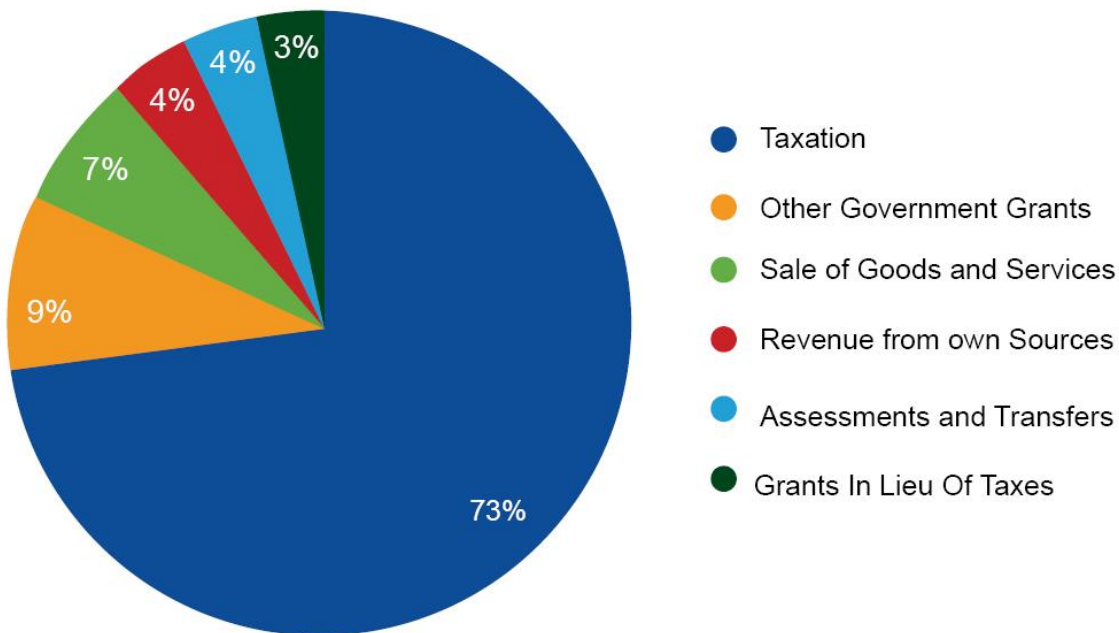


2015 BUDGET REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES



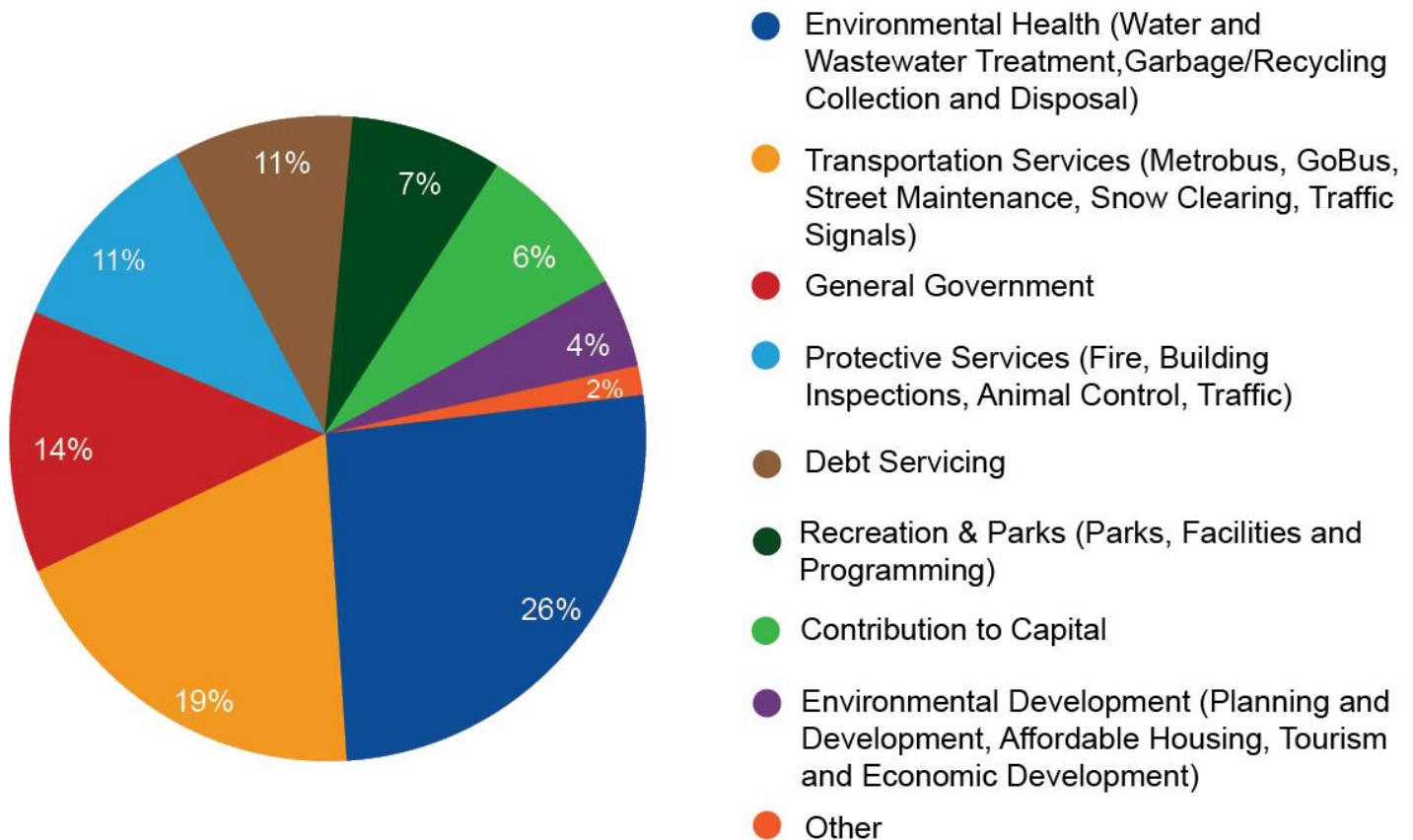
2015 Revenue Highlights

- Residential Property Tax rate will remain at 8.1 mils
- Business Property Tax rate will remain at 26.2 mils
- No increase in Water Tax for residential properties
- No increase in Water Tax for commercial properties
- Low income seniors will continue to receive a 25 per cent reduction in their residential property tax
- Seniors in receipt of the tax rebate will also qualify for interest free payments on their residential property tax, this will impact approximately 1,200 homes



2015 Expenditure Highlights

- Employee salary and wage increases are 4 per cent for the period of July 1 to December 31, 2015
- Employees will see their contributions to the Defined Benefit Plan increase from 7.5 per cent to 8.1 per cent. The City will see a slight reduction in its current service contributions from 9.9 per cent to approximately 9.3 per cent, with a goal to move both parties to 50/50 cost sharing. All new hires effective January 1, 2015 will be enrolled in a Defined Contribution Plan
- Enhancements to snow clearing service levels, as indicated in the interim Winter Maintenance Report have been included in the Department of Public Works Budget at a cost of \$1.7 million
- Council has approved the Engage! St. John's Task Force Report, and funding has been provided for its implementation



2015 SCHEDULE OF TAX RATES



	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Residential Properties	8.10 mils	8.10 mils
Commercial Properties	26.20 mils	26.20 mils
 Water Tax	 \$615.00	 \$615.00
<i>Applies to Residential Units and Commercial Properties not taxed by water meter.</i>		
Water by Meter Rates:		
<u>Usage Rates:</u>		
Per 1,000 Gallons	\$6.04	\$6.04
Per Cubic Metre	\$1.32	\$1.32
 <u>Monthly Base Charge:</u>		
5/8" Meter	\$29.30	\$29.30
3/4" Meter	\$44.02	\$44.02
1.0" Meter	\$73.28	\$73.28
1.5" Meter	\$146.47	\$146.47
2.0" Meter	\$233.65	\$233.65
3.0" Meter	\$467.76	\$467.76
4.0" Meter	\$747.72	\$747.72
6.0" Meter	\$1,461.52	\$1,461.52
8.0" Meter	\$2,337.76	\$2,337.76
10.0" Meter	\$3,359.44	\$3,359.44

Other Rates and Levies:

Companies defined under Utility Tax Act

2.5% of Gross Revenue

INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE



In conjunction with the move to a three year budget planning process, the 2013-2015 capital budget outlined spending in the vicinity of \$300 million. These monies covered a wide range of capital projects from new recreational facilities, to street improvements and maintenance, to basic water sewer and road infrastructure projects.

Council recognizes the importance of providing and maintaining basic infrastructure needs for City residents.

Ensuring quality drinking water, proper sewage treatment, and enhanced street quality all contribute to the quality of life in the City. The following table highlights a number of these projects:

Water Related Projects	\$45,400,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water main upgrades on Portugal Cove Road, Mayor Avenue, Allendale Road• Kenmount/Jenson Camp Reservoir Feeds (Topsail to Blackmarsh)• Second Jenson Camp Reservoir• Goldstone Street PRV Chamber• Kilbride Water Pressure Zone Changes
Streets Rehabilitation	\$31,000,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintenance and repair of existing streets throughout City
Sanitary Sewer Upgrades	\$10,500,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Areas include Pine Bud Place, Craigmillar Avenue, the Battery,• Quidi Vidi - Sanitary Sewer Diversion
Downtown Parking Spaces	\$8,500,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expanding Parking Spaces in Downtown Core in the Water and Henry Street areas
Main Road Upgrading	\$5,200,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Main Road in the Goulds and Bay Bulls Road
Sidewalk Maintenance	\$4,600,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sidewalk Replacement - various areas• Sidewalk installation - Logy Bay Road, Kenmount Road, St. Kevin's School
Bridge Replacement	\$2,300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carnell Drive

Total Road, Water and Sewer Projects: \$107,500,000

EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS AND THE PENSION LIABILITY



The City has four-year, collective agreements with its NAPE and CUPE employees. Highlights include:

- An 18 per cent wage increase over four years: 5 per cent in 2014; 4 per cent in 2015; 4 per cent in 2016; and 5 per cent in 2017.
- A prorated signing bonus up to \$1000 for all members (depending on service) with a minimum payment of \$350.
- Increased shift premiums and an increased meal allowance.

“Negotiated salary increases help to bring the City more in line with other employers, particularly in the skilled trades,” said Mayor O’Keefe. “It is our hope that this will not only help us to attract new employees but will also help us retain current employees as well.”

Addressing the Pension Liability

Pension plans around the world have been negatively impacted by the global economic downturn; City pensions are no different. In 2013, Council reviewed and addressed its own pension plan, and throughout 2014 the focus turned to the employee plan.

Due to an unfunded liability exceeding \$70 million the City is required to make special payments exceeding \$8 million in order to reduce this deficit.

The City of St. John’s is pleased to announce that a long-term strategy has been adopted this year that will address the City’s pension liability. Effective January 1, 2015 the defined benefit plan will effectively be closed with all new hires entering a defined contribution pension plan.

Under the new arrangement, the City’s pension consultants project that the City will spend less on employee pensions than it would have had the current plan been maintained. Savings are expected to commence around 2021 and continue to increase significantly on an annual basis.

- All current employees and beneficiaries as of December 31, 2014 will maintain their defined benefit plan as it currently exists, for life.
- Current premiums will increase from 7.5 per cent to 8.1 per cent and will be shared with the employer on a 50/50 basis.
- Employee shares’ will never exceed 9 per cent in future years.
- New hires effective January 1, 2015 will be enrolled in a defined contribution pension plan.
- For the first 3 years of employment, contributions will be matched by the employer at 6 per cent of salary.
- After 3 years, the contribution rate will rise to 7 per cent.

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY



Public Transit

- Despite increasing costs, transit rates will remain frozen with no increase in 2015
- GoBus accessible transit program now offers complete fare parity with Metrobus
- Exploring how the City may support accessible taxi services in 2015

Affordable Housing

- Creating Opportunities: Housing Our Community outlines a plan to increase housing affordability in St. John's, targeting 500 new homes by 2017
- Completed 24 affordable housing units on Charter Avenue, the first new homes the City has built since 1992; with these 24 units, the City now manages 454 affordable housing units
- Offering City-owned land for redevelopment
- Establishing new zoning and development policies to encourage affordable housing construction
- Continuing to advocate for government funding
- To bring our fees more in line with private sector market fees, a percentage of our non-profit housing units will experience a nominal increase of \$20 per month
- Partnering with End Homelessness St. John's to administer the Homelessness Strategy Fund

Planning Investments

- Envision St. John's Municipal Plan, adopted summer 2014
- The implementation of the new municipal plan will occur in 2015, with the development of the accompanying municipal plan regulations
- Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan, 2014

Parks and Facilities

- Southlands Community Centre, opened July 2014
- Paul Reynolds Community Centre (Wedgewood Park); expected completion fall, 2016
- Early 2015: consultations for a new west-end community centre
- \$500,000 capital reserve for facility improvements at Mile One, 2015
- Bowring Park: \$2.5 million pool house, 2015
- Bannerman Park: expected completion 2015; the Loop reopens winter 2015
- Bidgood Park, opened fall 2014
- Victoria Park revitalization: community consultations, 2015
- The City has allocated \$10 million towards the development of a new park for the Kenmount Terrace area; planning will begin early in the new year

Grants and Festivities

- \$1.8 million in grants to community organizations; continued in 2015
- City-wide celebrations (New Year's Eve, Winter Festivities, St. John's Days, Canada Day, etc.)
- First World War Commemorations; grants and legacy edifice, \$1 million
- Continued investment in arts and artists; youth; senior's; tourism

ENHANCED FIRE PROTECTION



Enhanced Fire Protection

The mission of the St. John's Regional Fire Department (SJRFDD) is to provide professional emergency services and safety programs to protect life, property and environment for all citizens. In an effort to enhance fire protection on a regional basis, a consultant has been engaged to review and assess the future locations of fire stations under the SJRFDD to meet the growing demands in the region. With the completion of the West Fire Station and commencement of a new station in Paradise (Paradise Station 8), residents have the security of improved fire protection services.

NEW West Fire Station - \$6 million

Open in 2014, this new station has four full size apparatus bays, an emergency power generator, a hose drying tower with a state of the art lift system. It presently houses six firefighters and can accommodate up to 10.

NEW Paradise Station 8 - \$5.2 million

Scheduled to open in 2016, the new station will be a three apparatus bay station with one fire engine and assigned crew. Once the new station is operational, SJRFDD will have increased its staffing compliment by four Fire Captains and 12 Firefighters.

New Equipment and Upgrades to SJRFDD

- A Water Supply Unit, otherwise known as a water tanker, was commissioned and is now operational. This unit increases ability to provide water in areas of low or no municipal water supply for firefighting purposes.
- Four of the SJRFDD Confined Space Rescue Technicians have been upgraded to Instructor status for ongoing enhancement of the specialty team.
- Goulds Station 7 was equipped with a new Quad-Cab Rescue Truck to augment response capability and ensure firefighters are safely transported to emergency scenes.
- SJRFDD in conjunction with IAFF Local 1075, firefighters union, have been trained to address potential infectious disease.
- Enhanced community outreach - SJRFDD now provides regular fire safety information to the Association for New Canadians, and the *Learn not to Burn* program is offered in schools within the region.
- Funds allocated to improve Mount Pearl and Kenmount Fire Stations.