

# 0% Tax Increase in Markham

Markham Council has unanimously passed a 2009 operating budget with a 0% tax increase without reducing municipal services. We are the only municipality in the GTA to achieve this. This is a budget that responds to the current economy and the need to manage tax dollars efficiently.

To ensure residents receive the best possible service at the best value, Markham also hired an Auditor General in 2008 to provide an independent review of our processes.

Our 2009 budget success was the result of the combined effort of Council, our Budget Sub Committee and all staff. Markham staff made a substantial contribution to our budget process by finding cost savings and efficiencies through a program called E3 – Excellence through Efficiency and Effectiveness. The result of their work meant long-term savings in our operating budget, revenue increases and the use of other funding sources to balance the budget.

Markham has also made substantial progress on our strategic direction – Building Markham's Future Together. In 2007 we developed 31 individual plans for this strategy, and have since provided over a hundred different public involvement opportunities to help guide our work.

In 2009, you will see a number of important projects for Markham. The following are some of the many you will see unfold:

## Managed Growth

- Construction of new parks such as Angus Glen, Berczy, Leitchcroft Times Galleria, South East Community Park, Box Grove, and South Village Neighbourhood Park

## Transportation and Transit

- Extensions of Rodick Road to Esna Park and Birchmount Avenue to Enterprise Drive
- Extension of Enterprise Drive to Kennedy Road
- Road, bridge, watermain and streetscape work on Main Street South, Unionville
- Continuation of the pathways, trails and bike path program
- 404 ramp extension design at Elgin Mills, Highway 7 and Major Mackenzie
- Construction of the Woodbine by-pass

## Environment

- Connection of the Civic Centre to Markham District Energy for heating and cooling
- Launched the Green Print Community Sustainability Plan
- Advancement of our successful Trees for Tomorrow program (almost 60,000 trees have been planted on the way to the goal of 75,000 by 2010)
- Continued implementation of the organic collection program in multi-residential buildings
- Community mailbox recycling program
- Continued the Green Fleet program

## Integrated Leisure Master Plan

- East Markham Community Centre and Library detailed design, construction completion in 2013
- Expansion of the Varley Art Gallery

## Diversity

- Retrofit of facilities for increased accessibility
- Ongoing participation in the Career Bridge/Ability Edge mentoring program
- Encourage diversity on Markham committees and boards

## Municipal Services

- Improvements at community centres, libraries, fire stations
- Construction of Cathedral fire station and design of the Cornell fire station
- Replacement of refrigeration equipment at the Crosby Community Centre
- Upgrades to the Thornhill storm sewer and Glynwood sewer construction
- Replacement of the Milliken Mills soccer dome field
- Resurfacing of public tennis courts
- Opening of an indoor Bocce court and a new Cricket pitch

Next year we will manage our budget to meet the 2010 challenge and remain focused on continuing to provide excellent service and value to our residents.

*Frank Scarpitti* Mayor Frank Scarpitti  
*Dan Horchik* Dan Horchik, Budget Chief, Ward 6 Councillor

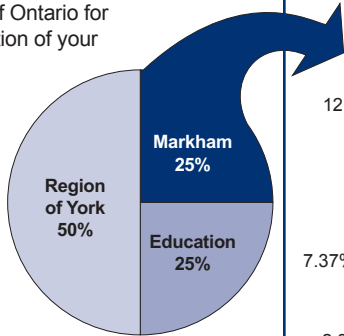
## How Your Tax Dollars are Split

Markham collects taxes on behalf of the Region of York and the Province of Ontario for education. Markham's portion of your total tax bill is 25%.

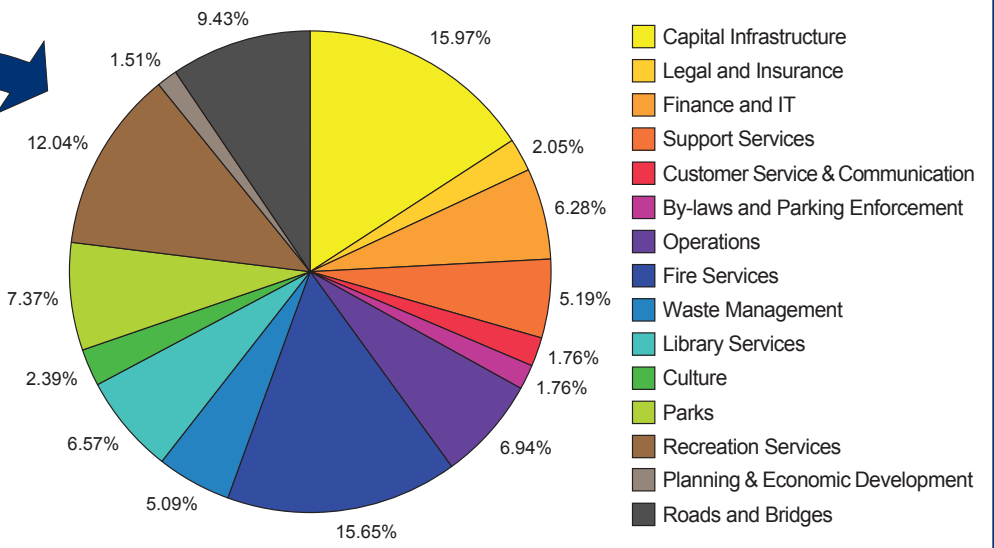
**Education:**  
The Province determines how much money is to be collected on behalf of the Boards of Education. 25% of the 2009 property tax payment for residential properties funds education.

### Region of York:

York Region's portion of the tax bill is 50%. York Regional Council approved a \$1.35 billion Operating Budget. The Budget will provide service in areas including: York Regional Police; Social Housing; York Region Transit and Viva Rapid Transit; Emergency Medical Services; Community and Health Services; water delivery and wastewater treatment; Regional Roads and Solid Waste Management.



## How Markham Tax Dollars are Spent



Sample Tax Bill

Assessment	Town Levy	Amount	Region Levy	Amount	Education Levy	Amount
Tax Class	Rate (%)		Rate (%)		Rate (%)	
RT	0.256940%	1,084.29	0.500081%	2,110.34	0.252000%	\$1,063.44
<b>Totals</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>\$1,084.29</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>\$2,110.34</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>\$1,063.44</b>

For all tax rates, visit [www.markham.ca](http://www.markham.ca)

2009 TAX RATES			
	RESIDENTIAL & FARM	COMMERCIAL - OCCUPIED	INDUSTRIAL - OCCUPIED
TOWN	0.256940%	0.310127%	0.352959%
REGION	0.500081%	0.603598%	0.686961%
EDUCATION	0.252000%	1.385926%	1.552479%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.009021%</b>	<b>2.299651%</b>	<b>2.592399%</b>

## Residential Taxpayers

### How Your Taxes are Calculated...

The 2009 Current Assessed Value (CVA) shown on your property tax bill is multiplied by the applicable tax rate from the table.

**Example:** The average CVA is \$422,000 for a Residential property. To obtain taxes, it is multiplied by 1.009021%.  
 $\$422,000 \times 1.009021\% = \$4,258.07$

## Property Assessment Values

The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) is responsible for determining property assessment values in Ontario. Your property's value is based on the Current Value Assessment (CVA) as of January 1, 2008. For information regarding your Current Value Assessment, please contact the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation at 1-866-296-6722

## Assessment Appeal

Your final tax bill reflects the 2009 assessment prior to your appeal. Once a decision on the assessment has been finalized, your tax account will be adjusted.

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## Markham Passes

### About Your 2009 Tax Bill

## 2009 Final Due Dates

**Residential:** July 6  
August 5  
September 9

**Commercial/  
Industrial:** October 5  
November 5  
December 7

FSC LOGO PLACEMENT

General Markham information in many languages

**905-477-5530**

Information Markham en plusieurs langues

ਮਾਰਖਮ ਬਾਰੇ ਕਈ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ

Informazioni su Markham in molte lingue

萬錦市以多種語言發佈的信息

اطلاعات مارکھام به زبانهای مختلف

அநேக மொழிகளில் மார்க்கம் செய்தி

بہت ساری زبانوں میں مارکھم کی معلومات

## Property Tax Payment Options

**Help the environment. Go green with your tax bill. Save time and money. Participate in the Pre-authorized Tax Payment Plan**

Markham offers owners a convenient Pre-Authorized Tax Payment Plan (PTP) option. For your convenience, an application has been included with your final property tax bill.

**By Mail:** Make your cheque payable to the Town of Markham and use the pre-addressed envelope. Include the remittance portion with your payment and record the Tax Roll Number on the front of your cheque. Payments must reach the Town by the due date to avoid interest charges. Do not send cash through the mail.

**Post-Dated Cheques:** If you pay with post-dated cheques, you must ensure that your cheques are for the full installment amounts and are dated for the installment due dates.

**Financial Institutions:** Payments can be made on or before the due date at most financial institutions (a service charge may apply).

**Computer or Telephone Banking:** Payments can also be made by computer or telephone banking through any of the major chartered banks or other financial institutions. Make sure that you include the complete Tax Roll Number as noted on your tax bill. To avoid late payment fees, payment should be **made five business days prior to the due date to ensure receipt.**

**If your mortgage company is responsible for the payment of your property taxes, please forward your bill to your company.**

**At the Civic Centre:** You may pay your taxes to the cashiers on the main floor (Thornhill Entrance), Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Town accepts Interac payments but not credit card payments.

### Please Note:

- A penalty of 1.25% per month will be charged for late payments. Monthly interest charges will be imposed on unpaid taxes from prior years.
- Even if you do not receive a bill or statement, you are responsible for paying your taxes and are liable for penalty charges on late payments.
- Cheques not honoured by your bank will result in a service charge of \$31 being added to your tax account. Ensure that your cheques are properly completed and signed.

### Notice to Purchasers or New Homeowners

If the property you own or occupy is newly constructed, your tax bill may only reflect the land portion. You would then receive an additional supplementary tax bill at a later date for the building portion. A Supplementary Assessment Notice will be sent to you by MPAC prior to the Town's supplementary tax bill.

### Administrative Fees:

- **New property accounts on tax roll:** \$60
- **Ownership change administrative fee:** \$26
- **Income tax receipt fee:** \$15.50
- **Tax Certificate fee:** \$52
- **NSF cheques:** \$31

### Property Tax Deferral for Low Income Seniors and Low Income Persons with Disabilities

Tax relief is available for low-income seniors and persons with disabilities who own their home. If you fall into either category you may be eligible for a deferral of any property tax increase. Seniors and disabled persons must apply annually for the tax deferral by September 30 of each year for which a deferral is requested. All of the deferred amount becomes a lien against the property and must be paid when the property is sold or changes hands (other than to a spouse).

### Property Tax Rebates for Vacant Commercial and Industrial Buildings

Property tax relief for vacant commercial and industrial buildings can be provided to eligible property owners through rebates that are issued by municipalities.

### Registered Charitable Rebates

Registered charities may be eligible for a rebate of up to 40% of the property taxes levied.

### Changing your Mailing Address or Property Ownership?

To prevent misdirected tax bills, please advise the Tax Office in writing of mailing address changes.

### Overdue Water Arrears

Please note that water arrears will be added to your property tax account and will be treated similar to property taxes.

**Please contact the Town of Markham Tax Office at 905-475-4864 for further information on any of these issues or visit [www.markham.ca](http://www.markham.ca) and follow the "Departments" link to "Assessment & Taxes".**