

MEETING WORKBOOK

Long-term planning is needed to ensure the City of Toronto runs well, spends public money wisely and delivers the programs and services residents need and want over the long term.

Use this workbook to give your input and advice to the City on these important issues – so we can build the city we all want.

The City of Toronto's Long-Term Financial Plan will guide our financial decision-making over the long term, and put Toronto on a path to financial sustainability.

SESSION 1: HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE

We want your ideas and suggestions on how the City makes decisions that have a financial impact. Using the “How Decisions Are Made” map, answer the following questions.

1. What processes, strategies or timing of decisions would improve the City’s long-term and financial planning?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. How can we better use the governance structures, processes, and powers we already have?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. What governance structures, processes, and powers are missing? What would improve the City’s long-term decision making?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

4. What new information and data should the City be using in their decision-making and long-term financial planning? How could our current information be improved?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

5. How can the City improve its public engagement in long-term decision-making that has a financial impact? How would decision-making be affected by these improvements?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

6. How can the City improve the relationship between the many people, systems and structures that make up decision-making?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

SESSION 2: FINANCIAL AND OTHER DECISION-MAKING INFORMATION

Financial information (like the annual budget) and other decision-making information (like service performance) are critical to making long-term decisions that have a financial impact. We want your ideas and suggestions on how to improve the City’s decision-making.

7. What information and data would help you give better input?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

8. What information and data would help Council make better decisions?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

SESSION 3: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Civic engagement is a cornerstone of good government. The City engages the public in a wide range of ways – from formal deputations, elections and advisory bodies to issue or neighbourhood-based town halls, surveys and consultations. The public’s input, advice and ideas help the City understand diverse perspectives, make service decisions and implement policies that respond to current and emerging issues. Public engagement often focuses on a single plan or strategy, annual budget or an emergency issue. Today we want your ideas on how to engage the public on longer-term goals, big-picture issues and multi-year decision-making.

9. How can the City support resident participation in the City’s long-term planning and decision-making that has a financial impact?

[A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing a response to the question.]

SESSION 4: BALANCING PRIORITIES AND THE BOOKS

The debates below highlight different perspectives on the type of critical questions the City works to address when making financial and long-term plans. The questions are simply stated, but the arguments for and against can be complex, diverse and informative. Add your thoughts below each debate statement:

DEBATE STATEMENT A – “FUNDING vs ASPIRATIONS”

10. The City should make decisions to build new capital projects, expand services, or implement new strategies only if there is funding available

Agree Yes, only approve projects and plans if we can afford it.

Disagree No, our aspirations and vision should drive decisions, not our budget.

WHY

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

DEBATE STATEMENT B – “FOCUSED vs MULTIPLE PRIORITIES”

11. The City should limit its priorities, instead of trying to accomplish multiple priorities simultaneously

Agree Yes, the City would achieve greater success and deliver on its commitments if it only focused on a limited number of priorities.

Disagree No, the City is complex, issues don't exist in silos. The City must pay attention to a wide range of issues at the same time.

WHY

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

SESSION 5: YOUR BEST IDEA

IN ADDITION TO THE IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS YOU'VE GIVEN US SO FAR...

14. What one thing could the City do to improve how it makes decisions and ensure it has the financial plan to implement them?

TITLE

Give "Your Best Idea" a catchy name...but make sure it tells others what it's about too.

CATEGORY

What category does your idea belong to? (Check the box that reflects the main focus of your idea)

- How decisions are made Public Engagement Other:
- Information and data Balancing the priorities

DESCRIBE YOUR BEST IDEA

Jot down a few bullet points on your idea: Who would be responsible for implementation? How will it benefit Toronto? Who will be impacted? Will it result in costs or savings to the City? How would your ideas and suggestions impact the economic, financial, social equity, gender, environmental, and service goals of the City? Also, let us know if you've seen this idea elsewhere and why you would like it replicated in Toronto.

Use the space provided on reverse side if needed

DESCRIBE YOUR BEST IDEA (continued)

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing.

How to share your input?



At a public meeting, please leave this workbook with a facilitator.



To give your feedback by mail, please return this completed workbook to Argyle PR, attention: Ashley O'Connor
175 Bloor Street East,
South Tower, Suite 1007,
Toronto, ON, M4W 3R8



To complete this workbook online, please visit www.investinginTO.ca.



To learn and share, please visit www.investinginTO.ca.

How did you hear about this consultation regarding the City of Toronto's Long-Term Financial Plan?

.....

By providing your email address you agree to receive communications from the City of Toronto related to the Long-Term Financial Plan Consultation. The personal information on this form is collected under the authority of the City of Toronto Act, 2006. Questions about this collection may be directed to: *Max Greenwald, City Manager's Office, Executive Management, City of Toronto - City Hall, 10th Floor, East Tower, 100 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2 - 416-338-7967 - max.greenwald@toronto.ca*

If you would like to receive more information from us, please indicate

Your name: Email address:

A little information about you - all questions are voluntary

11. **First three characters of your postal code:**

12. **What is your age?** Under 15 35-44 65-74
 15-24 45-54 75-84
 25-34 55-64 85+

13. **Housing type - please indicate if you rent or if you own your home, and an estimate of your mortgage or rent costs each month.**

Homeowner \$ Other (please specify)

Renter \$ \$ I don't live in the City of Toronto

14. **What is your annual household income before taxes?** Under \$5,000 \$40,000 - \$59,999 \$120,000 - \$139,999
 \$5,000 - \$19,000 \$60,000 - \$79,999 \$140,000 and over
 \$20,000 - \$39,999 \$80,000 - \$99,999 Prefer not to say
 \$100,000 - \$119,999

15. **Do you own a business in Toronto?** Yes Please indicate how many employees
 No



Thank you for your ideas. Your input will help guide the development of City of Toronto's Long-Term Financial Plan, and help us build the city we all want.