



Our Budget in 2023

Building World Class

2023 Plan & Budget: Engagement Overview

Strategic Planning and Budget Committee

February 8, 2023

2023 Plan & Budget

Public Engagement

Overview of Engagement Results

1. Community Engagement Approach
2. Online Survey – Contextual Comments
3. Results of Telephone Survey

Community Engagement Approach

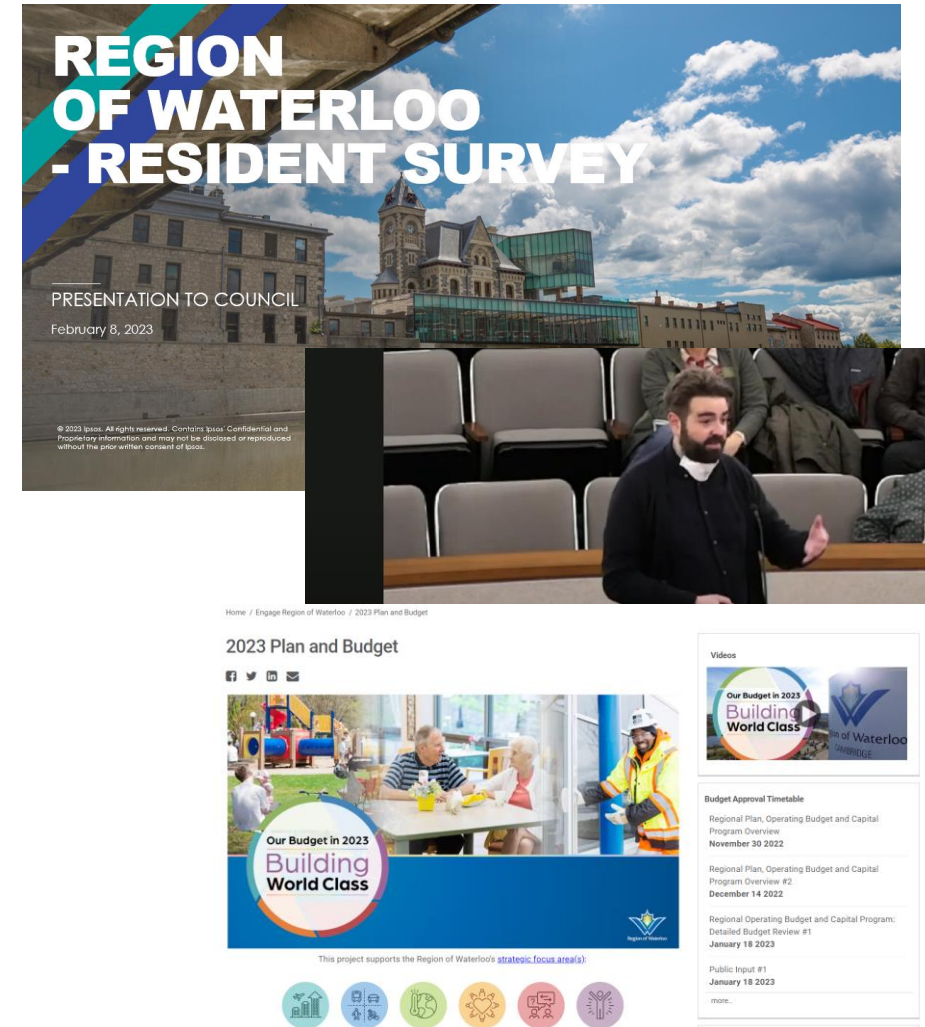
Community engagement has been critical to ensure the Region's annual plan and budget reflect changing community needs and aspirations.

Engagement has built on relationships and data that is gathered ongoing through a number ways such as an ongoing focus on:

- Building relationships and trust with Indigenous and equity seeking groups through the Region's Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Team.
- Ensuring the voice of youth are centered in conversation.
- Enabling immigrants and newcomers to reach their full potential.
- Utilizing feedback gained through other community consultations surrounding the Regional Official Plan, Community Safety and Wellbeing, Digital Transformation Strategy and other plans.

Community Engagement Approach

- This year's approach included:
 - A community wide, statistically robust telephone survey.
 - An Engage WR page which offered an online survey ability to submit a question or request a community conversation.
 - Between the online and telephone survey over 2,600 responses were received which is a significant increase from last year.
 - Council public input sessions.



Community Engagement Approach

- Actions were taken to ensure that opportunities were available to residents who often face barriers to participation.
 - The Engage WR site and online survey were enabled with a translation feature.
 - Both the telephone survey and online survey offered access to telephone based translations services if desired.
 - Translations of the top local languages were offered for instructions on the EngageWR site and on the promotional video.
 - Communications were sent out through community networks and connections to ensure a broader reach .
 - Finally, an option was provided for staff to go out to community meetings or settings.

You can provide your input in many ways:

- Complete the survey on this page.
- Submit a question below.
- Ipsos Reid has conducted a telephone based, statistically robust, Service Experience and Priorities survey to provide important feedback on your experience with the Region.
- There are two planned Budget Input Sessions where you can provide your feedback directly to Council on January 18, 2023 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. and February 8, 2023 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Information about how to delegate to Council is found on the [Region's website](#).
- If you would like to host a community conversation, please contact us at Budgets@regionofwaterloo.ca.

Note: You can translate this webpage by clicking the button in the top right of the screen. Or you can phone the Region at 519-575-4400. A staff member will use our translation service to complete the survey with you.

- يمكنك ترجمة صفحة الويب هذه من خلال النقر فوق هذا الزر أعلى يمين الشاشة، أو يمكنك الاتصال بالمنطقة على رقم هاتف 519-575-4400. سوف يستخدم معك الموظف خدمة الترجمة لدينا لإكمال استطلاع الرأي معك.
- با کلیک کردن روی دکمه در سمت راست می‌توانید این صفحه وب را صفحه ترجمه کنید. یا می‌توانید به تمیز ساحوی ۵۱۹-۵۷۵-۴۴۰۰ زنگ بزنید، یکی از کارمندان ما با استفاده از خدمات ترجماتی نظرسنجی را همراهی شما تکمیل خواهد کرد.
- Waad turjumi kartaa webseedkaan adoo gujinaaya batoonka ka muuqda qaybta sare ee midig ee shaashada. Ama waxaad ka wici kartaa Gobalka lambarka 519-575-4400. Xubin kamid ah shaqaaaha ayaa u adeegsan doona turjumaadeena si uu kaaga caawiyo buuxinta xog aruurinta.
- Puedes cambiar el idioma de este sitio web haciendo clic en el botón superior derecho de la pantalla. O puedes comunicarte con la Región al 519-575-4400. Un miembro del equipo utilizará nuestro servicio de traducción para completar el cuestionario junto a usted
- ከዚ መርበብ ሓበሬታ እብ ሓሰለዎይ የማናይ ሽንኽናይቲ ስከረኝ ዘሌ መጠወጃ ብምጥዋቕ ከትርጉም ትኽእል ኢኻ። ወይ ድማ ብስልኪ ቁጽረ 519-575-4400 ናብ ዘባ ከትድውብ ትኽእል ኢኻ። እባል እስታፍ ነቲ መጽናዕቲ ምስኻትኩም ንምዝገም እገልግሎት ትርጉምና ክጥቀም እዩ።

NEWS FEED

SURVEY

ASK A QUESTION!

Online Survey Findings

The online survey was open to all, therefore is not a random sample and can't be generalized to the population at large, but provides a greater voice for residents to provide input. Results were generally in line with the statistically representative telephone survey.

Top issues in the community identified were similar to the telephone survey with affordable housing and homelessness being the most often mentioned. Followed by the environment, managing growth and transit.

When asked about services that were most important to them personally, residents named transit, health, waste, roads and affordable housing.

In the words of residents...

"I work two jobs to make ends meet and I'm supportive of increasing taxes in line with inflation, but I don't support these extra costs being incurred for the encampment. Spend the money on affordable housing"

"The Region is growing incredibly quickly and needs the transportation infrastructure and housing to accommodate the growing, urban population."

"More and quicker investments in active transportation. We need a solid network built today, not in 10 years."

"We can't have a thriving community with a crumbling foundation. Implement programs that address prevention and aren't bandaid solutions after the fact – we should be focusing on preventing homelessness not waiting to help them 6 months after losing their homes."

"Promoting the safety of the community – including but not limited to addressing the unhoused population in a safe and secure way while also ensuring the safety of the community"

"Building resilience. I believe the years ahead will bring more rapid change than we have yet seen. We need to be resilient to climate changes, resilient to economic fluctuations, resilient to supply chain challenges, resilient to pandemics and disease outbreaks, refugee influxes, etc. I believe that in every decision needing to be made, the question needs to be asked about how we build the most resilience into the community."

Resident Survey - Telephone

