

**Dear neighbours,**

With the 2025 budget finalized, we are making real, measurable progress toward a safer, stronger, and more connected Toronto. This budget reflects the significant investments people are making in their city—investments that are already delivering results. As Budget Chief, my focus has been on ensuring that we follow a responsible financial plan that protects services while making real improvements in daily life.

We've taken action to make Toronto more affordable and livable. By identifying \$680 million in savings and offsets, we've kept costs under control while extending transit service hours so more people can move efficiently across the city. Our approach has been recognized with Toronto's first credit rating increase in decades. And when it comes to community safety, we've strengthened crisis response teams, increased mental health supports, and expanded programs that tackle the root causes of crime.

Public safety is one area you asked us to make a significant investment in, and as the newly elected Chair of the Toronto Police Services Board, one of my first priorities was passing a historic, multi-year hiring plan to ensure we have enough officers to keep communities safe. While it's still early, these investments are working—major crime indicators are down, and emergency response times are improving. Smart deployment and better resource management have already cut Priority 1 emergency response times from 19.6 minutes to 12.6 minutes—a 35% improvement. That's more than 50% faster than in 2023.



As both Budget Chief and Chair of the Police Board, I'm committed to transparency and oversight. With the 2025 budget, we're making real progress—strengthening public safety, keeping Toronto's finances stable, and laying the foundation for a city that works for everyone.

Thank you to everyone who took part in this year's budget consultations—your voices helped shape this plan. Together, we're building a safer, stronger, and more inclusive Toronto.

Sincerely,

Want more information
on anything here?
Call 416-338-2650

**Tariff Response**

As Vice Chair of the Mayor's Economic Action Team, I am working closely with business and labour leaders to protect Toronto's economy in the face of rising U.S. protectionism. Tariffs and the threat of economic nationalism pose real risks to our businesses, workers, and long-term growth. That's why we are responding swiftly and strategically with the Mayor's Economic Action Plan in Response to U.S. Tariffs—10 immediate actions to support local industries, strengthen supply chains, and safeguard jobs.

These measures build on Sidewalks to Skylines, Toronto's comprehensive economic development strategy, which I co-chaired during its development. Our city has always thrived through resilience and innovation, and this plan ensures we continue to invest in critical infrastructure and economic diversification. Toronto is ready to meet these challenges head-on and protect the prosperity of Canadian businesses and workers.

Winter Maintenance Review

The amount of snow we've seen this winter has been exhausting, and I know the City's snow clearing response has been frustrating. I hear you, and I share your concerns. Winter maintenance needs to improve, and I'm committed to pushing for change.

Since the rocky start to our new snow clearing contracts in 2022-2023, the City has tightened oversight, added tracking technology to monitor contractor performance, and issued fines when service standards aren't met. But challenges remain. Too many streets and sidewalks have been left in poor condition for too long.

That's why I'm pushing for stronger enforcement, clearer accountability, and exploring ways to bring more work back in-house—so we aren't relying solely on private contractors who have struggled to deliver. The City is already in the process of buying more sidewalk plows, and I support further investment to ensure reliable winter maintenance.

Snow clearing is essential city work. You deserve better, and I'll keep fighting for a system that ensures Toronto is safe and accessible in every storm. If you've experienced issues, please report them to 311 and let my office know—we're tracking problems and pushing for solutions.

Development Updates



Housing is one of the most urgent challenges facing Toronto. We need to create enough homes so that people have safe, affordable places to live, but we also recognize that the pace of change can be overwhelming for communities. As the city grows, it's critical that development is well-planned, includes affordable housing, and reflects the needs of both current and future residents.

Many residents are concerned about the level of density resulting from the many development applications in Don Valley North. To understand what's happening, it's important to recognize the role the Province plays in governing Toronto's development process.

The Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) 2024 sets the rules for planning decisions across Ontario, and municipalities—including Toronto—must align with these policies. The Province has made density, transit-oriented development, and "complete communities" a priority. That's why areas like Sheppard Avenue are seeing rapid change—Provincial rules require cities to plan for high-rise density along transit

corridors. If City Council's decisions don't align, developers can appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT), which makes its rulings based on the PPS 2024.

While the City doesn't have full control over these policies, my priority is ensuring that community voices are heard and that every development application includes real commitments to affordable housing. That means working collaboratively with residents, planners, and advocacy groups—just like we have with the Expanding Housing Options in Neighbourhoods (EHON) reference group—to shape growth in a way that benefits our communities.



If you have questions about a specific development file, my office is happy to provide more information—just reach out. And be sure to subscribe to my E-Blast to stay up-to-date on development applications in our ward.

Combatting Antisemitism



The rise in antisemitism in Toronto is deeply troubling, and I hear the fear and pain that many in the Jewish community are expressing. No one should feel unsafe in their own city.

The Toronto Police Service's 2023 Annual Hate Crime Statistical Report recorded 365 hate crimes, nearly half (45%) targeting the Jewish community—a staggering 108% increase from 2022. These numbers are not just statistics: they reflect real people facing real threats.

I am committed to taking action. Through education, stronger community partnerships, and the enforcement of our anti-hate policies, the City of Toronto is working to ensure that Jewish residents feel safe and supported. I am working closely with Jewish organizations to enhance security, promote awareness, and push back against this alarming rise in hate. Toronto must remain a city where everyone—no matter their faith or background—feels protected, valued, and respected.

Upcoming Events

APR
26

Compost Days

Saturday, April 26th, 10:00 AM
Cliffwood Park (280 Cliffwood Rd.)

APR
27

Sunday, April 27th, 10:00 AM
Bestview Park (115 Bestview Dr.)

MAY
3

Saturday, May 3rd, 10:00 AM
Clydesdale Park (116 Clydesdale Dr.)

MAY
4

Sunday, May 4th, 10:00 AM
Bayview Village Park (2945 Bayview Ave.)

Compost Days are back! This is your chance to pick up free, nutrient-rich compost made from the organic waste we all recycle—perfect for your garden or lawn. It's a great way to give back to the environment and make the most of Toronto's waste reduction efforts. Remember to bring a container and shovel. Come by, grab some compost, and give your plants a boost!

JUNE
8

Environment Day

Sunday, June 8th, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Old Cummer GO Station (5760 Leslie St.)

Join me for Community Environment Day, your chance to safely dispose of household hazardous waste, donate reusable items, and pick up free compost for your garden! Bring your old electronics, expired paint, and unwanted clothes, and let's work together for a greener Toronto.

JULY
5

Summer Celebration!

Saturday, July 5th, 1:00 PM
Oriole Community Centre

Join me for a fun-filled day full of music, free food, and activities for all ages as we come together to celebrate our community. It's a great chance to connect with neighbours, enjoy the sunshine, and make lasting memories. Don't miss out—I can't wait to see you there!