



John Kovac

CITY COUNCILLOR, WARD 4 - NEWS



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Greetings,

Welcome to my 2023 Fall/Winter newsletter, providing you with relevant and useful local news and information. Members of City Council will soon be deliberating on the 2024 City budget. This process is always a collaborative effort and includes receiving recommendations and guidance from the City's Finance staff as well as feedback from Mississauga residents. Your input is both welcomed and required. I invite you to call or write-in and express your views on how you would like to see the City's 2024 Budget constructed.

Over this past year, I have attended numerous events, festivals and local gatherings in our Ward 4 community. I had the privilege and pleasure of

meeting and talking to so many residents and neighbours. There is always a lot happening in our Ward and across the city. I have been directly involved in significant infrastructure projects ranging from water and sanitary improvements to road safety enhancement installations. With a population of 717, 961, it is essential that we continue to invest in the maintenance and sustainment of our city.

With Mississauga's continued growth and expansion, support for alternative modes of transportation becomes more of a necessity with each passing year. The Hurontario Light Rail (LRT) transit project remains on-course: metrolinx.com/hazelmccallionline. In addition, new walking and cycling

infrastructure is also being developed and added to our city.

I would love to hear from you! Please reach out to my office at any time to discuss any matter - especially if it is municipal related - and my team will do our best to assist and accommodate you. My office contact number is 905-896-5400 and my email address is: john.kovac@mississauga.ca.

With your continued support for and dedication to our community, Ward 4 continues to flourish and grow!

John Kovac
Councillor, Ward 4

Our Upcoming Budget

The annual City budget allows the City to pay for necessary programs, services and infrastructure like emergency services, road maintenance and public transit. It also enables us to save for the future and unexpected events, such as storms, floods and other emergencies, that might lead to costly repairs.

Additionally, the budget allows us to invest in things that improve the quality of life in Mississauga and advance our growth plans. This includes maintaining our parks and outdoor recreational spaces, providing connected transit routes, building places to play and vibrant communities.

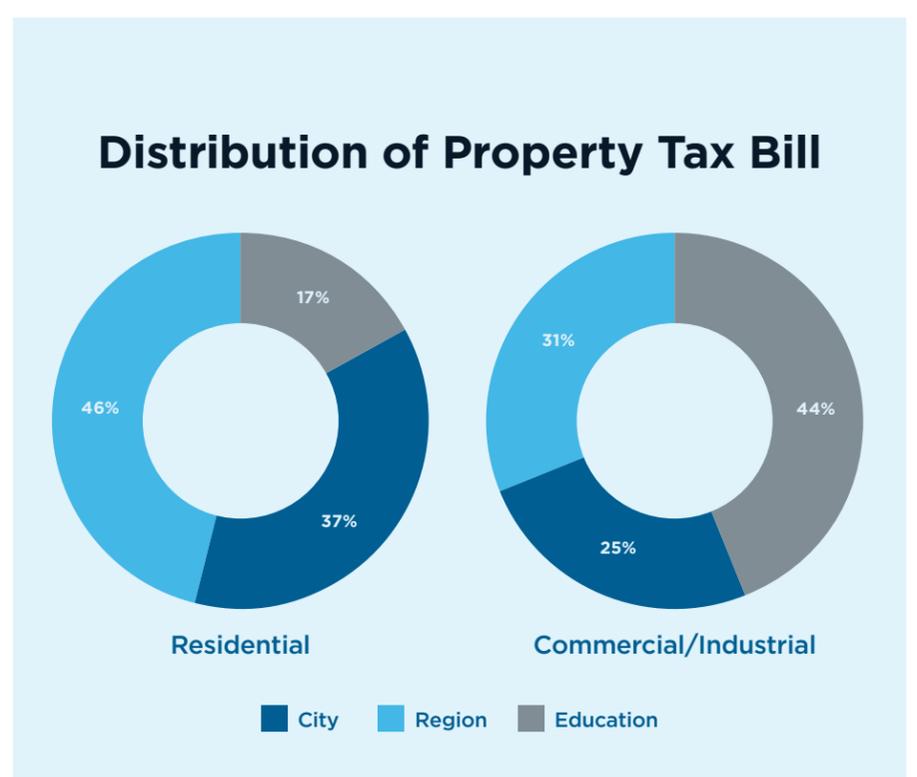
Programs and Services

Overall, the budget consists of an operating budget and capital budget. The capital budget allows us to purchase things like buses, while the operating budget allows us to pay for drivers and fuel.

Every year, the City budget funds more than 200 programs and services organized into service areas, including:

- Facilities and Property Management
- Fire and Emergency Services
- Mississauga Library
- Transit
- Planning and Building
- Parks, Forestry and Environment
- Recreation and Culture
- Regulatory Services
- Roads
- Stormwater

I would invite you to visit the City's website to read the City's proposed 2024 Budget and to find out how you can get involved. mississauga.ca/budget.



Please join me for a Ward 4 Virtual 2024 Budget Information Session

Thursday, November 30 at 7 p.m.
Visit johnkovac4.ca for the meeting link and details.

Update: Bloor Street Integrated Road Project

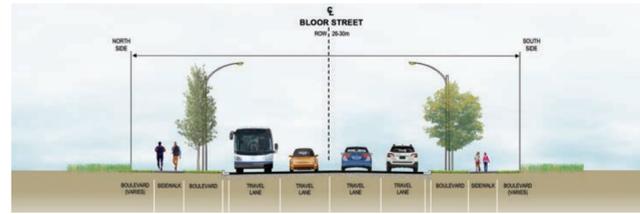
While I have been supportive of an 'integrated' plan for Bloor Street since this project was first conceived and recommended by city staff from the Transportation & Works Department, I have been a proponent of Alternative 5 since it was first presented as an option to the public in March of 2022.

In speaking with and surveying residents of our ward, I had personally felt that Alternative 5 struck the right balance. I still do. All four vehicular lanes would have been retained, but narrowed in order to decrease speeding while still allowing for in-boulevard cycle tracks, new widened sidewalks and enhanced lighting fixtures. In many ways, Alternative 5 is similar to Alternative 6, but retains the four travel lanes.

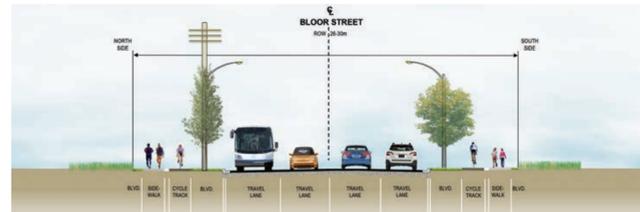
Ultimately, Mayor & Council chose to vote in support of Alternative 6 at the June 28th Council meeting, in a 6-4 vote. While I had voted for Alternative 5, I continue to remain a supporter of 'road integration' and so will now move forward in working collaboratively with City staff and with what will be the project team to revitalize Bloor Street.

If you would like to discuss the Bloor Street Integrated Project and its upcoming detailed design phase, please reach out to me at any time. Alternatively, you may also contact the project's Ambassador at: capital.fieldambassador@mississauga.ca.

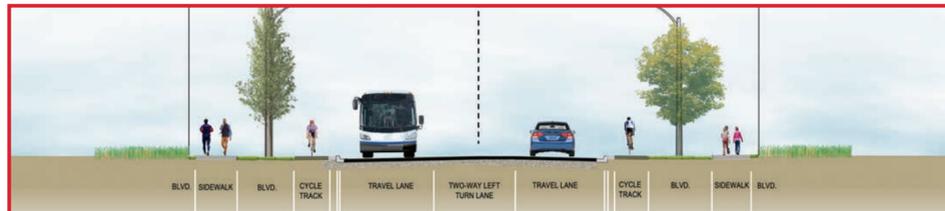
To learn more about the project, visit mississauga.ca/bloorstreet.



Existing Bloor Street Cross-section



Bloor Street - Alternative 5



Bloor Street - Approved Alternative 6

New Head Start Signals

This year, the City has been implementing Pedestrian Head Start Signals (also known as Leading Pedestrian Intervals) as well as Bike Head Start Signals (also known as Leading Bike Intervals). This update gives pedestrians and cyclists a five-second head start into their crossing before the light turns green for vehicles.

From a road safety perspective, Head Start Signals will help increase the visibility of people crossing through an intersection, reinforce their right of way and encourage drivers to yield. It also provides those with mobility challenges more time to begin their crossing before vehicles enter the intersection.

Signal changes will happen where Accessible Pedestrian Signals (also known as Audible Pedestrian Signals) are already in place. In Mississauga, close to 200 intersections will be updated with Pedestrian Head Start Signals, and more than 50 intersections with existing bike signals will be updated with Bike Head Start Signals.

In Ward 4, more than 20 intersections have been updated with Pedestrian and Bike Head Start Signals.



Travel Safely Around the City

It's important to know how to travel safely around Mississauga on a bike, e-bike or e-scooter. When riding, remember to:

- Obey all road rules, signage, traffic signals and stop signs.
- Be alert and stay aware of your surroundings.
- Ensure your bike and e-bike has a working bell/horn, light and reflectors. You must have a light when riding at night.
- E-bike riders must wear a helmet as well as E-scooter users under the age of 18. All riders are encouraged to wear a helmet for their safety.

Rules and etiquette

Cycling:

- Pass on the left.
- Use your bell or give a friendly verbal warning before passing.
- Slow down and be extra cautious around older adults, children and pets.
- Keep to the right of the path, bike lane or multi-use trail.
- Do not block the path, trail or lane.

- When biking on the road, use hand signals to show your intent to stop, turn or change lanes.

E-scooter:

- Riders must be 16 years old or older to use an e-scooter.
- Allowed on multi-use trails, bike lanes and roads with a posted speed limit of 50 km/h or less.
- Limit speed to 24 km/h.
- Are not permitted on sidewalks or park trails.
- Must be parked upright and placed near a bike rack.

E-bike:

- Riders must be 16 years old or older to use an e-bike.
- Allowed on multi-use trails, bike lanes or on any roads.
- Bikes must be less than 40 kilograms to ride on park trails (e.g. pedal-assist bike).
- Limit speed to 32 km/h.
- Are not permitted on sidewalks.



Reducing Speed in Ward 4

If a pedestrian is hit by a vehicle going 50 km/h or more, they only have a 15 per cent chance of survival. At lower speeds, their rate of survival increases dramatically.

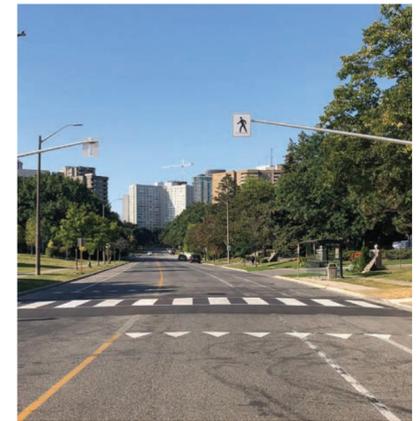
To help remind drivers to slow down and reduce speeds on neighbourhood roads, I have worked with City staff to have Slow Streets and seasonal bollards installed. These temporary devices help remind drivers to slow down so everyone can get where they need to safely.

With these measures in place, our roadways continue to be accessible to all traffic including emergency vehicles, road maintenance vehicles and waste management vehicles.

In Ward 4, these devices have been and will continue to be installed on 13 roadways to encourage drivers to slow down.

- Bud Gregory Boulevard
- Elia Avenue
- Elora Drive
- Guildwood Way
- Huron Heights Drive
- Huntington Ridge Drive
- Hyacinthe Boulevard
- Kingsbridge Garden Circle
- Lolita Gardens
- Meadows Boulevard
- Mississauga Valley Boulevard
- Molly Avenue
- Silver Creek Boulevard

Learn more about road safety: mississauga.ca/roadsafety.



New Pedestrian Crossover

At my request, the City has installed a new raised pedestrian crossover on Mississauga Valley Boulevard, adjacent to Mississauga Valley Community Centre, a central hub in our community. Pedestrian crossovers have warning signs, pavement markings and a signal, and they help provide a safe crossing for pedestrians.

If you're driving or riding your bike, you must stop and yield to pedestrians intending to cross and wait for them to completely reach the other side before continuing.

If you're walking, remember to press the button to signal that you are walking across the crossover.

Installing more crossings is an action as part of our Vision Zero Action Plan. We are working towards reaching the Vision Zero goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries due to collisions on roadways.

Learn more: mississauga.ca/visionzero.

Community Events



Welcoming a Grade 5 class from Silver Creek Public School to City Hall.



Professional Engineers of Ontario (PEO) annual summer picnic.



Cops for Cancer fundraiser at Square One Shopping Centre.



25th anniversary of Father Mario Salvadori's ordination & 45th anniversary of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish.



Mississauga Central Lions Club annual summer picnic.



Mississauga's ITALFEST at Celebration Square.



Appreciation Brunch for members of the Muslim Youth Soccer League.

MARC Program Update

The Mississauga Apartment Rental Compliance (MARC) pilot program is an apartment building standards and maintenance program, similar to the Rentsafe program in Toronto, which aims to ensure apartment property standards are maintained across the city.

If a tenant has identified an issue with their landlord and the issue hasn't been resolved, the tenant can submit a complaint about their building or unit maintenance and the City of Mississauga will work with building owners and landlords to get it fixed.

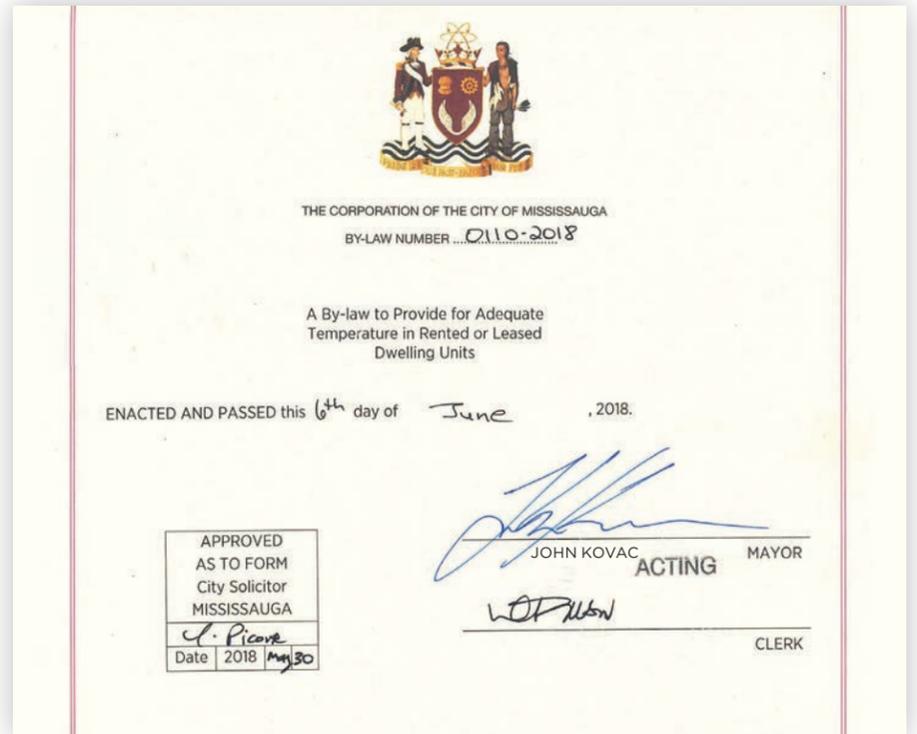
The goal of the five-year pilot program is to ensure that the needs of tenants are being addressed and that rental apartment building owners and landlords comply with maintenance standards.

The pilot features:

- a requirement for building owners and landlords to register each year of the program
- proactive apartment building inspections conducted by a dedicated team of Enforcement staff
- a streamlined complaints process for tenants, including the ability to submit complaints anonymously
- potential fines for owners and landlords who fail to comply

Residents who have reported a repair or maintenance issue to their landlord with no response or action taken are encouraged to submit a request online or call 311.

To learn more, visit mississauga.ca/marc.



Adequate Temperature By-law

On June 6, 2018, while serving as Acting-Mayor, I signed and enacted into municipal law, Mississauga's Adequate Temperature By-law. This was unanimously supported by all members of Council.

For all landlords and tenants - the Adequate Temperature By-law sets a standard for all rented or leased dwelling units in Mississauga, ensuring that buildings are maintained at a suitable temperature during fluctuating and extreme weather.

The by-law requires landlords to provide adequate and suitable heat, meaning the air temperature in a unit is at least 20 degrees Celsius. The by-law also requires landlords to provide adequate and suitable cooling, meaning that the air temperature in a unit does not exceed 26 degrees Celsius when equipped or furnished with an air conditioning system. Additionally, adequate and suitable heat and cooling must also be maintained in all areas of the unit.

To learn more about the Adequate Temperature By-Law, visit mississauga.ca/bylaws.

Upcoming Winter Events

Light Up the Square is taking place on November 25 from 5 to 10 p.m. at Mississauga Celebration Square. This annual celebration kicks-off the winter season and features the lighting of a 35' Christmas tree, live entertainment, ice skating, a holiday street market and more.

The City will also host its annual **New Year's Eve** event on the Square on Sunday, December 31. Be sure to check saugalive.ca for more details coming soon.

To keep you warm and cozy all winter long, I'm pleased to share that I helped coordinate **Fire Lanterns** 🔥 on the Square. Please enjoy them when you visit!



KNOW WHO TO CALL

3-1-1 for direct access to local municipal government programs and services in Peel:

- garbage pick up
- water billing
- recreation programs

2-1-1 for confidential information and referral to non-emergency community, health and social services in Peel:

- employment leads
- doctors accepting new patients
- social housing resources

9-1-1 for life-threatening emergencies or crimes:

- a fire
- a crime in progress
- a medical emergency

Ward 4 Councillor John Kovac

Contact Me:

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