

# Influencing the Budget

The budget is one of the strongest indicators of a city's priorities. 88% of Vancouver's budget comes from residents through taxes, parking permits, and program fees. Whether or not you directly pay property taxes as a homeowner, indirectly as a renter, or work in the city, it's essential that the budget reflects your priorities too.

## Here are a few ways to make your voice heard:



### Online

- Register for [Talk Vancouver](#) to receive engagement surveys from the city around budget season. The budget survey is usually available from August to September and asks a series of questions about your priorities for Vancouver's budget
- Sign up for [Shape Your City](#), Vancouver's online engagement platform, to ask questions about the budget and comment on civic issues
- Follow the City of Vancouver on [social media](#) (plus each individual councillor!) to stay updated about the budget process

### By Phone or Writing

- [Write to city councillors](#) and the [mayor](#) using their contact form on the City of Vancouver's website
- [Email city councillors directly](#) through the email addresses provided on the City of Vancouver's website, or at [budget@vancouver.ca](mailto:budget@vancouver.ca)
- Call 3-1-1, the city's general information line, especially during the budget engagement period in the fall to offer your thoughts or concerns

### In Person

- [Attend city council meetings](#) to hear updates on city finances and the **budget process**
- [Register to speak at City Hall](#) and give your opinion on specific issues **regarding the budget**. You can expect the budget to be presented at a council meeting around November or December
- Connect with community organizations involved in municipal politics to amplify your impact