

Strathcona County 2020 Second Term Management Report

Prepared by Corporate Finance

Prepared for

Council October 27, 2020

1. Year-End Forecast

1.1 Year-End Forecast of the Annual Operating Surplus for Tax Purposes¹ (Permanent Differences and Forecasted Items)

The year-end forecast is based on the information available as of August 31, 2020 and is subject to the uncertainty of unknown events or circumstances which may take place during the remainder of the year.

County Operating Segments		ear-End cast²		ear-End Surplus²	2018 Year-End Actual Surplus ²		
Municipal	(\$11.1M)	(3.6%)	\$0.5M	0.2%	-	-	
Municipal MOST Funding ³	\$10.0M						
Utility	\$0.4M	0.6%	\$1.5M	2.5%	\$0.9M	2.0%	
Library	\$0.2M	2.0%	\$0.1M	1.2%	-	-	
TOTAL DOLLARS AND WEIGHTED PERCENTAGES	(\$0.5M)	(0.1%)	\$2.1M	0.6%	\$0.9M	0.2%	

¹The Year-End Forecast, Year-to-Date Operating Variance and the Annual Operating Surplus for Tax Purposes evaluate the results using the same methodology used to prepare the Operating Budget. The Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) used to prepare the financial statements applies a different methodology.

1.2 Analysis of the 2020 Year-End Forecast

a. Municipal Operations - (\$11.1 million) forecasted deficit⁴

Municipal Operations is forecasting an (\$11.1 million) deficit for the current year which is anticipated to be primarily offset by MOST funding of \$10.0 million, resulting in an (\$1.1 million) deficit. Significant items to note are:

- \$10.4 million favourable variance in government grants, the majority of which is due to additional funding from the Municipal Operating Support Transfer (MOST).
- \$4.8 million favourable variance in salaries, wages and benefits mainly attributable to savings in hourly staff as a result of layoffs and reduced operations.
- \$1.7 million favourable variance in utilities due to actual utility charges being lower than budgeted and due to facility closures.
- \$1.1 million favourable variance in supplies and materials mainly a result of fuel savings and less supplies required for indoor facilities because of reduced facility usage.
- (\$17.2 million) unfavourable variance in user fees and charges due to facility closures, program cancellations, capacity restrictions, and a reduction in transit fares.
- (\$3.1 million) unfavourable variance in property taxes which is primarily a result of the change to a 0% tax increase (from the originally budgeted 1.21% increase).
- (\$1.7 million) unfavourable variance in investment income due to lower interest rates and lower volumes of investments than anticipated.

²The percentages represent the proportion of surplus (deficit) compared to the respective annual operating budgets.

³The provincial and federal governments announced Municipal Operating Support Transfer (MOST) funding. Strathcona County has been allocated \$11.1 million of that funding. Ninety percent is forecasted to be utilized in 2020 and the remaining ten percent is forecasted to be carried over to 2021.

⁴This listing is only a summary of significant amounts and is not a complete reconciliation of all variances which comprise the August 31 forecast.

1.2 Analysis of the 2020 Year-End Forecast (continued) Risks

The most significant risks to the Municipal forecasted result are as follows:

- The COVID-19 pandemic is ever evolving and has had a dramatic effect on the financial results to date, which is anticipated to be fully offset by Provincial MOST funding. Due to the uncertainty surrounding this ongoing event, there could be other significant impacts on the County's financial results during the remainder of the year.
- The County has completed one P4 snow removal as of August 31. There is a risk of snow removal costs exceeding the budget as a result of any additional P4 snow removal requirements that arise during the remainder of the year.

b. Utility Operations - \$0.4 million forecasted surplus

No significant items to note.

c. Library Operations - \$0.2 million forecasted surplus

No significant items to note.

2. Year-to-Date Operating Variance

The operating variance is determined through a comparison of the year-to-date budget and actual results, and is composed of timing differences that are expected to reverse during the remainder of the year, and permanent differences that have occurred and will affect the year-end results.

County Operating Segments	2020 Second Term YTD Permanent Differences	2020 Second Term YTD Timing Differences	2020 Second Term YTD Variance	2019 Second Term YTD Variance		
Municipal	(\$7.4M)	\$3.1M	(\$4.3M)	(\$0.1M)		
Utility	\$0.3M	\$0.4M	\$0.7M	(\$0.7M)		
Library	\$0.2M	-	\$0.2M	(\$0.5M)		
TOTAL	(\$6.9M)	\$3.5M	(\$3.4M)	(\$1.3M)		

The operating variance as of August 31, 2020 is a **(\$3.4 million) deficit** (August 31, 2019 (\$1.3 million) deficit).





3. Capital Activity Update

3.1 Annual Planned Capital Spending Update as at August 31

The annual planned capital spend has been updated to include approved capital budget amendments to August 31, 2020:

Updated Annual Planned Capital Spend (as at August 31)	\$145.2M
Budgeted capital expenditures planned to be incurred after 2020, including approved capital budget amendments	(\$67.1M)
Approved spending changes resulting from capital budget amendments	\$2.6M
Unspent prior years' budgeted capital expenditures	\$110.7M
The 2020 Capital Budget (approved by Council on December 5, 2019)	\$99.0M

Planned spending is determined by the responsible department on project-by-project basis, and estimates are updated annually as part of the business plan and budget process.

3.2 Capital Spending To Date

The capital spending as of August 31, 2020, totaled \$30.9 million (August 31, 2019 \$18.7 million) which is 21.3% of the planned annual spending (August 31, 2019 16.5%).

3.3 Average Three-Year January to August Capital Spending Comparison

Asset Category	2017—2019 Average Spending	2020 Spending	Difference
Buildings	\$3.9M	\$14.7M	\$10.8M
Electronic Hardware and Software	\$1.0M	\$2.0M	\$1.0M
Machinery and Equipment	\$1.4M	\$1.4M	-
Parks and Open Space Development	\$1.3M	\$1.7M	\$0.4M
Roadway Infrastructure	\$12.0M	\$7.6M	(\$4.4M)
Utilities Infrastructure	\$2.8M	\$0.7M	(\$2.1M)
Vehicles	\$3.4M	\$2.8M	(\$0.6M)
Land	\$0.7M	\$0.0M	(\$0.7M)
Total	\$26.5M	\$30.9M	\$4.4M

The spending to August 31, 2020 is slightly above the average in comparison to recent prior periods.

3.4 Update on Completed Projects

As of August 31, 2020, 14 projects with total combined budgets of \$26.6 million were completed, resulting in the release of \$1.1 million of unused funding/financing. All funds released are allocated back to their original funding sources and are available for other emergent or future capital priorities.



4. Assessment of the County's Financial Condition - Key Financial Indicators

The following section is prepared based on the Strathcona County Consolidated Financial Statements for the Period Ended August 31, 2020 (unaudited) provided in Appendix 1. The Consolidated Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS).

4.1 Net Financial Assets (Net Debt) Position

Net financial assets (net debt) is the difference between financial assets and liabilities. It is a key indicator of the County's sustainability, which is the ability to maintain services and meet financial commitments. Being in a net financial assets position indicates that financial assets are on hand to provide funding for future planned or emergent needs. A (net debt) position reflects the need to have future revenue pay for past transactions and events.

As of August 31, 2020, the County's net financial asset position is \$186.6 million (August 31, 2019 \$173.0 million), which is consistent with annual trending in prior years. Net financial assets increases significantly mid-year, resulting from the collection of property tax revenue. The County draws down the net financial asset position to finance operations for the remainder of the year.

4.2 Long-Term Debt

The County has not issued any new debt as of August 31, 2020 (August 31, 2019 \$1.3 million). Debt repayment of \$5.9 million (August 31, 2019 \$5.8 million) has reduced the 2020 long-term debt balance.

August 31, 2020 Long-Term Debt Balance	\$156.3M
Debt repayment to August 31, 2020	(\$5.9M)
New debt issued to August 31, 2020	-
December 31, 2019 long-term debt balance	\$162.2M

4.3 Tangible Capital Assets

Tangible capital assets are the most significant element of the County's financial position. As of August 31, 2020, the tangible capital asset net book value¹ is \$1,936.7 million (August 31, 2019 \$1,916.8 million). This increase in net book value is expected and consistent with prior years as the County continues to manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure.

December 31, 2019 tangible capital assets net book value	\$1,946.2M
Purchased and contributed additions to August 31, 2020	\$31.1M
Disposals to August 31, 2020	(\$2.0M)
Subtotal	\$1,975.3M
Amortization (net of disposals) to August 31, 2020	(\$38.6M)
August 31, 2020 Tangible Capital Assets Net Book Value	\$1,936.7M

¹Net book value represents the total original cost of tangible capital assets, net of asset disposals and accumulated amortization.

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4.4 Reserve Reporting

The following table provides a summary of the County's reserve balances as of August 31, 2020:

Reserves	Committed	Designated	Total	Optimal Variance ¹
Municipal Stabilization and Contingency	\$10.3M	\$38.4M	\$48.7M	\$23.4M
Projects	\$40.6M	\$18.8M	\$59.4M	(\$12.6M)
Infrastructure, Lifecycle, Maintenance and Replacement	\$18.8M	\$56.9M	\$75.7M	(\$2.6M)
Special Purpose	\$19.7M	\$24.0M	\$43.7M	\$13.2M
Total Municipal	\$89.4M	\$138.1M	\$227.5M	\$21.4M
Utilities Stabilization and Contingency Projects	(\$0.1M) \$0.1M	\$1.9M \$0.1M	\$1.8M \$0.2M	(\$1.2M) -
Infrastructure, Lifecycle, Maintenance and Replacement	\$7.2M	\$47.2M	\$54.4M	(\$26.6M)
Levy Debt Repayment	\$2.1M	-	\$2.1M	-
Total Utilities	\$9.3M	\$49.2M	\$58.5M	(\$27.8M)
Total Library	\$0.2M	\$4.9M	\$5.1M	\$0.1M
Total Reserves	\$98.9M	\$192.2M	\$291.1M	(\$6.3M)
Percentage of Total Reserves	34.0%	66.0%	100.0%	

¹The optimal reserve balances as at August 31, 2020 represent a point in time and should be considered in relation to resulting trends and circumstances. The optimal variance column is determined through a comparison of the reserve's optimal balance with the designated funds available within the respective reserve. A positive figure indicates a balance above the optimal amount and a negative figure indicates a balance below the optimal amount.

The presentation of reserve groupings is in accordance with the policy: FIN-001-024 Municipal Reserves.

5. 2020 - 2023 Corporate Business Plan Reporting (Enclosure 2)

An integral component of monitoring the progress of the 2020 - 2023 Corporate Business Plan includes initiative progress reporting. As such, the 2020 second term management report includes progress reporting on the initiatives within the Corporate Business Plan which demonstrate our progress on achieving the County's strategic goals.

Appendices

- 1. Consolidated Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules for the Period Ended August 31, 2020 (unaudited)
- 2. Glossary of Terms



Consolidated Financial Statements

Period Ended August 31, 2020 (in thousands of dollars)

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at August 31, 2020 (in thousands of dollars)

	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$ 11.566	\$ 6,400
Cash and Cash Equivalents Accounts Receivable	\$ 11,566	Φ 0,400
Property Taxes	161,515	5,383
Government Transfers	1,630	436
Trade and Other	13,629	15,916
Development Levies and Charges	294	3,359
Investments	344,475	376,560
Investment Interest Receivable	19,605	17,922
	552,714	425,976
LIABILITIES Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities Deposit Liabilities Deferred Revenue Long-Term Debt	83,246 15,441 111,198 156,275 366,160	50,385 18,665 115,200 162,182 346,432
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	186,554	79,544
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible Capital Assets	1,936,719	1,946,241
Inventories of Materials and Supplies	1,080	1,039
Prepaid Expenses	2,925	3,946
	1,940,724	1,951,226
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$ 2,127,278	\$ 2,030,770

Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

Period ended August 31, 2020 (in thousands of dollars)

<u>-</u>	2020 Period Budget		Αι	ıgust 31, 2020	A	ugust 31, 2019
OPERATING REVENUE						
Property Taxes	\$	232,720	\$	229,567	\$	227,355
Utility User Rates	Ψ	39,919	Ψ	37,885	Ψ	37,656
User Fees and Charges		27,734		16,372		27,363
Investment Income						
Penalties and Fines		6,138		5,080		6,108
		4,255		4,450		4,851
Government Transfers - Operating		4,583		4,131		4,417
Other Operating Revenue (excluding Parkade		4.000				
Event Insurance Proceeds)		4,829		6,184		5,675
Parkade Event Insurance Proceeds				773		10,250
Other Operating Revenue		4,829		6,957		15,925
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE		320,178		304,442		323,675
EXPENSES						
Infrastructure and Planning Services						
(excluding Utility Operations)		36,743		33,448		35,530
Utility Operations		38,486		36,126		36,447
Infrastructure and Planning Services		75,229		69,574		71,977
Community Services		93,408		85,075		87,510
Corporate Services		29,565		27,331		25,827
Elected Officials		1,034		876		876
Financial and Strategic Management		6,729		6,079		5,439
Senior Administration		4,274		3,694		4,107
Fiscal Services (excluding Parkade Event)		34,840		40,938		41,971
Parkade Event		34,040		40,938 163		
Fiscal Services		24.040				7,596
		34,840		41,101		49,567
Strathcona County Library (excluding Parkade		7.062		7 207		7 220
Event)		7,063		7,207		7,230
Parkade Event		7,000		7.007		137
Strathcona County Library		7,063		7,207		7,367
TOTAL EXPENSES		252,142		240,937		252,670
SURPLUS BEFORE CAPITAL REVENUE		68,036		63,505		71,005
CAPITAL REVENUE						
Government Transfers - Capital		24,460		30,816		10,832
Other Capital Revenue		4,677		1,926		2,838
Contributed Tangible Capital Assets		-		261		898
TOTAL CAPITAL REVENUE		29,137		33,003	-	14,568
		·				
PERIOD SURPLUS		97,173		96,508		85,573
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS,						
BEGINNING OF PERIOD		2,030,770		2,030,770		2,006,910
		2,000,110		2,000,770		2,000,010
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, END OF PERIOD	\$	2,127,943	\$	2,127,278	\$	2,092,483

Consolidated Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

Period ended August 31, 2020 (in thousands of dollars)

	2020 Period Budget		August 31, 2020		-	December 31, 2019	
PERIOD SURPLUS	\$	97,166	\$	96,508	\$	23,860	
Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets Contributed Tangible Capital Assets Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets Loss on Disposals or Write-Downs of Tangible Capital Assets Proceeds from Disposals of Tangible Capital Assets		(50,830) - 40,595 - - - 86,931		(30,850) (261) 40,141 298 194	_	(51,458) (21,352) 60,457 1,115 415 13,037	
Acquisition of Inventories of Materials and Supplies Acquisition of Prepaid Expenses Use of Inventories of Materials and Supplies Use of Prepaid Expenses		- - - - -		(1,052) (1,436) 1,011 2,457 980	_	(1,932) (4,230) 1,847 2,924 (1,391)	
INCREASE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS		86,931		107,010		11,646	
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD		79,544		79,544		67,898	
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, END OF PERIOD	\$	166,475	\$	186,554	\$	79,544	

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Period ended August 31, 2020 (in thousands of dollars)

NET INFLOW (OUTFLOW) OF CASH RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:	August 31, 2020	December 31, 2019
OPERATING PERIOD SURPLUS	\$ 96,508	\$ 23,860
Items Not Involving Cash Contributed Tangible Capital Assets Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets Amortization of Premium (Discount) on Investments	(261) 40,141 3	(21,352) 60,457 (18)
Loss on Disposals or Write-Downs of Tangible Capital Assets (Gain) on Disposal of Investments	298 (16)	1,115 -
Changes to Non-Cash Assets and Liabilities Property Taxes Receivable Government Transfers Receivable Trade and Other Receivables Development Levies and Charges Receivable Investment Interest Receivable Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities Deposit Liabilities Deferred Revenue Inventories of Materials and Supplies Prepaid Expenses Cash Provided by Operating Activities CAPITAL Proceeds from Disposal of Tangible Capital Assets Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets Cash (Applied to) Capital Activities	(156,132) (1,194) 2,287 3,065 (1,683) 32,861 (3,224) (4,002) (41) 1,021 9,631	1,674 3,483 (1,729) 1,736 (3,039) (11,948) 2,836 37,610 (85) (1,306) 93,294 415 (49,823) (49,408)
INVESTING Purchase of Investments Proceeds from Sale/Maturity of Investments Cash Provided by (Applied to) Investing Activities	(101,868) 133,966 32,098	(220,914) 187,176 (33,738)
FINANCING Long-Term Debt Issued Long-Term Debt Repaid Cash (Applied to) Financing Activities	(5,907) (5,907)	1,772 (11,395) (9,623)
INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	5,166	525
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	6,400	5,875
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD	\$ 11,566	\$ 6,400

PERIOD SURPLUS (DEFICIT)

1,920

(741)

2,065

158

624

Consolidated Schedule of Segmented Information

Period ended August 31, 2020 (in thousands of dollars)

Municipal Operations Fiscal Services Strathcona County Library Infractructure and Strathcona Planning Services Financial and Fiscal Services County Library August 31, (excluding Utility Community Corporate Elected Strategic Senior (excluding **Total Municipal** Utility (excluding 2020 Period Operations) Services Services Officials Management Administration Parkade Event) Parkade Event Operations Operations Parkade Event) Parkade Event 2020 Budget OPERATING REVENUE Property Taxes 33,591 62,766 29,078 1,034 6,259 4,212 82,820 219,760 6 9,801 229,567 232,720 Utility User Rates 37,885 37,885 39,919 User Fees and Charges 1,581 10.015 235 271 64 3.400 15.566 794 12 16.372 27,734 4,042 947 91 5,080 6,138 Investment Income 4,042 Penalties and Fines 3,580 838 4,424 26 4,450 4,255 6 Government Transfers - Operating 3,848 3.848 15 268 4,131 4.583 190 4,125 83 173 1,033 601 6,205 565 171 4,829 Other Operating Revenue 16 6,957 39,663 **TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE** 35,368 84,334 29,396 1,034 6,703 4,276 92,133 601 253,845 10,763 171 304,442 320,178 **EXPENSES** Salaries, Wages and Benefits 18,632 17,537 5,442 3,239 4,337 122,706 58,352 730 1,647 105,579 7,141 117,057 Contracted and General Services 9,330 15,543 6,993 107 725 192 1,977 154 35,021 7,017 145 42,183 45,769 Supplies, Materials and Utilities 2,624 34 (114)74 910 5,205 9,338 115 9 17,285 15,429 33,624 37,405 Interest on Long-Term Debt 1,606 1,606 1,143 414 3,163 3,472 82 Grants and Requisitions 228 1,666 189 456 2,621 2,621 2,516 924 Amortization 33.865 33.865 5.352 40.141 40.595 Loss on Asset Disposals or Write-Downs 298 298 298 95 477 Other Expenses 53 176 26 974 1,329 44 1,850 (321)**TOTAL EXPENSES** 85,075 3,694 240,937 33,448 27,331 876 6,079 40,938 163 197,604 36,126 7,207 252,142 SURPLUS (DEFICIT) BEFORE CAPITAL REVENUE 1,920 (741) 2,065 158 624 582 51,195 438 56,241 3,537 3,556 171 63,505 68,036 CAPITAL REVENUE Government Transfers - Capital 30,475 30,475 341 30,816 24,460 Other Capital Revenue 1,632 1,632 294 1,926 4,677 Contributed Tangible Capital Assets 261 261 261 **TOTAL CAPITAL REVENUE** 32,368 32,368 635 33,003 29,137

582

83,563

438

88,609

4,172

3,556

171

96,508

97,173

STRATHCONA COUNTY Consolidated Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets As at August 31, 2020 (in thousands of dollars)

Cost	Balance at January 1, 2020		Purchased (Additions		Contributed Additions		Disposals or Write-Downs		Balance at August 31, 2020
Land	\$ 518,078	\$	184	\$	-	\$	(407)	\$	517,855
Land Improvements	129,170		1,121		261		-	-	130,552
Buildings	502,877		5,238		-		-		508,115
Engineered Structures	1,269,667		5,422		-		(81)		1,275,008
Machinery and Equipment	77,891		2,430		-		(847)		79,474
Library Materials	6,429		241		-		-		6,670
Vehicles	78,724		955		-		(658)		79,021
Assets Under Construction	30,555		15,259		-		`- ´		45,814
	\$ 2,613,391	\$	30,850	\$	261	\$	(1,993)	\$	2,642,509

Accumulated Amortization		Balance at January 1, 2020		Disposals or Write-Downs		Amortization		Balance at August 31, 2020
Land Improvements	\$	49,108	\$	-	\$	3,764	\$	52,872
Buildings	•	134,944	•	-	,	8,224	-	143,168
Engineered Structures		389,204		(56)		20,102		409,250
Machinery and Equipment		47,100		(7 89)		3,973		50,284
Library Materials		3,363		-		417		3,780
Vehicles		43,431		(656)		3,661		46,436
	\$	667,150	\$	(1,501)	\$	40,141	\$	705,790

Net Book Value		Balance at August 31, 2020
Land	\$	517,855
Land Improvements	•	77,680
Buildings		364,947
Engineered Structures		865,758
Machinery and Equipment		29,190
Library Materials		2,890
Vehicles		32,585
Assets Under Construction		45,814
	\$	1,936,719



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- Annual Operating Surplus (Deficit) for Tax Purposes The annual surplus (deficit) is the difference between the approved operating budget and the actual revenue and expenditures that occur during the year. The surplus (deficit) is based on the modified cash flow basis, which includes debt repayment expenditures and reserve transactions, and excludes amortization expense, gains (losses) on asset disposals and capital revenues, unlike the Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) surplus (deficit).
- **Committed** Funding approved per FIN-001-024: Municipal Reserves Policy to be applied towards specific expenditures.
- **Designated** Funding designated to reserves for a specific purpose, which has not yet been approved by Council to be applied towards specific expenditures.
- **Forecasted Variances** Future variances to budget that have yet to occur but are expected to be realized before the end of the year based on current information and are projected to affect the year-end surplus (deficit).
- **Permanent Differences** Variances to budget that have occurred and will affect the year-end surplus (deficit).
- Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) Surplus (Deficit) The surplus (deficit) resulting from financial statements prepared in accordance with PSAS, which is done on an accrual basis, including both operating and capital transactions.
- **Timing Differences** Variances to budget that are expected to reverse during the remainder of the year and will not affect the year-end surplus (deficit).
- **Year-End Forecast** Variances to budget that are expected at year-end due to permanent differences and forecasted variances. These variances will affect the year-end forecasted surplus (deficit).
- **Year-To-Date Operating Variance** The favourable or (unfavourable) difference between budget and actuals at a point in time including any timing differences.