

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

SUBJECT: REDUCE SEWER PARCEL TAX INCREASE ON 2025 PROPERTY TAX BILL

RECOMMENDATION:

WHEREAS property taxes are a significant financial burden for residents and businesses, impacting affordability and economic stability;

WHEREAS rising municipal service and infrastructure costs must be managed responsibly to balance financial pressures on property owners, particularly amid inflationary challenges;

WHEREAS Burnaby continues to charge a sewer parcel tax that other municipalities have eliminated, and this tax appears on property tax bills, often being conflated with the general property tax levy, creating the perception of a higher overall property tax increase; and

WHEREAS Burnaby City Council approved a 20% sewer utility cost increase in response to Metro Vancouver's 49.48% hike, further adding to financial strain on taxpayers;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the approved 20% increase for the sewer parcel tax be removed for 2025.

REPORT

At the Financial Management Committee Open meeting held on March 4, 2025, the Chair brought forward the above recommendation as a matter of Other Business, requesting the approved 20% increase for the sewer parcel tax be removed for 2025.

The recommendation was adopted and is now before Council for approval.

On behalf of the Financial Management
Committee,

Councillor S. Dhaliwal
Chair

Councillor A. Gu
Vice Chair