

# **Understanding the City's Active Transportation Budget**

**Charles Akben-Marchand, for CfSC  
2014-03-22**

# Briefly about me

- CfSC president 2005-2008, member since '98
- HPV0o0 member since '04
- RBC Royal Bank Bluesfest: Bike Park area leader 2008-present
- CCCA President 2010-2011, CCCA & DCA
- Councillor Holmes' office 2011-present

# Roadmap

- Budget process overview
- Why understand the City budget?
- How is the budget structured?
- What's the “Active Transportation” Budget?
- Past & Future: better or worse?

# Budget Process

- Spring/Summer: Council approves totals; public input received through [budget@ottawa.ca](mailto:budget@ottawa.ca); draft budget assembled.
- Fall: draft budgets released; “consultations”.

# Budget Process

- Fall: Committees meet, hear delegations, approve budgets
- Nov/Dec: Council approves Committee budgets, then budget as a whole.



# Why understand budgets?

- There's support for Active Transportation...
- “More money for cycling/walking” is nice, but how do you implement it?
- Budgets are specific documents that need specific recommendations to be tweaked.

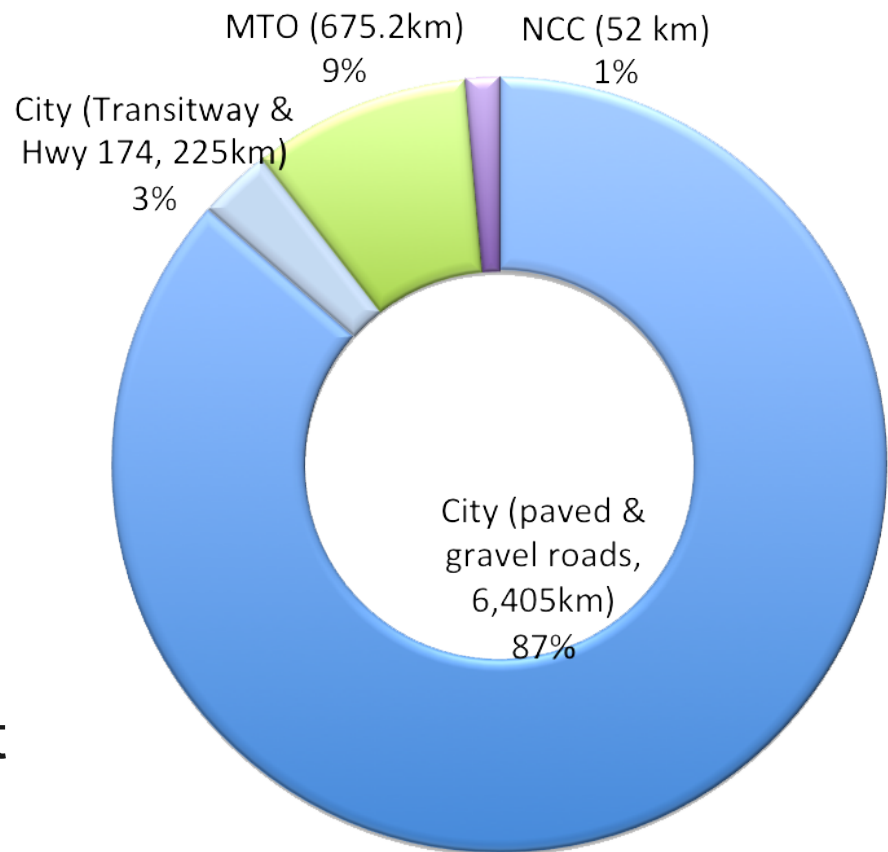
# The “Car Tax” myth

90% of publicly-owned roads in Ottawa are owned by the City:

- Property taxes
- Debt
- Fed/Prov funding

Provincial driver fees cover MTO admin expenses.

Gas tax transfers to Ottawa used for transit, (roads?) not ped/bike infrastructure



# The City of Ottawa Budget

Download docs at [ottawa.ca/budget2014](http://ottawa.ca/budget2014)

The City's fiscal year is Jan 1 to Dec 31

“The budget” is actually a number of budgets...



# The City of Ottawa Budget

## **Capital Budget:**

“Hard Costs”

- Infrastructure
- Facilities
- E.g. roads, pathways, bridges, community centres
- Lasts many years

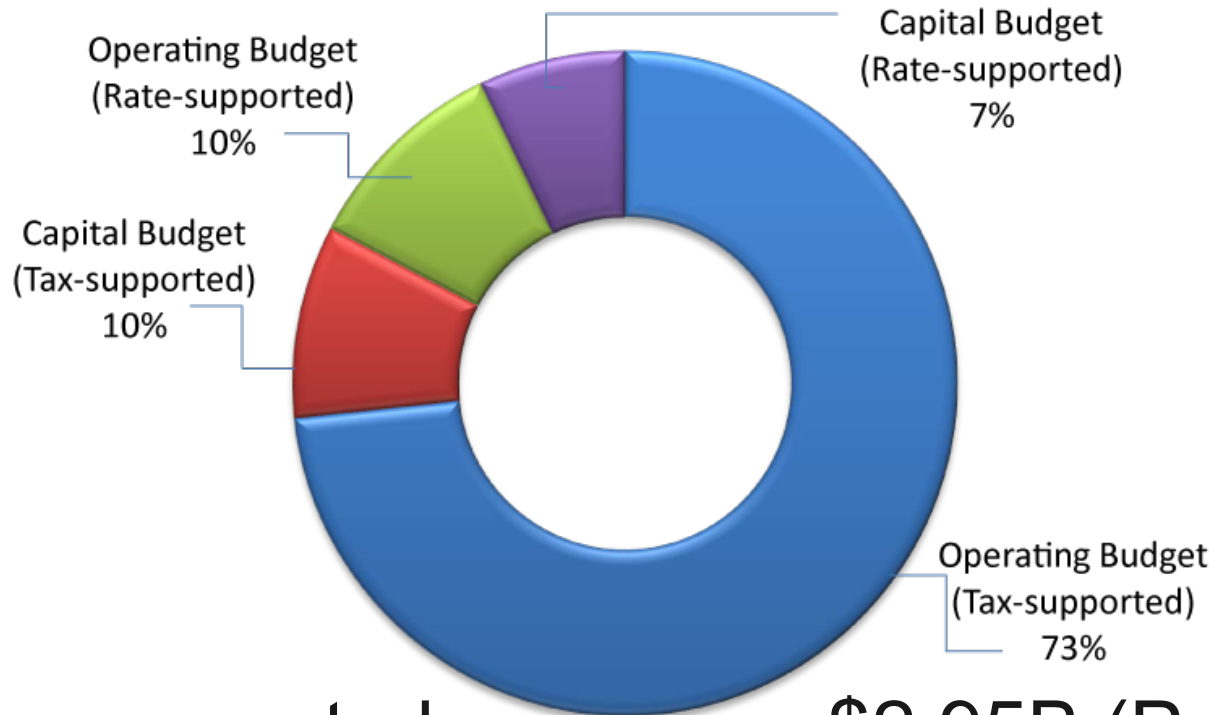
## **Operating Budget:**

“Soft Costs”

- Staffing/Programs
- Consultations
- Advertisements
- Enforcement
- Current year only

# Tax vs Rate budgets

Rate-supported: \$585M (water/sewer bills)



Tax-supported:

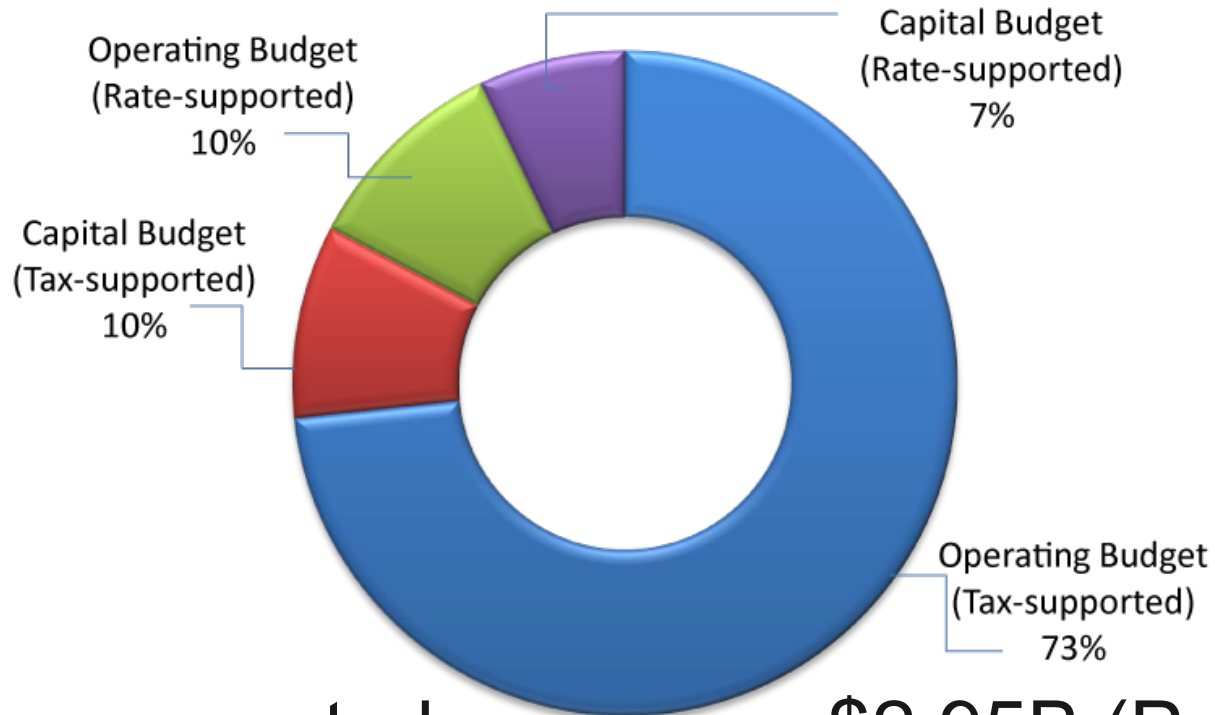
\$2.95B (Property tax)

# Rate supported budget

- Approved by Environment Committee a few months *after* the tax-supported budget.
- Includes Drinking Water Services, Wastewater Services (Sanitary & Stormwater)
- Funded by water/sewer bills
- **Major road reconstructions are merely byproducts of watermain/sewer reconstruction projects paid for by Rates.**

# Tax vs Rate budgets

Rate-supported: \$585M (water/sewer bills)



Tax-supported:

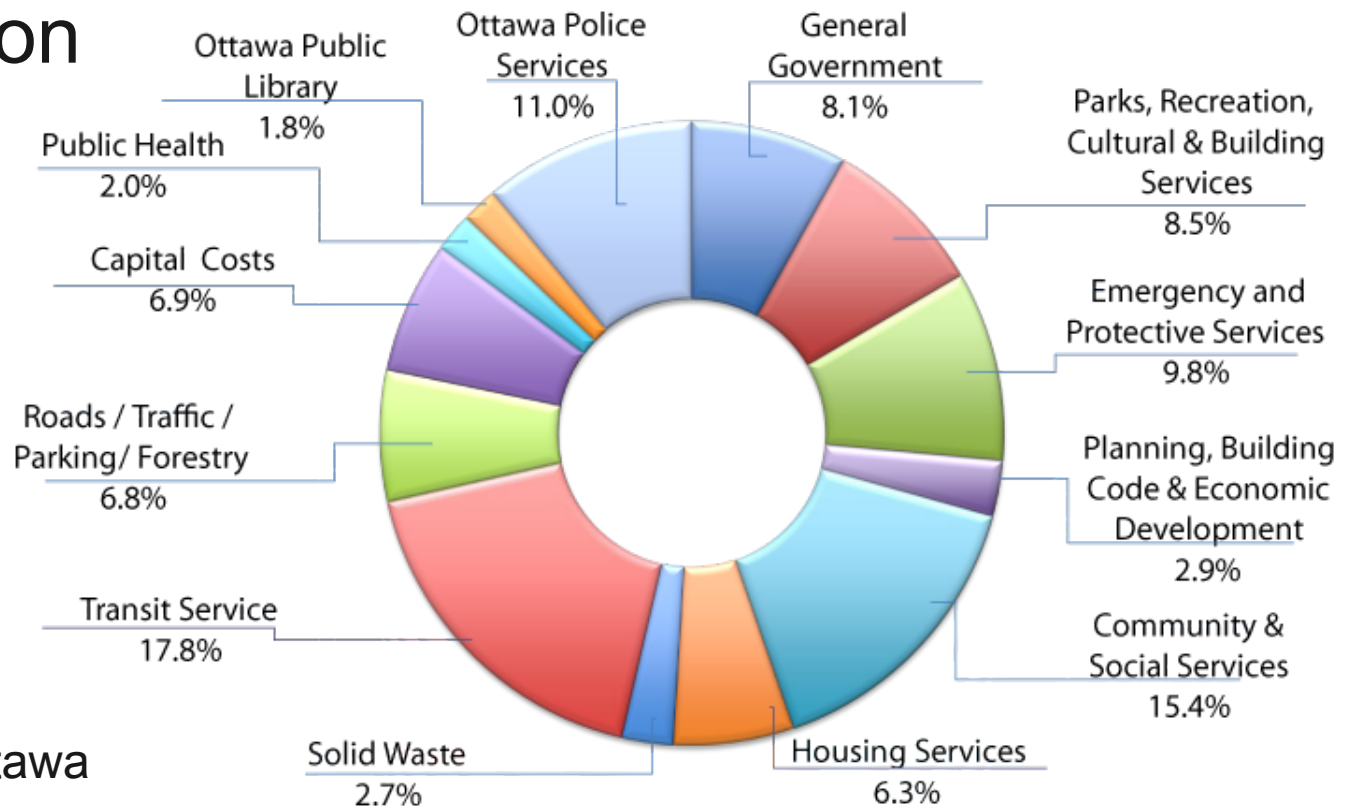
\$2.95B (Property tax)

# Tax-Supported Budget: Operating expenses

2014 Tax Supported Expenditures (operating)

\$2.592 billion

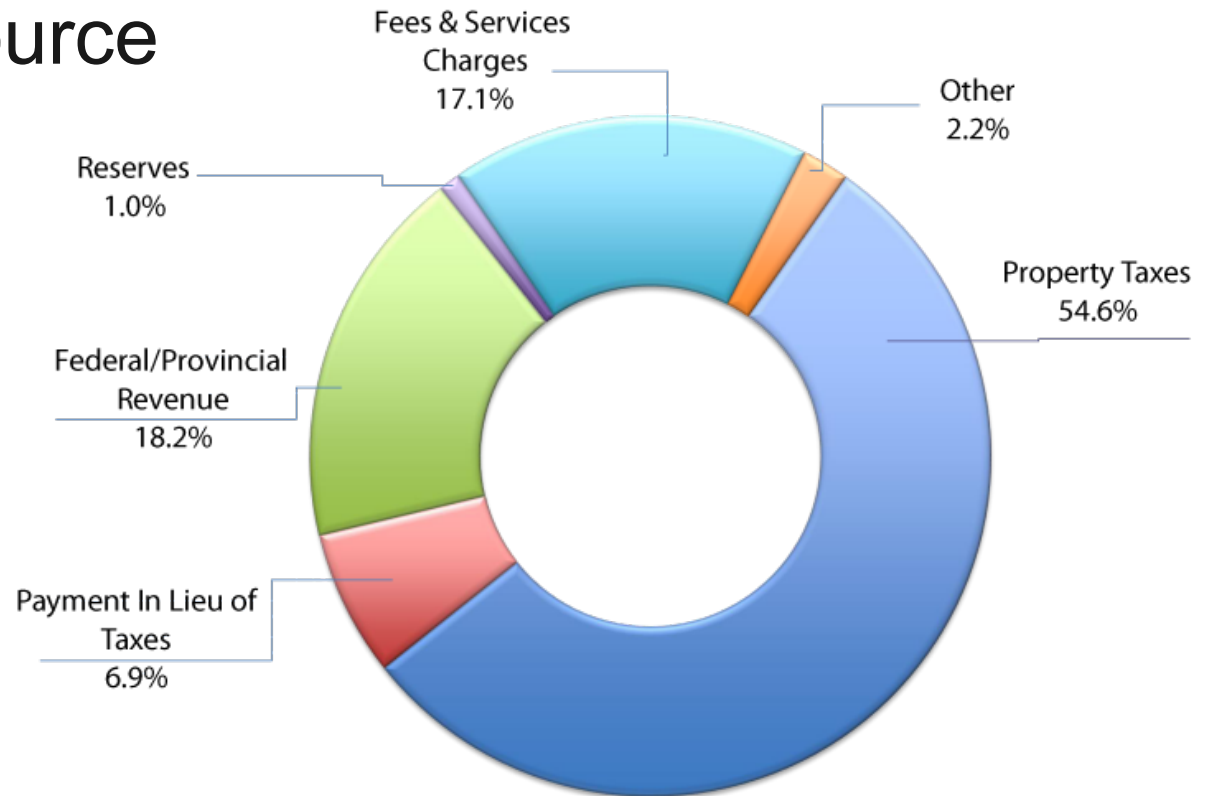
By Service



Source: City of Ottawa

# Tax-Supported Budget: Operating Revenue

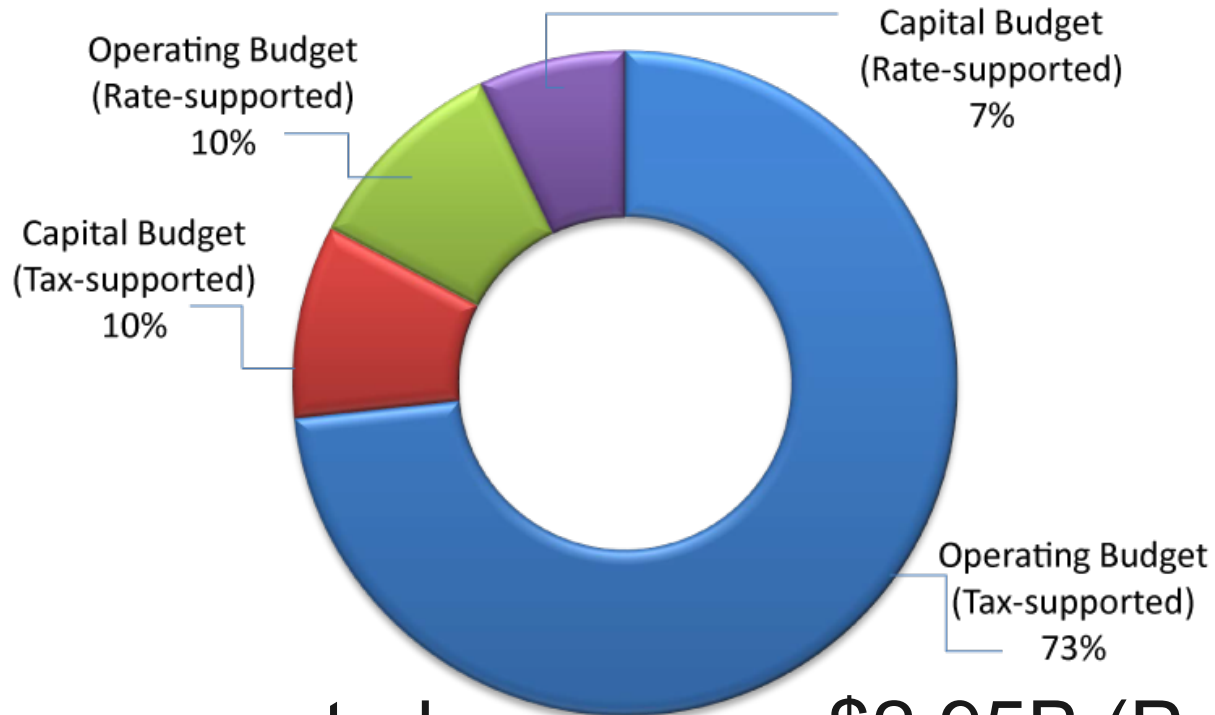
2014 Tax Supported Revenues (operating)  
By Funding Source  
\$2.592 billion



Source: City of Ottawa

# Tax vs Rate budgets

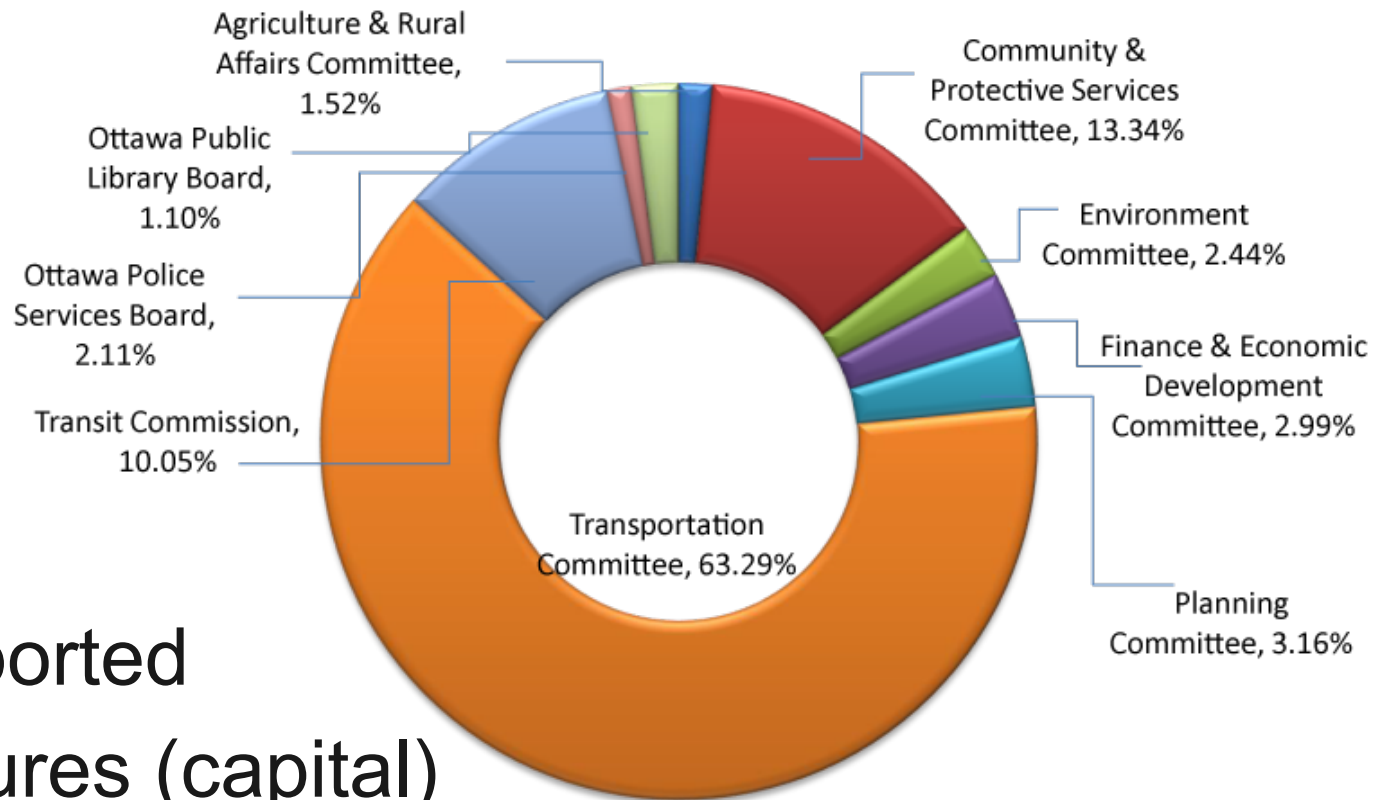
Rate-supported: \$585M (water/sewer bills)



Tax-supported:

\$2.95B (Property tax)

# Tax-Supported Budget: Capital Expenditures



2014

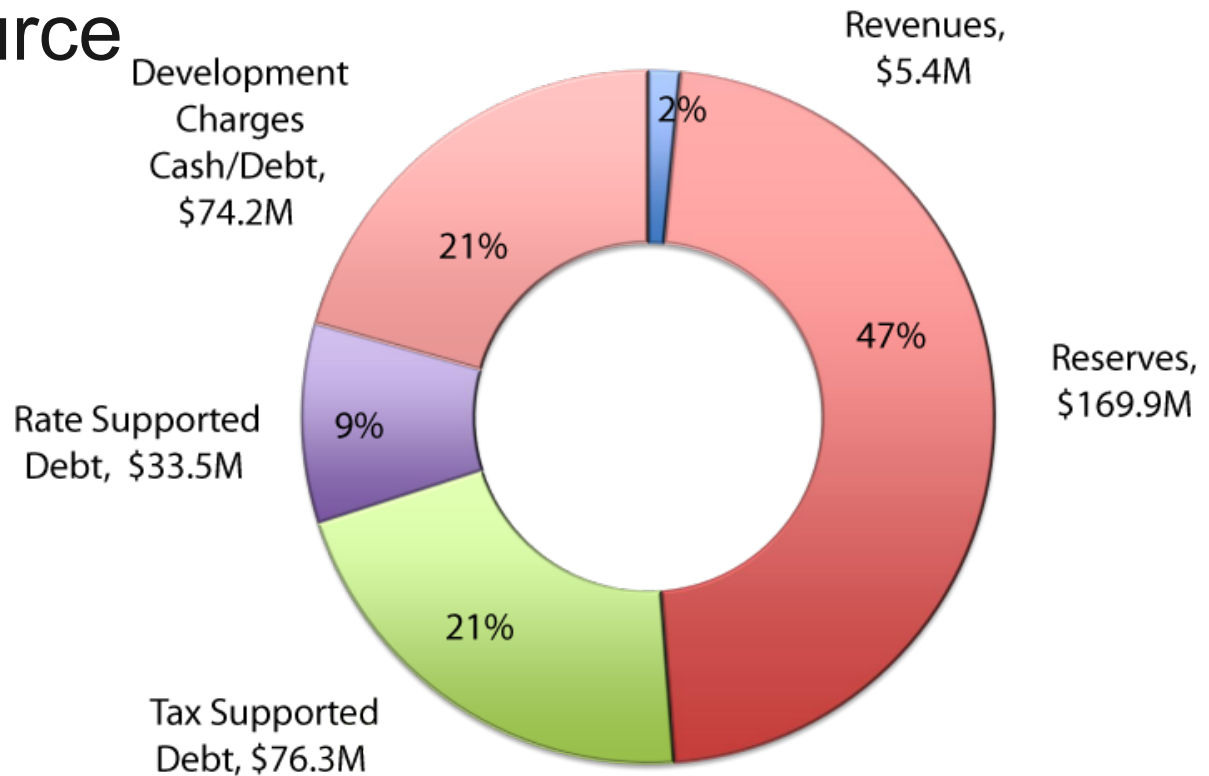
Tax Supported  
Expenditures (capital)

\$359 million - By Committee/commission/board



# Tax-Supported Budget: Capital Revenue

2014 Tax Supported Revenues (capital)  
By Funding Source  
\$2.592 billion



Source: City of Ottawa

# So where are the “cycling” and “pedestrian” budgets?

- Walk/bike infrastructure is found in a number of standalone and combined projects.
- “Figuring out the **total** cycling and walking budget is like trying to fit a square peg into an orange hole.”  
©2014 Charles Akben-Marchand
- Search: “cycling” “cyclist” “bicycle” “bike” “walking” “pedestrian” “sidewalk” “path” etc...

# 2012 Ped vs. Road costs

From November 2011 Walk Ottawa agenda document:

- 2012 Capital on Roads is \$184.9 M
- 2012 Capital on Sidewalks \$4.9M (2.65%\*)
- 2012 Operating on Roads \$67.2M
- 2012 Operating on Sidewalks \$11.6 M (17%\*)

5600km of roads, 2400km sidewalks and pathways

Ped modal share is about 15% of auto modal share.

(\*refers to % of road amount, not % of capital/operating costs for all modes)

**City of Ottawa**  
**Transportation Committee**  
**Capital Program Summary**  
In Thousands (\$000)

2014 Budget

Project Description	Capital/ Dedicated Reserve			Debt					Grand Total
	Revenue	Tax Supported/ Dedicated	Rate Supported	Development Charges	Gas Tax	Tax Supported/ Dedicated Debt	Rate Supported Debt	Develop. Charges Debt	
<b>Fleet Services</b>									
<b>Renewal of City Assets</b>									
907246 Lifecycle Renewal Fleet - General	0	180	0	0	0	0	0	0	180
907249 Lifecycle Renewal Fleet - Transportation	0	9,024	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,024
907252 Municipal Fleet UpFits, Facilities&Tools	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
<b>Renewal of City Assets Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,304</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,304</b>
<b>Fleet Services Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,304</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,304</b>
<b>Integrated Roads, Water &amp; Wastewater</b>									
<b>Renewal of City Assets</b>									
906877 O-OTM Baribeau - Dagmar	0	44	887	0	0	800	3,342	0	5,073
906878 O-OTM Broadway - Craig - Ralph	0	117	82	0	0	500	4,250	0	4,949
906883 O-OTM First Ave (Bronson-O'Connor)	0	36	130	0	0	900	5,900	0	6,966
906885 O-OTM Greensway - Tudor - Coupal - Ma	0	36	60	0	0	900	6,350	0	7,346
906891 O-OTM Princeton - Tilbury - Edison	0	90	4,750	0	0	1,700	4,500	0	11,040
906893 O-OTM Rex - Kerr	0	73	138	0	0	400	3,350	0	3,961
906894 O-OTM Rideau Valley(Rogers Stevens-B	0	44	30	0	0	800	1,750	0	2,624
906895 O-OTM Sherry Lane - Brent	0	35	27	0	0	500	3,400	0	3,962
907120 Infrastructure Assessment & Data Collect	0	1,785	2,500	95	0	0	0	0	4,380
907121 Scoping Pre/Post Engineering	0	1,650	450	0	0	0	0	0	2,100
907124 Surveys & Mapping	0	115	245	0	0	0	0	0	360
907142 Road Resurfacing - 2014	0	25,184	150	0	0	19,590	650	0	45,574
<b>Renewal of City Assets Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29,209</b>	<b>9,449</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,090</b>	<b>33,492</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>98,335</b>
<b>Integrated Roads, Water &amp; Wastewater Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29,209</b>	<b>9,449</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,090</b>	<b>33,492</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>98,335</b>
<b>Transit Services</b>									
<b>Renewal of City Assets</b>									
907366 Transit-priority Road and Signal Project	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000
907478 Tunney's Pasture Bus Staging Area	0	70	0	0	0	200	0	0	270
<b>Renewal of City Assets Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,070</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,270</b>
<b>Growth</b>									
904482 Western Transitway (Bayshore-Moodie)	0	624	0	0	0	7,000	0	3,736	11,360
907065 2014 TMP Supplemental Transit Network	0	89	0	681	0	1,300	0	0	2,070

905482 Antares SDF Design & Const.	0	41	0	259	0	100	0	0	400
906387 Antares Yard	0	33	0	3,037	0	900	0	0	3,970
907132 Brian Cobourn (Navan to Mer Bleue)	0	1,158	0	3,472	0	0	0	0	4,630
907254 2014 Winter Materials Storage Facility	0	113	0	367	0	0	0	0	480
907266 2014 New Traffic Control Signals	0	587	0	2,210	0	0	0	0	2,797
907267 2014 Advanced Traffic Management Program	0	173	0	652	0	0	0	0	825
907272 2014 Safety Improvement Program	0	405	0	905	0	500	0	0	1,810
907273 2014 Traffic Incident Management	0	173	0	652	0	0	0	0	825
907397 2014 EA Studies Arterial Rds	0	18	0	1,442	0	600	0	0	2,060
907402 Klondike Road (March Rd to Sand Hill Rd)	0	300	0	0	0	10	0	0	310
907404 DCA-Strandherd Dr(Fallowfield-Maravista)	0	381	0	8,189	0	50	0	0	8,620
907407 2014 Intersection Control Measures	0	16	0	314	0	0	0	0	330
907408 2014 Development Sidewalks	0	5	0	95	0	0	0	0	100
907410 2014 Major Collector Roads EA Studies	0	4	0	66	0	0	0	0	70
907414 Lynda Lane Urbanization	0	280	0	1,120	0	0	0	0	1,400
907445 DCA-Terry Fox (Flamborough to Kanata)	0	33	0	0	0	100	0	867	1,000
907447 Rideau River Ped Bridge(Donald-Somers)	0	2,010	0	0	0	2,100	0	4,110	8,220
907450 2014 Transportation Demand Management	0	180	0	180	0	0	0	0	360
907451 2014 Network Modification Program	0	55	0	3,215	0	800	0	0	4,070
<b>Growth Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,218</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>51,167</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,760</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,977</b>	<b>69,122</b>
<b>Strategic Initiatives</b>									
906531 Comprehensive Asset Management	0	150	0	0	0	0	0	0	150
907263 2014 New Street Lighting	0	356	0	94	0	0	0	0	450

**City of Ottawa**  
**Transportation Committee**  
**Capital Program Summary**  
 In Thousands (\$000)

2014 Budget

Project Description	Capital/ Dedicated Reserve			Debt					Grand Total
	Revenue	Tax Supported/ Dedicated	Rate Supported	Development Charges	Gas Tax	Tax Supported/ Dedicated Debt	Rate Supported Debt	Develop. Charges Debt	
907268 2014 Audible Signal Program	0	474	0	126	0	0	0	0	600
907269 2014 Pedestrian Countdown Signals	0	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	500
907270 2014 Railway Crossing Signals	0	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	55
907448 2014 Pedestrian Facilities Program	0	593	0	157	0	0	0	0	750
907449 2014 Cycling Facilities Program	0	580	0	420	0	1,000	0	0	2,000
907452 2014 TMIP Richmond Rd/Westboro	0	350	0	0	0	0	0	0	350
<b>Strategic Initiatives Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,058</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,855</b>
<b>Transportation Services Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,650</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>52,542</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,650</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,977</b>	<b>93,819</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>68,441</b>	<b>9,449</b>	<b>55,452</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>52,490</b>	<b>33,492</b>	<b>9,394</b>	<b>228,718</b>

# Reading the City Budget: Finding the project info

Search the 6-digit line item number to find the project listing.

Project description contains various levels of detail.

Project Information			Financial Details					
<b>907449</b>	<b>2014 Cycling Facilities Program</b>		<b>Class of Estimate:</b>	<b>D) Conceptual</b>				
Dept:	Planning & Growth Management	Category: Strategic Initiatives	Ward: CW	Year of Completion: 2017				
<p>This program responds to the important role of cycling within the overall transportation system as identified in the Transportation Master Plan. The program addresses the need for new cycling facilities as well as existing cycling facility improvements. This program is required to provide funding for the planning, design and construction of cycling facilities that would not be implemented as part of another project and which are considered essential components of a safe cycling network. In 2014, the program will consist of a number of localized improvement projects to increase connectivity and to address several of the 'missing-links' within the cycling network. Projects will include creating a new route through the General Hospital Campus, enhancements along the Byron corridor, and improving east-west connectivity in Barrhaven. The funding is for both design and construction.</p>			<b>2014 Request</b>	<b>2,000</b>	Projected Yearend Unspent Bal.		0	
			Revenues	0	Debt			
			Tax Supported/ Dedicated	580	Tax Supported/ Dedicated Debt	1,000		
			Rate Supported	0	Rate Supported Debt	0		
			Develop. Charges	420	Develop. Charges Debt	0		
			Gas Tax	0	Gas Tax Debt	0		
			<b>Forecast</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	
			Authority	2,000	0	0	0	
			Spending Plan	1,500	500	0	0	
			FTE's	0	0	0	0	
Operating Impact	0	15	15	15				

# Reading the City Budget: Beware the Cut-Off Line

Some projects list which locations are included for that year.

Only the projects above the “Cut-Off Line” are funded.

City of Ottawa

Service Area: Transportation Services

In Thousands (\$000)

2014 Budget

Project	Ward	Location/Description	\$000's
<b>907407 2014 Intersection Control Measures</b>	<b>CW</b>		<b>330</b>
The program will provide growth related intersection control measures, which are required to address increased traffic demands in the developing areas.			
Traffic Signals and/or Intersection Control Measures	19	Brian Coburn Boulevard and Portobello Boulevard	180
Traffic Signals and/or Intersection Control Measures	3	South Nepean Warranted Measures	150
<b>Below the Cut-Off Line</b>			
Traffic Signals and/or Intersection Control Measures	3	Greenbank Road and Dundonald Drive	
Traffic Signals and/or Intersection Control Measures	21	Bankfield Road and First Line Road	
Traffic Signals and/or Intersection Control Measures	20	Manotick Station Road and Mitch Owens Road	
Traffic Signals and/or Intersection Control Measures	2	Navan Road and Orleans Boulevard	
Traffic Signals and/or Intersection Control Measures	19	Portobello Boulevard and Valin Street	

# Reading the City Budget: Capital Program Forecast

Estimate of funding for  
next 4 years.

Only current year's  
allocation is final.

City of Ottawa  
Transportation Committee  
Capital Program Forecast  
In Thousands (\$000)

2014 Budget

Project Description	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
907451 2014 Network Modification Program	4,070	3,170	4,340	4,450	16,030
<b>Growth Total</b>	<b>69,122</b>	<b>76,887</b>	<b>72,785</b>	<b>75,160</b>	<b>293,954</b>
<b>Strategic Initiatives</b>					
906531 Comprehensive Asset Management	150	0	0	0	150
907263 2014 New Street Lighting	450	0	0	0	450
907268 2014 Audible Signal Program	600	0	0	0	600
907269 2014 Pedestrian Countdown Signals	500	0	0	0	500
907270 2014 Railway Crossing Signals	55	0	0	0	55
907448 2014 Pedestrian Facilities Program	750	0	0	0	750
907449 2014 Cycling Facilities Program	2,000	0	0	0	2,000
907452 2014 TMIP Richmond Rd/Westboro	350	0	0	0	350
<b>Strategic Initiatives Total</b>	<b>4,855</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,855</b>



City of Ottawa  
Transportation Committee  
Capital Works-in-Progress (as at Aug 31 2013)  
In Thousands (\$000)

Project Description	Total Authority	Actual Expenditures as at Aug 31 2013	Contractual Obligations/ Additional Spending to Year-End	Projected Year-End Unspent Balance
906275 2011 Apple Orchard/Parkway at Stagecoach	60	55	7	-2
906331 2012 Vehicle & Equipment Public Works	1,217	907	310	-0
906333 2012 New Traffic Contol Signals	170	144	5	21
906334 2012 Safety Improvement Program	1,338	333	169	836
906338 2012 Traffic Incident Management	475	89	133	253
906339 2012 Advanced Traffic Management Program	475	29	300	146
906344 Winter Material Storage Facility -Growth	250	217	0	33
906420 2012 EA Studies Arterial Rds	1,000	119	425	456
906421 2012 Network Modification Program	3,872	1,803	1,139	930
906422 2012 Transportation Demand Management	150	4	28	117
906666 O-OTM Cycling Facilities	1,550	0	0	1,550
906683 2012 Den Haag at 400 Den Haag	112	112	0	0
906684 2012 Clare at Kirkwood	298	304	0	-6
906685 2012 Stittsville Main at Wintergreen	155	155	0	0
906686 2012 Anderson at Renaud	60	45	15	-0
906687 2012 Huntmar at Maple Grove	11	72	0	-61
906726 Bridgstn/SteepleChase & Stonehaven round	1,200	1,193	3	4
906742 O-OTM East West Bikeway Section A	1,225	93	8	1,124
906743 O-OTM East West Bikeway Section B	1,270	97	687	486
906744 O-OTM East West Bikeway Section C	725	0	38	687
906746 Pre/Post Construction	75	14	29	32
906750 O-OTM East West Bikeway Section D	1,530	84	74	1,371
906751 O-OTM Canal/Lyon St Cycling Facilities	390	21	35	335
906770 Provence Avenue Link	1,600	199	1,266	135
906780 2013 Vehicle & Equipment Public Works	1,481	498	473	510
906781 2013 New Traffic Contol Signals	790	473	25	292

# Past City Budgets

- All active transportation programs were run through the pro-car traffic department.
- Cycling-specific infrastructure funding was in the \$10,000-\$100,000 range.
- Low funding meant few projects, which meant few people to work on them.
- “Big” projects and minor issues all funnelled to the only cycling staffperson. Lots fell through cracks.

# Past City Budgets (cont'd)

- CfSC ran the City's cycling education/promotion programs. Every year draft budgets cut this funding & every year CfSC got Council to put it back.
- Managing these programs and fighting continually for their sustenance drained CfSC's volunteer energy. City killed it in 2007.
- Ottawa Cycling Plan dragged on. "Final Draft" in 2005, not approved til 2008!

# The Turnaround

Gradually, cycling started to get better:

- The Corktown Footbridge (opened 2006-07).
- End of the S&P/E programs in 2007.
- Ottawa Cycling Plan approval in 2008.
- Traffic counters pilot June 2009 (Zlatko)
- Cycling department moved into Planning & Growth Management ~2010

# The Turnaround (cont'd)

- “Kanata 5” incident July 2009.
- CfSC in 2010 municipal election. Cycling became strategic priority for 2010-2014 term of council.
- Grew from cycling ‘department’ of one to a whole bunch, to handle the increase in major cycling projects across the city.



