

Winnipeg Budget 2019

Budget in Brief

City of Winnipeg 2019 Preliminary Capital Budget

Mayor Brian Bowman and Finance Chair Scott Gillingham today released the City of Winnipeg 2019 Preliminary Operating and Capital budget. The following is a summary of a brief review of the financial documents and the investment plan for the Local and Regional Street Renewal Program.

The news is stark; the 2019 program budget for street renewal has been cut from the expected adopted plan by \$42 million — a full 32%. The bulk of the shortfall will be felt in the local street program this year, because the regional street program will get the benefit of federal and provincial dollars from a 6-year, \$100 million cost-shared deal (New Building Canada Fund).

The City explains the \$42-million reduction is a result of two issues: a \$20-million cut, which is this year's share of a total \$40-million shortfall from the expected 2018 provincial roads funding; and, \$28 million less than was forecasted for 2019 from the provincial for the roads program.

The city has written in only \$17 million in provincial contributions for roads this year, what is pegged to flow in provincial share out of the cost-shared agreement with the federal government, signed last fall.

Below are the numbers:

1. \$86.4 million — Local and Reg'l Street Renewal Program 2019 (vs. \$128.4m forecast for '19 and \$116m invested in 2018)
2. \$21.9 million — Local renewal budget 2019 (vs. \$60.3m invested in 2018)
3. \$64.5 million — Regional renewal budget for 2019 (vs. \$55.7m invested in 2018)
4. \$801.8 million — 6-year total investment in Local and Regional Street Renewal (vs. \$976.2m forecast in fall, 2018, following the provincial-federal cost-shared deal, signed to access \$100 million in federal New Building Canada Fund moneys)

Also, for 2020, the City has forecasted the local street renewal program will sit at \$38.2 million; regional renewal investment will be \$73.4 million, for a total \$111.6 million (vs. \$152 million that was forecasted following the signing of the federal-provincial cost-shared agreement last fall).