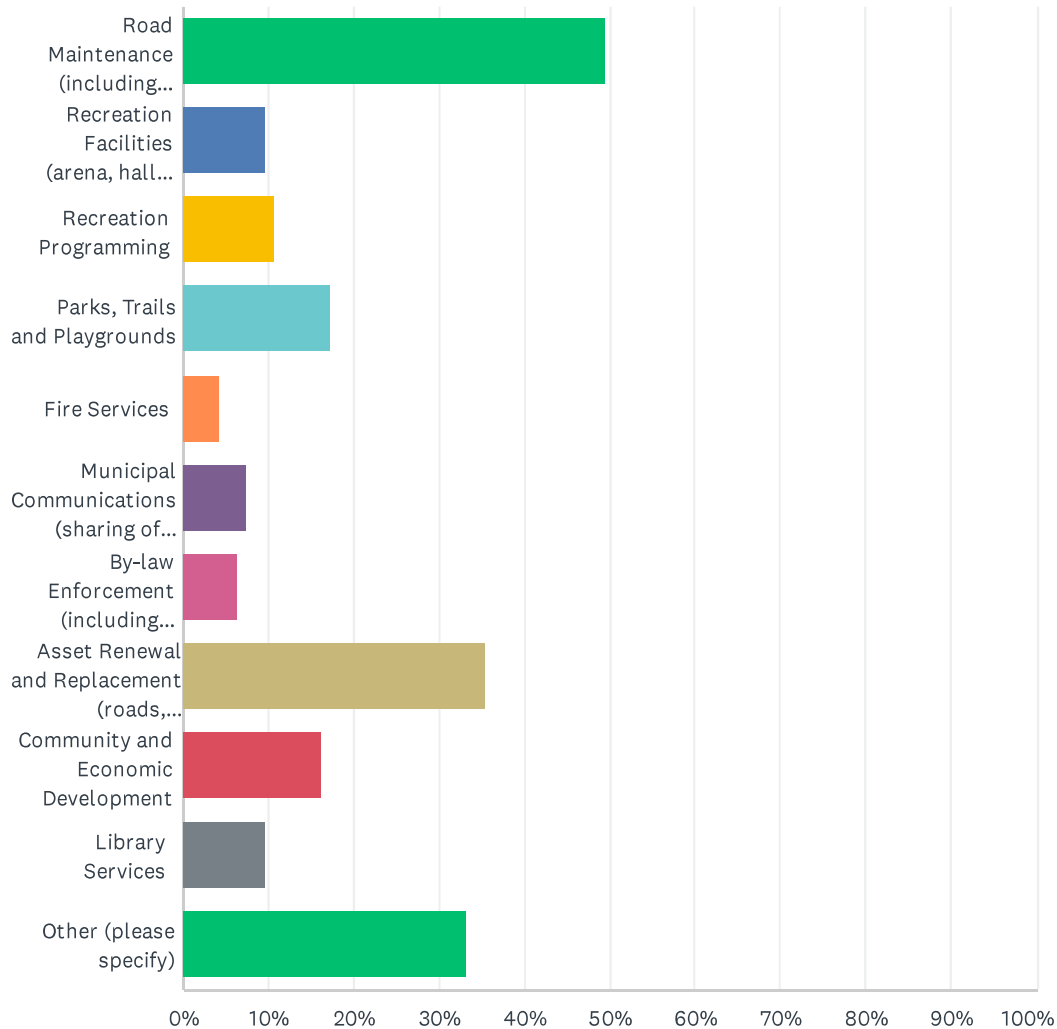
Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

74	My property tax went up \$100 and as someone with no children I feel I have no benefit from it.	7/2/2025 8:02 AM
75	All we use is the garbage and expect the roads to be plowed. Our road was redone recently and it is shit...	7/1/2025 6:12 PM
76	There needs to be more financial services added to the fire department. With the growth of the township there needs to be better equipment to serve our community. This also includes infrastructure of utilities to upgrade services to the town, having hydro outages in this age is something that can be avoided by having better services for our community as a whole.	7/1/2025 3:43 PM
77	Snow plows speed excessively on our street. Well in excess of the posted limit of 50 km/h throwing rocks at my cars and because they are going so fast a lot of the snow falls back on the street after the truck passes	7/1/2025 8:05 AM
78	Very satisfied with the service level of the township	6/30/2025 1:14 PM
79	Nice small town, needs more services and amenities	6/29/2025 11:19 AM
80	You are doing a good job	6/28/2025 11:26 PM
81	We aren't as heavily burdened -yet- as other communities by taxes. Please don't take this as a challenge and give yourselves raises or anything stupid like that.	6/28/2025 3:04 PM
82	We have had little to no development - housing increases in West Lincoln This has increased the taxes in this community. In order to increase the tax base we need to increase the properties where this comes from. Get some of the bigger projects going with shovels in the ground and actual homes being built.	6/28/2025 7:27 AM
83	Good but should be better with high cost	6/27/2025 8:34 PM
84	Snow removal is well organized and done quickly. Waste removal is good and the town is well maintained. A lot for rec activities are provided	6/27/2025 1:01 PM
85	The town of Smithville looks beautiful. Looks like a lot of our tax dollars goes there. Not fair.	6/27/2025 12:41 PM
86	We are in a rural area. We get our gravel road graded periodically when the potholes get too bad. We do get the snow plowed as necessary.	6/27/2025 11:37 AM
87	I don't pay West Lincoln taxes.	6/27/2025 8:22 AM
88	Mix of foresight/planning, maintenance and services	6/27/2025 6:13 AM
89	I particularly appreciate snow removal on our sidewalks	6/26/2025 5:49 PM
90	The only service in town that I have used is roads. I do not count police (reporting stolen vehicle) as a Town service. I don't even use garbage - I have my own service.	6/26/2025 4:55 PM
91	Taxes are very high and increasing by \$400 for the last half of 2025.	6/26/2025 4:21 PM
92	I feel as though our property tax is high considering we are self-sufficient with our water and with our sewage clean out. It is pushing 9000 a year and we are rural however, I also feel it's fair because I know what smaller HOMES with smaller properties are paying so that's why I'm kind of in the middle.	6/25/2025 6:54 PM
93	I can't give excellent as I feel the programming at the rec center is lacking.	6/25/2025 4:09 PM

Q7 Select two (2) service areas where you would like to see improvements, and therefore more tax dollars spent.

Answered: 93 Skipped: 74



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Road Maintenance (including winter road maintenance)	49.46%	46
Recreation Facilities (arena, halls, sports fields, etc.)	9.68%	9
Recreation Programming	10.75%	10
Parks, Trails and Playgrounds	17.20%	16
Fire Services	4.30%	4
Municipal Communications (sharing of information and updates)	7.53%	7
By-law Enforcement (including parking enforcement and animal control)	6.45%	6
Asset Renewal and Replacement (roads, bridges, facilities, etc.)	35.48%	33
Community and Economic Development	16.13%	15
Library Services	9.68%	9
Other (please specify)	33.33%	31
Total Respondents: 93		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Recreational facilities, programming, parks, trails and playgrounds	7/24/2025 1:44 PM
2	The Answer is in the Question Why do more tax dollars need to be spent to improve services???	7/21/2025 9:47 AM
3	There's a major tick problem in west Lincoln, something needs to be done to resolve this problem !	7/17/2025 8:26 AM
4	Some form of transportation for those in town unable to get out unassisted.	7/12/2025 12:49 PM
5	Most important Water and sewage services to all residents in West Lincoln/Fenwick area	7/11/2025 7:12 PM
6	Other than road services, all others are services i pay for, but do nit benefit from. Winter road maintenance is amazingly good in west lincoln.	7/11/2025 8:52 AM
7	I value asset renewal as the most critical investment area, without assets it's difficult to provide services. I would like to see more recreation programming, however , I don't believe taxed have to rise to meet this goal. I am looking to expand the paid recreational programming, where the user pays.	7/10/2025 4:53 PM
8	Crime prevention	7/9/2025 7:46 PM
9	Police Services	7/9/2025 8:43 AM
10	None. Stop spending	7/8/2025 6:49 PM
11	None, please don't increase the spending of tax dollars! We are paying \$8800 per year in taxes and get very few services for that, feeling like we footing a disproportionate part of the tax bill for others.	7/8/2025 8:25 AM
12	With in the township where is the money spent? Where is the breakdown of the money spent on the categories above?	7/8/2025 8:05 AM
13	I'm pretty happy with how things are.	7/8/2025 7:56 AM
14	Bring a pool to Smithville and more programming for kids like what city of Hamilton does	7/7/2025 10:00 PM
15	Police services to help lower theft and property damage And paying off the debt we have.	7/7/2025 6:20 PM
16	None. Services are a joke. Give us a tax rebate. Lower taxes.	7/5/2025 6:52 PM
17	More sidewalks for safety I always see people walking and running along the gravel road	7/5/2025 7:01 AM

Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

18	I did not want to pick 2 options obligated in order to submit survey, None I think should be utilizing what we are already paying considering you build more houses that increases the revenue why should we have to keep paying more cannot keep up with this charges	7/4/2025 4:32 PM
19	none	7/4/2025 9:14 AM
20	Cut the free programs those who use them can pay for it	7/4/2025 8:30 AM
21	Tell my neighbors to clean up there yard	7/3/2025 8:36 PM
22	Policing	7/3/2025 2:58 PM
23	The corner by Giant Tiger needs a stoplight and a pedestrian walk. Anyone living in the opposite side, south side, risks their life to cross the street. We are fortunate to have essential stores in that strip mall. It's great that the mall is within walking distance for so many residents. Walking there eliminates some if the traffic congestion. However, one stop sign at that busy corner is not enough.	7/3/2025 11:12 AM
24	Somewhere for dogs	7/2/2025 8:02 AM
25	Law enforcement, theft is becoming an issue. A community with parks and green space including trails allows outdoor activities affordable to all as well as creating an attractive and inviting community.	6/28/2025 3:04 PM
26	Other - Infrastructure to build more to increase the budget. Community and Economic Development - The community part of this I am seeing has lots to offer. Where is the Economic Development. Perhaps a Partner arrangement with the Chamber of Commerce to increase visibility of this great community would be an option.	6/28/2025 7:27 AM
27	Bring some beauty to St. Ann's. I have lived in the townnd it still looks unattractive. Paid over 30 years in taxes and all we get is asphalt thrown in some holes on the road, and snow removal and that's it.	6/27/2025 12:41 PM
28	I would like to see an update on the interactive mapping data that west lincoln currently has. Many other municipalities use the same mapping system but there's are way more advanced and user friendly.	6/27/2025 8:22 AM
29	Designated biking routes throughout the township - both urban and rural - that provide safe, year round biking opportunities that are isolated from traffic for both commuting and recreational purposes.	6/27/2025 6:13 AM
30	Public child care so that all families in West Lincoln, and in Ontario of course have access to child care.	6/25/2025 6:54 PM
31	I think funds need to be aside for renewal of assets. I would like to see better recreation programming, but I don't think more tax dollars are needed. .	6/25/2025 4:09 PM

Q8 Please explain the reasons for why you believe more tax dollars should be spent on these two (2) service areas.

Answered: 93 Skipped: 74

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Libraries are the heart of our communities.	7/24/2025 1:44 PM
2	Pool - kids swimming lessons for residents. Sidewalk - Townline Rd towards Leisureplex. Grocery - low-budget store. Giant Tiger = (checkmark)	7/24/2025 1:40 PM
3	I would like Smithville to be an attractive and well serviced Town with facilities for my kids. Investment at leisureplex, pool, sidewalks from Town to Leisureplex.	7/24/2025 1:36 PM
4	Run the operation like it's your own business own money!! It's called Accountability	7/21/2025 9:47 AM
5	Both are very important for the safety of our community. I'd like more police too, but I know that's a regional issue. Community safety is of #1 importance!	7/17/2025 4:28 PM
6	We do not have not foot walks and long trails would really like to have something here. Also snow removal needs improvement	7/17/2025 1:38 PM
7	I live on a mud road, no stone! Hardly walkable in the spring! Lived here 40 years - still the same pot holes + mud!! 2 bridges in (near) Caistorville in DIRE repair and many smaller bridges on side roads in Caistor!! Smithville seems to have no issues with new beautiful bridges and road maintenance!	7/17/2025 9:42 AM
8	Reasons are obvious	7/17/2025 8:26 AM
9	Both of these are so important for a growing, health community	7/15/2025 10:08 AM
10	The amount of wasted dollars spent on over valued projects or inefficiencies is enough to offset any future taxes raises. Spend the money better, negotiate better contracts and departments to resuce waste.	7/14/2025 6:56 PM
11	The longer they go unrepaired the more expensive it will be to repair them.	7/14/2025 12:37 PM
12	Our rec programs are abysmal, and our growing senior population is struggling to be able to stay where they've always been.	7/12/2025 12:49 PM
13	The roads are well kept but need to be constantly maintained due to farm equipment and snow plow damage. Communication and updates are required to keep residents aware of changes or requirements efficiently and on a regular timeline.	7/12/2025 10:36 AM
14	Water and Sewage service is essential to all	7/11/2025 7:12 PM
15	I believe we should spend less, not more.	7/11/2025 8:52 AM
16	I believe reserve transfers for asset renewal is the only reason taxes should go up.	7/10/2025 4:53 PM
17	Better services and activities for young people is important as the town grows	7/10/2025 2:35 PM
18	It's a good idea to invest in promoting business and maybe filling the odd pothole or two.	7/10/2025 2:05 PM
19	Everyone should feel safe and be able to walk and enjoy the area.	7/9/2025 7:46 PM
20	MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE FOR INDUSTRY AND RESIDENCE.	7/9/2025 2:00 PM
21	Provide places for the public to hike, play and enjoy nature. West Lincoln is better than most local towns at maintaining roads but it could be better.	7/9/2025 9:20 AM
22	Safety of the community should be first and foremost	7/9/2025 8:43 AM
23	Sheds are needed at the playground on Dennis Drive/Jayla Lane. During summer, it's hard to use it without sheds. There's no shade even though benches have been put.	7/8/2025 11:02 PM

Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

24	I don't think this level of Government needs to worry about much other than roads and making the town look nice.	7/8/2025 9:23 PM
25	We have no programs for kids in the town. An outdoor pool would be beneficial. Our streets are like washboards, potholes and deep dips.	7/8/2025 9:12 PM
26	More tax dollars should be in the pockets of the residents right now. We're struggling to make ends meet.	7/8/2025 6:49 PM
27	1) Excellent major roads but many side streets are badly deteriorating. 2) there should be more bike friendly paths on the roads to reach off road trails etc.	7/8/2025 5:47 PM
28	Snow removal slow. Tax revenue required	7/8/2025 4:38 PM
29	Roads and bridges are the only way to get around in our township. The more upgrades and repairs done, the less wear and tea on my vehicles.	7/8/2025 3:32 PM
30	Communication is key to the constituents.	7/8/2025 9:40 AM
31	I believe that there should be cuts instead of increases.	7/8/2025 8:25 AM
32	The township needs to budget with the money they have, not continue to push for more and more tax dollars. I don't get any more money to budget with.	7/8/2025 8:05 AM
33	Would like to see reduced fees so more people can participate especially kids programs and health for all. I'd love a pool but understand that it doesn't fit into the budget.	7/8/2025 7:56 AM
34	Understanding most roads are regional but there is a lot of side street roads that need repairs and or replaced	7/8/2025 6:33 AM
35	We need more options for everyone.	7/8/2025 6:00 AM
36	Swimming benefits all age groups. And progress for the kids will keep them busy. Entertained and off the streets a	7/7/2025 10:00 PM
37	It would be best to nip in the bud debt, when we have a tariff war and people can barely afford their regular groceries, let alone property taxes. We should not be increasing more of the fun programs when we could be paying off more of our principal debt and tightening our belts so that our property taxes don't increase again! Also, the increase in crime like theft, breaking and entering, property damage and illegal drug trafficking should also be dealt with before we punish people with speeding tickets from speed cameras	7/7/2025 6:20 PM
38	We live in extreme boundaries of West Lincoln. (Btwn Caistorville Rd and Westbrook Rd) Rural residents deserve better road maintenance etc. Most of the tax dollars are spent in town, although property taxes are comparable btwn rural and town rates. We don't need sidewalks, but we do need gravel on our concession roads!!	7/7/2025 5:14 PM
39	West Lincoln is a fast growing community and the township needs to look into the future and plan ahead for this growth.	7/7/2025 3:26 PM
40	It would be lovely to see a more special small town feel in Smithville. Maybe draw in some specialty shops and have nice summer hanging planters etc. Library- you can never have too many books! And we do live the library already.	7/7/2025 8:45 AM
41	Investing in road maintenance and infrastructure renewal is critical to keeping the local economy moving. Safe, reliable roads are essential for commuting to work, transporting goods, and accessing emergency services. These improvements protect long-term public safety and reduce the need for costly emergency repairs down the line.	7/6/2025 10:28 PM
42	I am continually finding roads in poor shape or not maintained or continual states of being repaired and out of service	7/6/2025 4:28 PM
43	We have a need for economic development in the area to provide jobs for residents	7/6/2025 9:48 AM
44	I think those two reasons bring sustainability to west lincoln.	7/6/2025 8:24 AM
45	The condition of these areas.	7/6/2025 8:14 AM
46	More of existing budget don't need a bigger budget.	7/5/2025 8:04 PM
47	Less taxes	7/5/2025 6:52 PM

Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

48	More tax money could be spent on maintaining roads, checking on bridges but only by allocating not paying more taxes	7/5/2025 11:26 AM
49	The library has never actually had a lot of books and so often have to use a different reading service to get books. Would be nice to see some scenic hiking trails like elsewhere in the region.	7/5/2025 8:31 AM
50	Safety and indoor pool for swimming lessons	7/5/2025 7:01 AM
51	These are two ongoing needs in our community	7/5/2025 5:28 AM
52	Essential services such as infrastructure must be supported ahead of the non-essentials, given that our tax bills are rising faster than our incomes....something's got to give or we will have to leave here.	7/5/2025 12:07 AM
53	Hopefully attracting more business and jobs to the area can increase the wealth of the community as a whole. And investment into infrastructure to help support the businesses in the community will attract more.	7/4/2025 4:47 PM
54	None should eliminate or adjust to keep fees from increasing for home owners	7/4/2025 4:32 PM
55	Roads are mostly patches out our way. Need more recreational programs to keep kids out of trouble	7/4/2025 4:25 PM
56	Practical items.	7/4/2025 2:14 PM
57	The community is growing and we need more facilities for our residents to enjoy	7/4/2025 10:50 AM
58	Response time is slow majority of the time for fire to rural areas. The road is falling apart and being patched together poorly.	7/4/2025 9:52 AM
59	Rural roads are full of potholes and patchy surface touch ups quickly are worn down. The library is an important educational and community hub.	7/4/2025 9:46 AM
60	I cannot think of an area that needs more \$ spent you made me pick 2` why?	7/4/2025 9:14 AM
61	No one can afford their taxes anymore	7/4/2025 8:30 AM
62	Because it is a dump	7/3/2025 8:36 PM
63	Necessary requirements	7/3/2025 7:08 PM
64	Too many pot holes and I don't even know where there's a library near me.	7/3/2025 6:47 PM
65	See my first comment regarding our gravel road.	7/3/2025 4:03 PM
66	Roads seem to be patched a lot rather than replaced. Bylaw enforcement is not very visible.	7/3/2025 3:44 PM
67	Maintenance is crucial to avoid expensive repairs. Libraries are vital for communities as they provide a valuable service and access for many to important services	7/3/2025 3:20 PM
68	Need more walking paths and more communication from municipality about future plans for surveys started.	7/3/2025 3:08 PM
69	At night cars are parked both sides of the streets Oakdale blvd. And on weekends. Never see police.	7/3/2025 2:58 PM
70	More inspections on infrastructure so repair/replacement can be planned for.	7/3/2025 1:41 PM
71	infrastructure is always the last thing to be addressed it is always when repairs end up costing far more because they have been neglected . The Library is the heart of the town it is vital for its programmes -for young and old- and access to books and other books and references is so very important.	7/3/2025 1:41 PM
72	Safety for drivers, walking residents, children and cyclists.	7/3/2025 11:12 AM
73	We need more for our kids and teens to do here instead of going out to st Catherine's or even to grimsby. Our economy and our community needs more here in Smithville	7/2/2025 4:40 PM
74	Roads are awful and I have no fenced in park I can bring my dog	7/2/2025 8:02 AM
75	Well I'm in Wellandport and we are forgot about	7/1/2025 6:12 PM

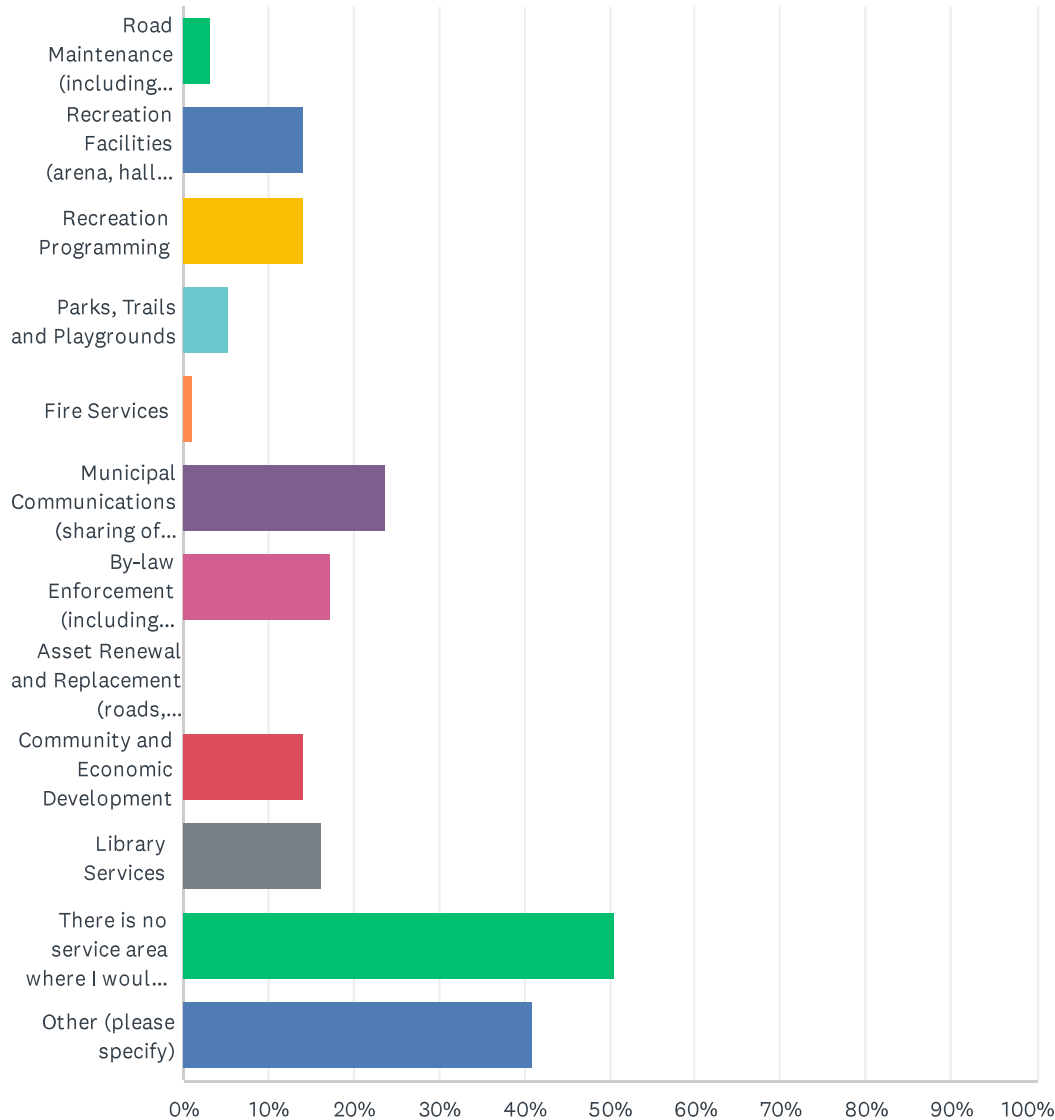
Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

76	Again with the infrastructure that is coming and the development of our town more services are required	7/1/2025 3:43 PM
77	See note above concerning snow plowing.	7/1/2025 8:05 AM
78	Bylaw enforcement is important to maintain safe, liveable communities. West Lincoln is a very vehicular travel dependent municipality and well maintained roads are important	6/30/2025 1:14 PM
79	Needs an outdoor pool also other services and amenities for youth and young families	6/29/2025 11:19 AM
80	Some road need some love and town and we need some more bylaw enforcement in town due to over night street parking	6/28/2025 11:26 PM
81	Everyone on our street now has the need for cameras. Our dog protected my disabled husband from someone entering through the back yard when I left for work. Children playing outdoors are healthier than when inside 24/7 and mid income families cannot afford to attend most organized sports in facilities.	6/28/2025 3:04 PM
82	You need to increase the amount of tax dollars so that you can spend more on every part of needed services in this community. Increase the home building and population and you will see an increase in the budget.	6/28/2025 7:27 AM
83	Long term payoff for everyone	6/27/2025 8:34 PM
84	It would be great to have a pool in smithville and some programs for mothers and babies	6/27/2025 1:01 PM
85	We don't have even one public garbage can or a bench. Lots of times the grass is overgrown on the St. Ann's road bridge. Looks disgraceful. Smithville has enough frills. Also, there are the ever present holes on the road by the train track. The town or the CPR both claim no responsibility. If they look like that when the road gets replaced, people will be annoyed and it will look ridiculous seeing those same potholes. Other roads with a CPR train track where there has been potholes have been fixed!	6/27/2025 12:41 PM
86	On Caistorville Road, the bridge in the area between Concession 2 and 3 has been narrowed because the concrete guard rails need to be replaced. This makes the bridge more dangerous for anyone who might choose to walk across it (like me).	6/27/2025 11:37 AM
87	As per the description above	6/27/2025 8:22 AM
88	Biking can be expected to grow significantly, as cultural norms expand beyond a car-centric means of transportation. Technology has provided a means to accelerate this growth. We need safe ways to commute to grocery stores, medical appointments, shopping, as well as safe means for younger children and seniors to ride independently of traffic concerns. Riders need a designated rural route that circles the township and provides access to urban centres, and recreation. Examples: my mother in law lives in Smithville in her own home but has no means of getting a few groceries or picking up a prescription without using a car, despite very short travel distances. My grandchildren attending elementary school cannot get to school safely other than a car despite being only a couple hundred meters to travel. Recent road improvement projects has demonstrated that there is zero thought or consideration in the planning process that encourages a bicycle centric culture. Given future population growth and urban expansion, the opportunity to include safe biking will help relieve traffic, and make our small community an attractive place to live, work and play. This planning opportunity is now before it's too late, or too expensive to implement. We need to go beyond simply painting a few lines on a road and thinking biking is now a safe and attractive means of travel.	6/27/2025 6:13 AM
89	Personal quality of life / active lifestyle and a focused strategic and proactive effort to attract businesses will help bring businesses here and increase the appeal for potential residents to move to West Lincoln	6/26/2025 5:49 PM
90	With building infrastructure and fostering programs to entice business to relocate, you then build a tax base to lessen the burden on this essential all rural resident payers.	6/26/2025 4:55 PM
91	Too much patch work on county and town roads. A dog park would be a very good use of some of the sportsplex property.	6/26/2025 4:21 PM
92	I explained above	6/25/2025 6:54 PM
93	Assets are needed to provide services, they need to be taken care of.	6/25/2025 4:09 PM

Q9 Select two (2) service areas where you would like to see services reduced, and therefore fewer tax dollars spent.

Answered: 93 Skipped: 74



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Road Maintenance (including winter road maintenance)	3.23%	3
Recreation Facilities (arena, halls, sports fields, etc.)	13.98%	13
Recreation Programming	13.98%	13
Parks, Trails and Playgrounds	5.38%	5
Fire Services	1.08%	1
Municipal Communications (sharing of information and updates)	23.66%	22
By-law Enforcement (including parking enforcement and animal control)	17.20%	16
Asset Renewal and Replacement (roads, bridges, facilities, etc.)	0.00%	0
Community and Economic Development	13.98%	13
Library Services	16.13%	15
There is no service area where I would like to see services reduced	50.54%	47
Other (please specify)	40.86%	38
Total Respondents: 93		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	NA	7/24/2025 1:44 PM
2	NA	7/24/2025 1:40 PM
3	NA	7/24/2025 1:36 PM
4	That's the job of Management the mayor and council If they can't make there department perform- get someone who can 🙏	7/21/2025 9:47 AM
5	No reductions! This town is a lovely small community!	7/17/2025 4:28 PM
6	None	7/17/2025 1:38 PM
7	N/A	7/17/2025 9:42 AM
8	No reductions	7/17/2025 8:26 AM
9	Any government assisted programs should have funds reduced or cut.	7/14/2025 6:56 PM
10	Council wages and regional tithe.	7/12/2025 12:49 PM
11	no other	7/12/2025 10:36 AM
12	As above that I don't want any service reduced. This survey insisted I tick off two boxes.	7/10/2025 2:05 PM
13	ALL SERVICES ARE NECESSARY, USE MONEY WISELY.	7/9/2025 2:00 PM
14	We need to keep what we have and make it better.	7/9/2025 8:43 AM
15	N/A	7/8/2025 11:02 PM
16	Allocating money to future projects.	7/8/2025 6:49 PM
17	Police services considering poor coverage should cost less which should be discussed with the region	7/8/2025 4:38 PM
18	See above.	7/8/2025 3:32 PM
19	The township needs to live within the budget they have and not look for more reasons to increase taxes to the residences and people. We are taxed enough.	7/8/2025 8:05 AM

Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

20	Seems that you are making good decisions.	7/8/2025 7:56 AM
21	Education	7/7/2025 6:20 PM
22	There is no area that comes to mind.	7/7/2025 3:26 PM
23	Na	7/7/2025 8:45 AM
24	Your salaries	7/5/2025 6:52 PM
25	Slow down on the bureaucracy help the community build instead of holding the community back. We need checks and balances in place but we also need homes and growth through allowing people to build up their lives in the area.	7/4/2025 4:47 PM
26	Niagara regional housing why should we be paying this , what are protections we protection service charges ? We already pay police ?	7/4/2025 4:32 PM
27	Just the one area	7/4/2025 4:25 PM
28	you made me pick 2	7/4/2025 9:14 AM
29	Too many cops around	7/3/2025 8:36 PM
30	Charge the users of these facilities why should we compensate for something we never use	7/3/2025 2:58 PM
31	I have put this answer a few times but survey monkey gets rid of it and redirects me. 🙄	7/3/2025 11:12 AM
32	We need all we can get	7/2/2025 4:40 PM
33	No areas I would like to see services reduced	6/30/2025 1:14 PM
34	N/A	6/29/2025 11:19 AM
35	Just make St Ann's look more attractive and the train track pot holes removed when the road gets redone this year PLEASE	6/27/2025 12:41 PM
36	All the areas are necessary for a healthy community.	6/27/2025 11:37 AM
37	Do not contribute to Niagara Regional Transit - it is a waste of our money as we are 99.9% vehicle based population.	6/26/2025 4:55 PM
38	I don't think additional tax dollars should be spent on economic development, our Township is too small.	6/25/2025 4:09 PM

Q10 Please explain the reasons for why you believe fewer tax dollars should be spent on these two (2) service areas?

Answered: 93 Skipped: 74

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	NA	7/24/2025 1:44 PM
2	Speed cameras no thanks. Sidewalk to Leisureplex to increase safety instead.	7/24/2025 1:40 PM
3	No areas should be reduced	7/24/2025 1:36 PM
4	See all above answers	7/21/2025 9:47 AM
5	I do not want to see less tax dollars spent. If anything- I'd like to see a small user fee for schools (geared to income perhaps) then divert tax dollars to other areas,.	7/17/2025 4:28 PM
6	None rest are good.	7/17/2025 1:38 PM
7	N/A	7/17/2025 9:42 AM
8	There should be no reductions	7/17/2025 8:26 AM
9	I really don't care about enforcement.... I'd rather have a thriving community than give people tickets for parking on the road at night	7/15/2025 10:08 AM
10	The amount of wokeness and inefficiencies withing all levels of government is apparent. You would never run your own house like the government runs this country or regional towns.	7/14/2025 6:56 PM
11	Not likely get used enough to justify expense.	7/14/2025 12:37 PM
12	Council is clearly either incompetent or getting a kickback from developers, and either way not worth what they're making. As stated earlier in this survey, the region is fleecing us and giving nothing in return.	7/12/2025 12:49 PM
13	no services reduced	7/12/2025 10:36 AM
14	Tax dollars should be spent on essential services, in current times.	7/11/2025 7:12 PM
15	We built the amazing facility already. Libraries are available in public schools and used by a seriously small number of west lincoln residents.	7/11/2025 8:52 AM
16	I don't want to see reductions in service levels. However, I do not support tax dollars being spent on an economic development position, we don't have the assessment base to support that right now.	7/10/2025 4:53 PM
17	Communication can be moved to mostly online and by-law enforcement should be restricted to absolutely necessary activities.	7/10/2025 2:35 PM
18	Because I do not want a service cut. I'm not an auditor.	7/10/2025 2:05 PM
19	NA	7/9/2025 7:46 PM
20	ALL SERVICES ARE NECESSARY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY. PERSONS ON A FIXED INCOME ONLY HAVE SO MUCH MONEY TO SPEND...USE IT WISELY.	7/9/2025 2:00 PM
21	The municipal government does not have to be all things to all people. Stick to core services to keep taxes down.	7/9/2025 9:20 AM
22	No service areas should be reduced!	7/9/2025 8:43 AM
23	N/A	7/8/2025 11:02 PM
24	Less is more	7/8/2025 9:23 PM
25	N/A	7/8/2025 9:12 PM

Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

26	Because residents are struggling to pay bills. We need a temporary reduction in tax rates until the economy is corrected.	7/8/2025 6:49 PM
27	This survey came by mail. Citizens could register for notices by email and save such paper costs?	7/8/2025 5:47 PM
28	N/A	7/8/2025 4:38 PM
29	I don't.	7/8/2025 3:32 PM
30	Use less salt in the winter.	7/8/2025 9:40 AM
31	Library funds could be spent better by removing "woke" programming and gender ideology from the shelves and recreational programming can be more of a user pay system to lower burden on people that don't have the ability to use it.	7/8/2025 8:25 AM
32	How about looking for more ways to limit the budget and look for ways to decrease the budget? I have been paying property taxes for 53 years and never seen them stay the same or go down?	7/8/2025 8:05 AM
33	Everyone would like to pay less taxes but we also want services so we have to pay! Increasing the business tax base might help.	7/8/2025 7:56 AM
34	We have a new Library and parks with a splash pad. We could use a retirement or old aging residence homes. We have to keep in mind they paid their taxes and should have affordable and quality old age home care	7/8/2025 6:33 AM
35	Na	7/8/2025 6:00 AM
36	Library offer little to no programming for kids. Waste of space.	7/7/2025 10:00 PM
37	Library services should not offer as many clubs as they do - libraries are for books and education, not fan clubs. I also don't like the age restrictions on certain clubs - it makes it very segregated. Also, our public education system is not worth the money it has - private schools in the area are doing a much better job of educating youth with less money.	7/7/2025 6:20 PM
38	All listed choices are necessary for thriving communities.	7/7/2025 5:14 PM
39	N/A.	7/7/2025 3:26 PM
40	NA	7/7/2025 8:45 AM
41	While recreational programming and municipal communications are valuable, they may be more flexible in terms of scaling back compared to critical infrastructure and safety services. Essential services like road maintenance, fire services, and asset renewal are foundational to public safety, transportation, and the economy. Reducing them could create long-term costs and risks that outweigh short-term savings.	7/6/2025 10:28 PM
42	Why do I need to support services for a recreation centre I do not use since I do not live in Smithville.	7/6/2025 4:28 PM
43	I haven't said there needs to be a reduction	7/6/2025 9:48 AM
44	I don't know the demographics in regards to age as well as I used too, but my guess there is more seniors than families with children. Families with children merely advocate louder. I see a more multicultural and diverse citizenship here so inclusive sustainability I feel would be great.	7/6/2025 8:24 AM
45	Low utilization.	7/6/2025 8:14 AM
46	Region should tend to most of that with municipal input	7/5/2025 8:04 PM
47	Overpaid useless cucks	7/5/2025 6:52 PM
48	None of these services benefit residents who live in the corners of the township and don't make many trips into Smithville to use the arena, walking track or leisure plex- in fact it's a 23 minute drive just to get into Smithville from our house	7/5/2025 11:26 AM
49	This is not being enforced equally to all so we should not bother with it.	7/5/2025 8:31 AM
50	Not needed	7/5/2025 7:01 AM

Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

51	All areas need to be kept under consideration	7/5/2025 5:28 AM
52	It is a matter of priority and, hopefully, affecting the least number of residents in West Lincoln.	7/5/2025 12:07 AM
53	We don't need to worry about every single detail associated with how others are living and we need to allow everyone a little bit of freedom to breathe and work to make it a better place.	7/4/2025 4:47 PM
54	Reduce or eliminate some services to put towards ones that need higher funds that are growing keep fees from growing to home Owners	7/4/2025 4:32 PM
55	Resources are readily available of people want to know	7/4/2025 4:25 PM
56	You do not need to be paying so much for.so many employees are the arena or library. Half the time they are sitting around doing nothing...	7/4/2025 2:14 PM
57	Just seems excessive money spent on it	7/4/2025 10:50 AM
58	More focus to the needs of the rural communities would be more beneficial.	7/4/2025 9:52 AM
59	not applicable	7/4/2025 9:46 AM
60	I really don't want to reduce services, I think less wasteful spending, and more taxes to people who use the service for example new homes - builder costs.	7/4/2025 9:14 AM
61	We don't need what we have	7/4/2025 8:30 AM
62	Not needed	7/3/2025 8:36 PM
63	See above	7/3/2025 7:08 PM
64	I'm not a fan of bylaw and I don't agree with licensing dogs or parking tickets. It's bad enough you drive through town and cameras catch you speeding. That's a cash grab!!	7/3/2025 6:47 PM
65	A lot has already been spent in recent years on recreational facilities so no need to make any more big investments in this area. Communications do not need to cost much these days as we all seek out information online.	7/3/2025 4:03 PM
66	Less of a priority.	7/3/2025 3:44 PM
67	I do not believe we should spend fewer tax dollars	7/3/2025 3:20 PM
68	Too much government..... Library under used	7/3/2025 3:08 PM
69	Never use them why should we pay for it. Keep the taxes down.	7/3/2025 2:58 PM
70	Things seem to be more or less covered.	7/3/2025 1:41 PM
71	we have spent far too much already on new areas...	7/3/2025 1:41 PM
72	I do not know enough about the distribution and allocation of funds for all areas/departments. Less flowers, watering them and paying students to do it would be great if the money went toward safer intersection at giant Tiger corner.	7/3/2025 11:12 AM
73	We need all we can get	7/2/2025 4:40 PM
74	Let me park on the road	7/2/2025 8:02 AM
75	Cutting costs are always beneficial	7/1/2025 6:12 PM
76	Our Library system is great, with the 3 libraries it is a good system that is in place, Bylaw is good and nees to stay the same.	7/1/2025 3:43 PM
77	We have already spent a lot of money on the underused arena complex	7/1/2025 8:05 AM
78	I do not	6/30/2025 1:14 PM
79	N/A	6/29/2025 11:19 AM
80	We need to cut cost and save money and stop raising taxes	6/28/2025 11:26 PM
81	People are aware of where to get information. Paying more in taxes so you can spread news in more venues makes no sense. Community and economic development should be a money maker not a drain on overburdened taxpayers.	6/28/2025 3:04 PM

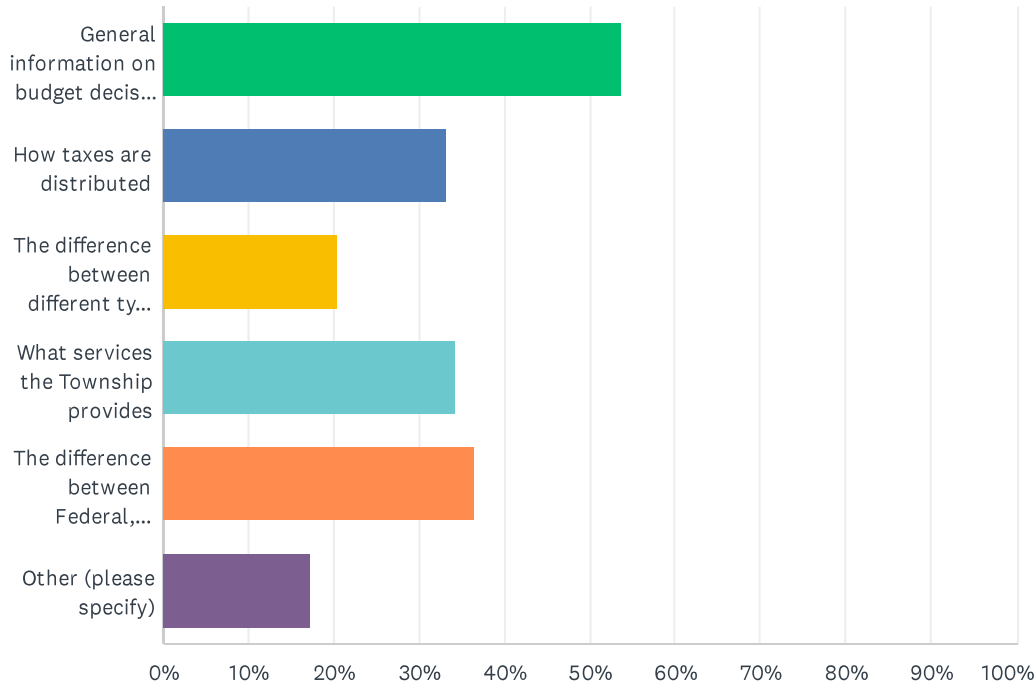
Township of West Lincoln 2026 Budget Survey

Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

82	Not to be repetitive but you are asking. We need more homes and businesses to increase the cashflow into the municipal coffers to pay for the services that are bonus to this area.	6/28/2025 7:27 AM
83	Over spending now	6/27/2025 8:34 PM
84	The library is so small and doesn't have a lot of good book resources. We don't have a lot of trails and playgrounds to maintain	6/27/2025 1:01 PM
85	Blank	6/27/2025 12:41 PM
86	This is redundant.	6/27/2025 11:37 AM
87	Not sure	6/27/2025 8:22 AM
88	Tax dollar spending seems reasonably balanced.	6/27/2025 6:13 AM
89	That's a really tough question to answer however I might offer fewer police services and speed cameras	6/26/2025 5:49 PM
90	NO indices published on usage and if there is value for \$\$ for recreational programming	6/26/2025 4:55 PM
91	I don't see how the town is growing. No commercial or residential builds have been identified.	6/26/2025 4:21 PM
92	Recreation could be limited	6/25/2025 6:54 PM
93	See above	6/25/2025 4:09 PM

Q11 What information would you like to learn more about? (select all that apply)

Answered: 93 Skipped: 74



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
General information on budget decision making	53.76%	50
How taxes are distributed	33.33%	31
The difference between different types of budget sources (capital, operational, etc.)	20.43%	19
What services the Township provides	34.41%	32
The difference between Federal, Provincial, Regional and Township responsibility	36.56%	34
Other (please specify)	17.20%	16
Total Respondents: 93		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	NA	7/24/2025 1:44 PM
2	NA	7/24/2025 1:40 PM
3	N/A	7/17/2025 9:42 AM
4	Council remuneration in comparison with the other Niagara Municipalities.	7/10/2025 4:53 PM
5	Nothing thanks	7/8/2025 9:23 PM
6	None	7/8/2025 5:47 PM
7	All information is readily accessible online if people simply take time to look it up. (Assuming	7/7/2025 5:14 PM

website is up to date) Allow

8	How to get the tax's from a increasing	7/4/2025 4:32 PM
9	Why taxes are so high?	7/4/2025 4:25 PM
10	How will taxes be calculated after the next round of MPAC assessments which will increase house values by significant amounts.	7/3/2025 4:03 PM
11	None	7/3/2025 3:44 PM
12	how tax rates are determined. Living in the country with no access to town water or sewers our taxes seem very high.	7/3/2025 1:41 PM
13	Has the municipality taken advantage of every program available to them from the higher levels of government?	6/28/2025 7:27 AM
14	Blank	6/27/2025 12:41 PM
15	More granularity on spending.	6/27/2025 6:13 AM
16	How much are West Lincoln council members paid in comparison to all other Niagara municipalities.	6/25/2025 4:09 PM

Q12 Keeping in mind the Township is not responsible for waste collection, recycling, transit, police, ambulance, schools, health care or social housing, do you have any additional comments you would like to be considered in preparation of West Lincoln's 2026 budget?

Answered: 59 Skipped: 108

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	NA	7/24/2025 1:44 PM
2	Parking at the Leisureplex has been increased because of soccer tournaments. Excellent!	7/24/2025 1:40 PM
3	Focus on keeping our Town safe and our kids active!	7/24/2025 1:36 PM
4	Why not be the 1st township to reduce taxes, But still deliver an end product!! That's what the staff should be paid to do !!	7/21/2025 9:47 AM
5	Keep up the great work! If I have to pay a bit more for a safe community, I am ok with a little bit more.	7/17/2025 4:28 PM
6	N/A	7/17/2025 9:42 AM
7	Spraying for ticks, these pests are spreading lymes and west Lincoln is infested with them !	7/17/2025 8:26 AM
8	Listen to your constituents, do what's in the best interest of the township rather than those outside of it.	7/12/2025 12:49 PM
9	Township is responsible for providing clean water and sewage collection from all properties, and should be a priority.	7/11/2025 7:12 PM
10	Please stop increasing taxes. The base is getting larger every year in west lincoln with new housing. This should cover the increases.	7/11/2025 8:52 AM
11	The Region of Niagara tax increases have been unacceptable over the past few years. It needs to stop, the Niagara Region should look at efficiencies before they raise taxes. It is unaffordable for most residents. The Township is doing a great job with limited funds.	7/10/2025 4:53 PM
12	Internal staffing costs need to be controlled	7/10/2025 2:35 PM
13	NO	7/9/2025 2:00 PM
14	Get rid of the regional government. There is no reason the municipalities cannot work together to provide those services without duplication of administration etc.	7/9/2025 9:20 AM
15	On behave of the West Lincoln community, I feel the Township should be advocating for more police services and response in our rural areas.	7/9/2025 8:43 AM
16	Build an outdoor pool.	7/8/2025 9:12 PM
17	You'll be hearing more from me shortly.	7/8/2025 6:49 PM
18	More Bicycle paths for safety especially along townline roads leading to parks, fields etc.	7/8/2025 5:47 PM
19	I commend the staff for their work and appreciate the difficulty there is in balancing the concerns and desires of all constituents. All the best!	7/8/2025 8:25 AM
20	Yes please look at ways to reduce not increase, we learn to live on fixed budgets maybe the Township should do the same.	7/8/2025 8:05 AM
21	West lincoln is spread over such a vast area it must be difficult to ensure every community within WL has what it needs while not spreading the dollars so thin that you can't complete projects well. Thank you to our elected officials and staff for doing your best to represent us.	7/8/2025 7:56 AM
22	It doesn't seem our township has a lot to spend on so let's use it for snow maintenance as it's	7/8/2025 6:33 AM

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Schedule A to Report T-14-2025

pretty poor services need more people to get up in the morning to help us all get to work in the morning not in the afternoon. If township is responsible for water we should look to see if that can stay at a minimum as well

23	Allow opportunities for attracting new housing developments, perhaps clustered around smaller hamlets and with paved roads, ie Caistorville, Abingdon, Caistor Centre, to grow the tax base.	7/7/2025 5:14 PM
24	The 2026 budget should reflect the growth in population expected into 2026.	7/7/2025 3:26 PM
25	We need to rethink about money spent in this region because it continually hikes taxes but not seem to spend money wisely	7/6/2025 4:28 PM
26	No I do not.	7/6/2025 8:24 AM
27	Leave us alone. Get real jobs rather than living off of thefted tax dollars.	7/5/2025 6:52 PM
28	The cost of everything is going up. I understand that but the answer is not too keep asking us for more. If we have to spend less to keep a roof over our heads the township needs to do the same.	7/5/2025 11:26 AM
29	No	7/5/2025 5:28 AM
30	We appreciate tax dollars have to be collected to pay for the services that allow the municipality to function and serve the residents.	7/5/2025 12:07 AM
31	We need our township help people work through there plans and dreams. In everything from building families to homes and businesses. We need to work together for growth. Because rising tide raises all ships. All too often we hear horror stories of individuals just causing issues for others for malicious reasons and they use the towns resources to do so.	7/4/2025 4:47 PM
32	What services are not. Related to my situation or others living rural that we don't use to be eliminated from our area for being taxed we don't live downtown and don't use most items listed	7/4/2025 4:32 PM
33	As a home owner our taxes have increased by 52 percent over the past 20 years bringing our taxes to over \$8000 per year. Not easy to pay that in retirement.	7/4/2025 4:25 PM
34	My tax dollars shouldn't go to the public and catholic school boards when I pay for the school my kids go to. Start cutting where you can and stop giving yourselves raises in this economy.	7/4/2025 2:14 PM
35	Expansion of the rink to a twin pad would be amazing because apparently there is no ice available in west Niagara	7/4/2025 10:50 AM
36	More explanation as to why commercial property need to pay higher tax and what that is going towards for the community or businesses.	7/4/2025 9:52 AM
37	You have to keep costs down, along with Region and School board, we cannot afford to have increases that we keep getting	7/4/2025 9:14 AM
38	Why are we Eve part of the region paying for everything for st Catherine's and Niagara Falls the casino closed for Covid our taxes went through the roof to make up the lost revenue it's been open for years and taxes still going up why does our council not raise the issue we have no representation	7/4/2025 8:30 AM
39	If my taxes don't cover this then what exactly do they cover? It's ridiculous they should be so high.	7/3/2025 6:47 PM
40	Make sure you have lots of contingency funds	7/3/2025 3:20 PM
41	Adding more hiking trails	7/3/2025 3:08 PM
42	Well they should be involved it's where we live.	7/3/2025 2:58 PM
43	If you want to put money into recreation consider an indoor pool, we have spent far too much on areas already.	7/3/2025 1:41 PM
44	A pedestrian bridge from the south side into "downtown " I think it's planned for in 10 or 20 years. Can that come sooner?	7/3/2025 11:12 AM
45	I feel our taxes are getting out of hand for the services we use and have available to us Smithville use them. The rural west Lincoln does not	7/1/2025 6:12 PM

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46	Nothing at this point in time.	7/1/2025 3:43 PM
47	No	6/30/2025 1:14 PM
48	Allow more business to enter the town. Example grocery stores	6/29/2025 11:19 AM
49	Why are we paying for transit on the regional taxes when we don't have transit?	6/28/2025 11:26 PM
50	Community Improvement Plan - In order to have more social housing - Assisted Living, Long term care - What is the Township doing to get projects like this exposed to this area and the reality of the need for places like this in our community. As it stands now anyone who gets to this stage in life has to move out of town to live out the rest of their days. The burden that places on the families is tremendous.	6/28/2025 7:27 AM
51	Give up the region police.... The cost is the same as healthcare and education....,and we get zero support	6/27/2025 8:34 PM
52	No	6/27/2025 1:01 PM
53	Enough for the downtown of Smithville!	6/27/2025 12:41 PM
54	No	6/27/2025 11:37 AM
55	See above. A bicycle - centric consideration in all planning for road improvements, rural road closures, parking lot design, new subdivisions, that goes beyond painting lines on a road.	6/27/2025 6:13 AM
56	No	6/26/2025 5:49 PM
57	opt out of Niagara Regional Transit	6/26/2025 4:55 PM
58	Keeping taxes from increases.	6/26/2025 4:21 PM
59	Things are tight for all of us, please do not create any new positions in this budget. Need a hiring freeze.	6/25/2025 4:09 PM