



# 2023 Regional Business Plans and Property Tax Supported Budget Guideline

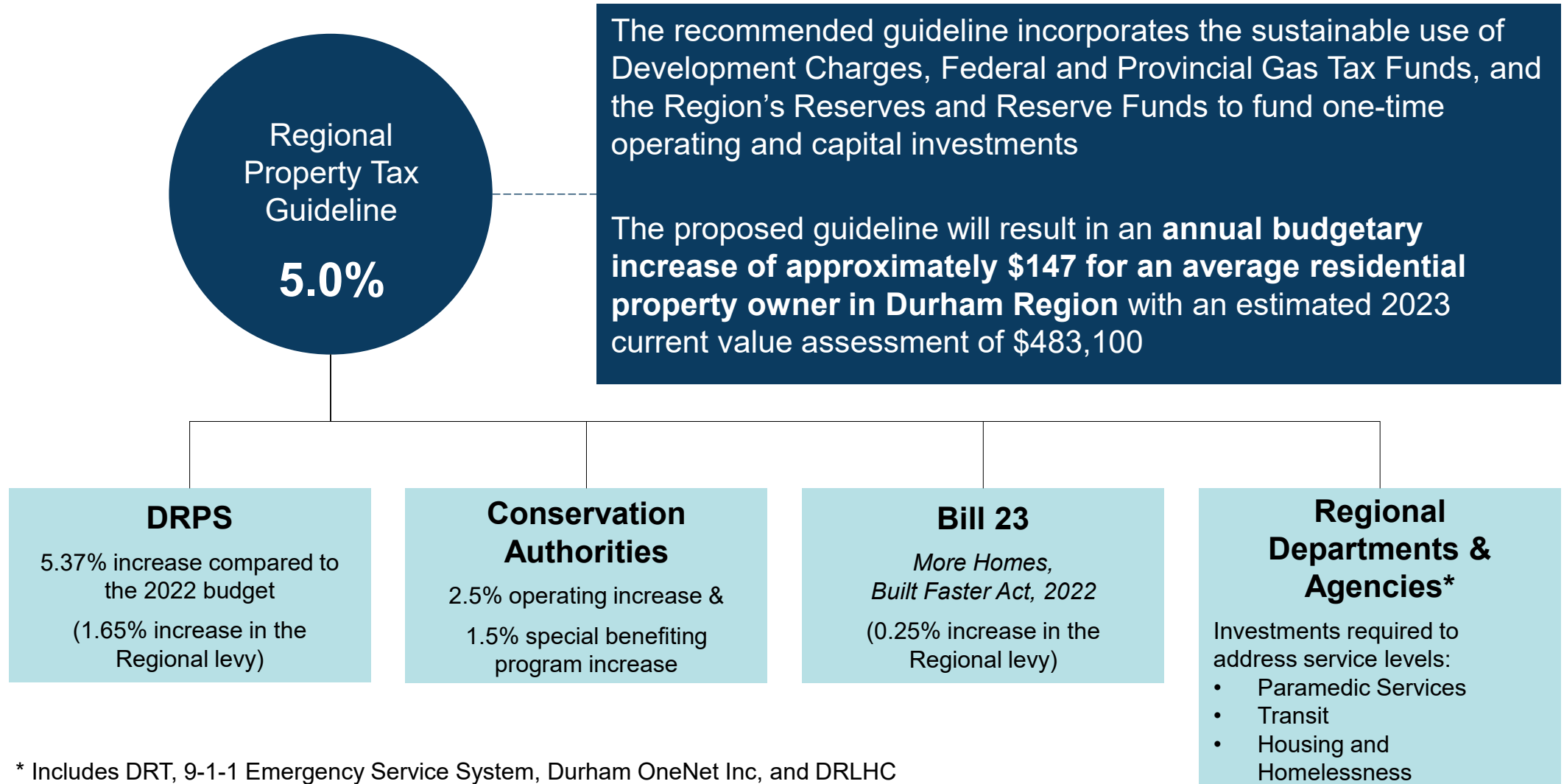
*Finance and Administration  
Committee, January 17, 2023*



# Purpose and Use of the Guideline

Establishes an **overall property tax cap** for the 2023 property tax supported business plans and budgets

Ensures **alignment** with Council's tax levy expectations and service level implications





# 2023 Budget Pressures



## Base Pressures

- Significant inflationary pressures in 2022 and projected for 2023 (estimate \$8.1 million increase in fuel costs)
- Capital cost escalations
- Staff and service contract cost increases
- The annualization of 2022 budget decisions and decisions approved in-year



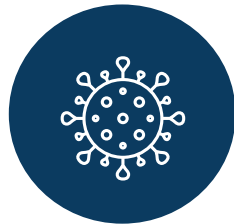
## Investment in Critical Front Line Core Service Areas

- Paramedic Services Masterplan Review and Implementation Strategy
- Durham Region Transit's Long-Term Investment Plan



## 2023 Strategic Investment Pressures

- Targeted investments in Durham Regional Police Service
- Investments to advance the implementation of the Region's Strategic Plan



## COVID-19 Recovery

- Ongoing vaccine rollout and addressing backlog in critical Public Health program areas
- Transit ridership recovery and ongoing enhanced cleaning
- Screening, additional infection control products, and cleaning supplies at the Region's LTC Homes



## Provincial / Federal Funding Impacts

- Homelessness Supports
- Paramedic Services
- Public Health
- Social Assistance
- Childcare
- Ukrainian Humanitarian Response in Durham
- Long-term Care
- Police



## Impacts from Legislative and Regulatory Changes

- Current or potential changes that may have fiscal impacts for the Region include:
- Bill 23 – *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*
  - Transfer responsibility for prosecution of Part III and Part IX POA charges



# Strategic Investment: Region of Durham Paramedic Services



## Key Milestone

The Paramedic Services Masterplan Review and Implementation Strategy report will be presented to Committee and Council in February with a 10-year financial forecast that includes:

- Staff resourcing plan
- Capital plan including new stations and increased state of good repair investments



## Objective

Building on the information contained in the Comprehensive Master Plan for Paramedic Services provided by ORH develop a forward looking 10-year (2023 – 2032) implementation strategy to address response time service levels which continue to be impacted by:

- Population growth and demographic changes
- Offload delay challenges at hospitals
- Employee wellness and sustained resiliency



## Financing

- Projected 2023 gross spending increase of approximately \$11 million, including projected increase in provincial funding
- 2023 proposed guideline includes 0.43% increase dedicated for Paramedic Services
- Increased investment will be required over forecast to increase service performance



# Strategic Investment: Durham Region Transit



## Key Milestone

The Durham Region Transit's Long-Term Investment Plan report will be presented to the Transit Executive Committee, Finance and Administration Committee and Council in February

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## Key Priorities

The 10-year implementation strategy looks to advance the following key priorities:

- Service enhancements and growth
  - Fleet transition to zero greenhouse gas emission vehicles
  - Passenger amenities and infrastructure
  - Fare modernization
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## Financing

- 2023 proposed guideline includes 1.48% increase dedicated for Durham Region Transit
- Significant increases in senior government funding for transit will be required to fund the 10-year investment plan



# Durham Regional Police Service

## Overview

Durham Regional Police Services have identified a total 2023 budget pressures of \$14.21 million (6.09 per cent)

- Base Pressures - \$10.17 million
  - Contractual increase (\$6.2 million), annualization of new positions (\$2.2 million), operational areas (\$0.74 million), revenue increases (\$1.1 million), and various items (\$2.13 million)
- Body Worn Camera (Phase 3 of 3) – \$0.37 million
- Strategic Investments - \$3.67 million
  - 39 new positions – including 20 front line officers

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## Recommendation

- A 2023 guideline of a 5.37 per cent increase on the Durham Regional Police Service Budget (1.65 per cent overall increase to the Regional property tax levy).
- This includes an increase of \$10.17 million to fund base pressures and an increase of \$2.35 million to fund the incremental costs for year three of the body worn camera implementation (\$0.37 million) and other strategic priorities of the Durham Regional Police Services Board (\$1.98 million)



# Future Pressures

Based on current modeling, the Region anticipates annual property tax increases for 2024 to 2027 to be consistent with the 2023 property tax guideline.

Staff continue to pursue all opportunities for provincial and federal partnerships to offset as much capital and operating impacts as possible

## Environmental Sustainability

- Investments to implement Corporate Climate Action Plan
- Implement the Region's Long-term Waste Management Strategy

## Community Vitality

- Paramedic Services Masterplan Review and Implementation Strategy
- Durham Region Transit's Long-Term Investment Plan
- New Regional long-term care home in North Pickering (Seaton)
- Increased investment in Durham Regional Police Services

## Economic Prosperity

- Advance transit-oriented development opportunities

## Social Investment

- Implement the Region's Master Housing Strategy
- Two new Regional operated childcare centres

## Service Excellence

- Implement the findings from the Works Depot Rationalization study



# Embedding Enhanced Public Engagement



Hosting a Budget Town Hall where **more than 14,000 Durham Region residents** participated over the phone or on the Region's website. Residents were encouraged - over a variety of platforms - to provide their questions, feedback and suggestions.

Highlights of some of the areas of focus included:

- Roads and Planning for Growth
- Regional Transit
- Housing and Homelessness
- Affordability



Utilizing a **year-round engagement plan** in an approach aligned with the cadence of the annual Budget process and enabling input to help inform budgetary decisions assisted by an internal process review

Residents are encouraged to ask questions and share their ideas and priorities for the 2023 Budget online by using the [Have Your Say! Tool](#) or by emailing [budgets@durham.ca](mailto:budgets@durham.ca)

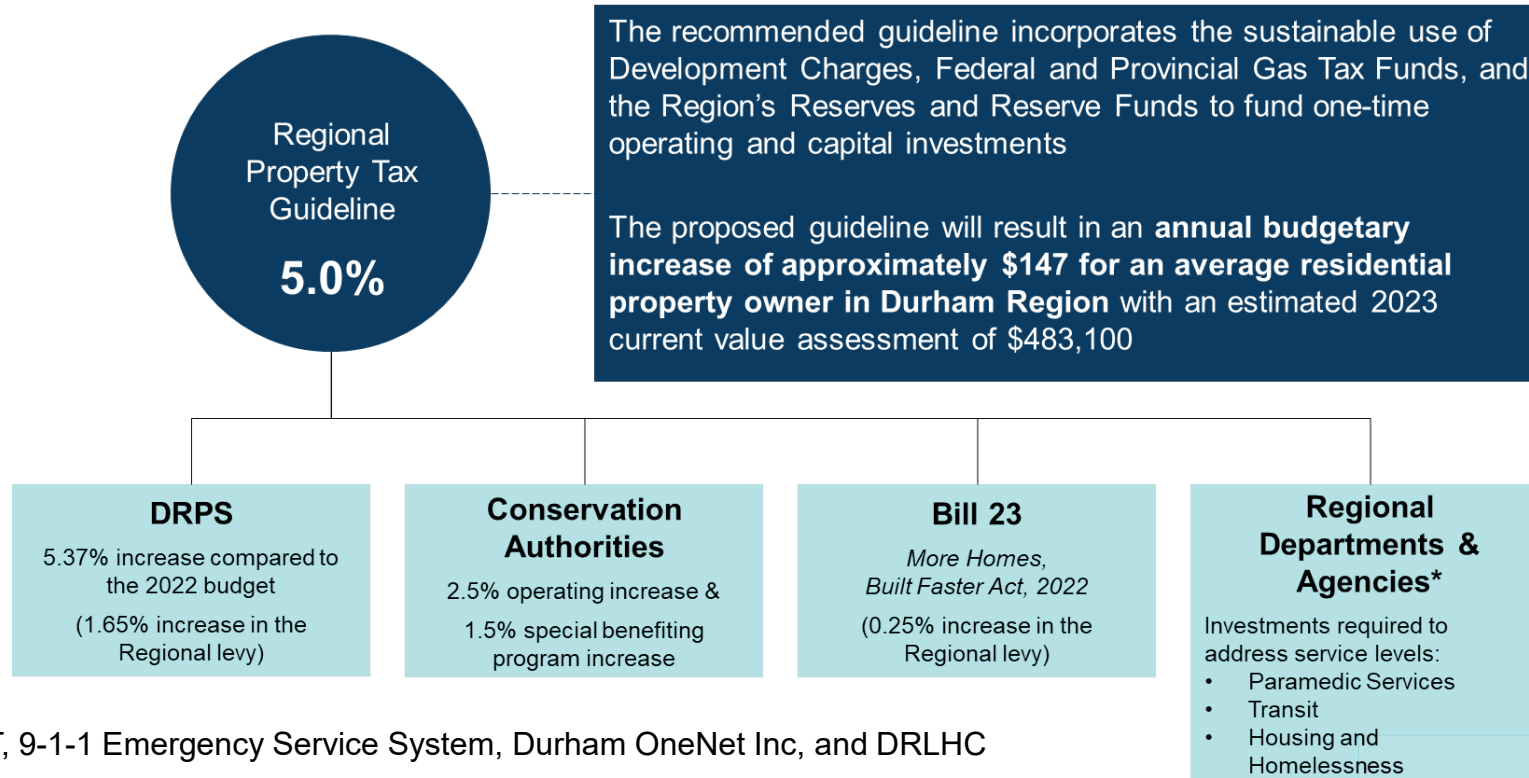




# Conclusion

The recommended guideline supports:

- Investments in **Critical Front Line Service Areas** including paramedic services, transit and homelessness and housing supports;
- Meeting the challenges of **inflation** and accounting for **future growth**;
- Strategic Plan** priorities; and
- Senior government **funding and legislative / regulatory landscape**



\* Includes DRT, 9-1-1 Emergency Service System, Durham OneNet Inc, and DRLHC



# Questions?



# Thank you!

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