Municipality of

Inverness County

26-27
GENERAL CAPITAL BUDGET

Investing today.
Building stronger communities
for today and tomorrow.

STRONGER COMMUNITIES | SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE | RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENTS | A LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

CRITICAL INVESTMENTS. STRONGER COMMUNITIES. SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.

Investing in infrastructure today ensures reliable services, supports growth, and builds a resilient community for generations to come.

INFRASTRUCTURE:
THE FOUNDATION OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Municipal infrastructure underpins all essential services, including:

WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS
Provide safe, reliable water and effective wastewater treatment.

SOLID WASTE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
Ensure responsible waste management and protect our environment.

RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES
Support healthy, vibrant communities and enhance quality of life.

TRANSPORTATION AND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS
Connect people and places safely and support mobility and economic activity.

THESE ASSETS ARE CRITICAL TO:

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY
Protecting our residents and the environment.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Attracting investment, supporting businesses, and creating jobs.

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE
Building inclusive, resilient communities where people want to live and stay.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Safeguarding natural resources for future generations.

Delaying infrastructure investment today increases risks, costs, and service disruptions tomorrow.
Sustainable infrastructure is the foundation for a strong and thriving municipality.

UPDATED INFRASTRUCTURE VALUATION AND RENEWAL NEED

Understanding the true value of the Municipality's infrastructure and the cost to renew it is essential to making informed decisions today and building a sustainable tomorrow.

MUNICIPALITY INFRASTRUCTURE. FUTURE FOCUSED.

Updated data. Rising costs. Continued responsibility.

A COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT COMPLETED IN 2019 IDENTIFIED:

$186 million
in water and wastewater assets

$103.1 million
in required renewal investment over 10 years

Since that time, significant market changes have occurred.

UPDATED (2026) ESTIMATES:

Asset Value: **$230 million – $250 million**

10-YEAR RENEWAL NEED:
$130 million – $140 million

ANNUAL REQUIREMENT:
~$13 million per year

THESE UPDATED ESTIMATES REFLECT:

INFLATION
in construction materials and labour

SUPPLY CHAIN IMPACTS
driving cost increases and longer lead times

INCREASED REGULATORY AND DESIGN STANDARDS
resulting in higher levels of service and compliance

Proactive investment in infrastructure today helps protect service levels, **reduces long-term costs,** and builds a stronger, more resilient community.

THE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING GAP

A significant portion of the required infrastructure renewal is currently unfunded.

Provincial funding cuts and the elimination or reduction of programs such as **PCAP, MIP, MCGP, FRIIP,** and **GRID** significantly reduce the Municipality's ability to offset the capital cost of infrastructure work.

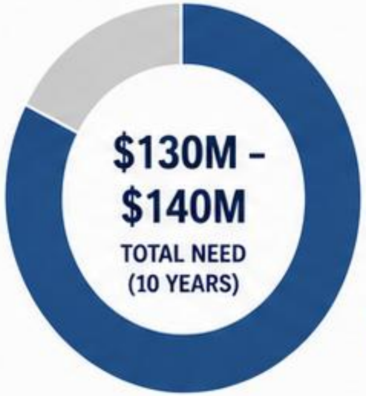
A GROWING GAP. REAL CONSEQUENCES.

This represents a **substantial and growing gap** between:

The value of assets the **Municipality owns** and operates ≠ The **financial capacity** currently available to maintain and replace them

WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE ONLY

Updated (2026) 10-Year Renewal Need



Annual Requirement
~$13M
per year

- Estimated Available Funding (~25%)
- Funding Gap (~75%)

WHERE WE STAND TODAY

Estimated Available Funding (10 years)	**~$30M – $35M**
Funding Gap (10 years)	**~$95M – $110M**

IMPORTANTLY:

- These figures reflect **water and wastewater infrastructure only.**
- They do not include roads, buildings, recreation facilities, or fleet assets.

AS A RESULT, the Municipality's true infrastructure deficit is **materially larger.**

The more funding attracted to offset the municipal capital portion of the work, **the less burden on ratepayers** for complex infrastructure renewal through **local improvement charges** for a percentage of the municipal cost, as per policy.

INVESTING IN WHAT MATTERS
BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

2026–27 Capital Investment by Asset Class

ASSET CLASSES	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Plants	$10,786,000.00	34%
Active Transportation	$6,116,978.00	19%
Lift Stations	$4,168,500.00	13%
Community Growth & Innovation	$3,614,000.00	11%
Roads	$2,068,421.00	6%
Solid Waste	$1,767,789.00	6%
Sanitary Sewer	$1,719,000.00	5%
Buildings	$1,066,000.00	3%
Tools & Equipment	$400,000.00	1%
Vehicles	$145,500.00	0%
Recreation Facility Development	$80,000.00	0%
Land	$77,500.00	0%
TOTAL INVESTMENT	$32,009,688.00	100%

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION IN ACTION. INFRASTRUCTURE THAT CONNECTS PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES.

Municipal investment in active transportation infrastructure creates safe, accessible, and connected routes that make it easier for people of all ages and abilities to walk, bike, wheel, and move through their community.

BETTER COMMUNITIES.
BETTER LIVES.
STRONGER FUTURE.

EXAMPLES OF MUNICIPAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

These infrastructure elements create a connected, safe, and accessible network that supports walking, cycling, wheeling, and other active forms of travel.

SIDEWALKS

Safe, comfortable spaces for walking that connect people to important destinations.

MULTI USE TRAILS

Off road pathways for walking, cycling, wheeling, and other active uses that connect our communities and natural spaces.

BIKE LANES & PROTECTED CYCLE TRACKS

Designated spaces that improve safety for cyclists and encourage more people to ride.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Marked crosswalks, signals, and enhanced crossings that improve safety and make streets more accessible for everyone.

BRIDGES & BOARDWALKS

Connections that link neighbourhoods, pathways, and natural areas while overcoming barriers.

ACCESSIBLE CURB RAMPS & TACTILE SURFACES

Ensure everyone, including people with disabilities, can travel safely and independently.

TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

Design features that slow traffic, reduce congestion, and create safer, more comfortable streets.

WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE

Clear signs and maps that help people navigate with confidence and discover our community.

BIKE PARKING & AMENITIES

Secure bike parking, repair stations, and other amenities that support active travel.

LIGHTING & STREET FURNITURE

Thoughtful lighting, benches, and streetscape elements that improve comfort, safety, and usability.

THE BENEFITS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Improved safety for all road users
- Better health and well being
- Lower emissions and cleaner air
- Enhanced accessibility and inclusion
- Stronger local economy
- Improved quality of life to attract and retain population
- Stronger, more connected communities

Investing in active transportation infrastructure builds healthier, safer, and more connected communities where people want to live, work, and play—today and for generations to conme.

Improved quality of life helps attract and retain population and creates a thriving future for all.

VIA FUNDING SOURCE

FUNDING SOURCE	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Provincial (Grants)	$11,432,703.77	36%
Federal (Grants)	$9,437,124.20	29%
Debenture (Municipal Debt through the Municipal Finance Corporation)	$8,321,991.53	26%
LIC (Local Improvement Charge)	$1,440,133.50	4%
Build Canada Strong Fund (Gas Tax)	$831,000.00	3%
ISC (Indigenous Services Canada)	$546,735.00	2%
Reserves	$0.00	0%
TOTAL	$32,009,688.00	100%

Provincial (Grants)
Grants provided by the Province of Nova Scotia to support eligible municipal capital projects.

Federal (Grants)
Grants provided by the Government of Canada to support eligible municipal capital projects.

Debenture (Municipal Debt through the Municipal Finance Corporation)
Municipal debt obtained through the Municipal Finance Corporation to fund capital investments.

LIC (Local Improvement Charge)
Recoverable monies of the municipal contribution of certain capital projects from eligible residents through a local improvement charge.

Build Canada Strong Fund (Gas Tax)
Monies provided to the municipality through the collection of gas tax.

ISC (Indigenous Services Canada)
Funding provided by Indigenous Services Canada for projects serving We'koqma'q.

Reserves
Funds set aside by the municipality to support future capital investments.

Working together. Investing wisely.
Building stronger communities for today and tomorrow.

INTERNAL VS. EXTERNAL FUNDING

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
External Funding *(Federal, Provincial, ISC & LIC)*	$23,687,696.47	74%
MOCI *(Municipal Contribution)*	$8,321,991.53	26%
TOTAL	**$32,009,688.00**	**100%**

Strategic investment decisions that are maximizing the impact of local tax dollars.
74 cents of every capital dollar invested in 2026–27 comes from external funding partners (federal, provincial, ISC and LIC), representing **74%** of the total capital plan and reducing the burden on municipal taxpayers.
Every **$1.00** of municipal investment leverages approximately **$2.75** in external funding, generating **$3.75** in total infrastructure investment.
This approach maximizes the impact of local tax dollars while delivering critical infrastructure, community amenities and economic development opportunities.

HIGHLIGHTS

PROTECTING ESSENTIAL SERVICES

More than half of the capital budget is dedicated to critical wastewater infrastructure that supports safe, reliable and high-quality municipal services.

MAXIMIZING EXTERNAL FUNDING

74% of every capital dollar invested in 2026–27 comes from external funding partners (federal, provincial, ISC, LIC and Build Canada Strong Fund).

SUPPORTING GROWTH

Investment in initiatives that drive economic growth, enhance community well-being and strengthen long-term sustainability.

RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Strong use of grants, municipal debt and recoverable funding minimizes reliance on local debt and taxation.

- More than half of the capital budget is dedicated to critical wastewater infrastructure (treatment facilities, lift stations and sanitary sewer) totalling **$16.67M** or **52%** of the total general capital budget.

- The Municipality is leveraging significant external funding, with **74%** of every capital dollar invested in 2026–27 coming from federal, provincial, ISC, LIC and Build Canada Strong Fund funding sources. This demonstrates strong success in attracting partner funding while reducing the burden on municipal taxpayers and maximizing the impact of local investment.

- Active transportation continues to be a strategic investment totaling **$6.12M** or **19%** of total capital spending which supports community health, accessibility, tourism, climate resilience, and safer transportation networks.

- Growth focused investment continues, **$3.61 million** or **11%** of total capital budget. This investment supports economic and community development, population attraction strategies, community amenities and long-term sustainability objectives.

LIMITED SPENDING ON ADMINISTRATIVE ASSETS

Buildings:	3%
Vehicles:	<1%
Tools & Equipment:	1%
Recreation Facilities:	<1%

ECONOMIC IMPACT & COMMUNITY BENEFITS

*Municipal infrastructure investment does more than build assets—it builds a stronger economy. The 2026–27 Capital Plan delivers **measurable economic benefits** across Inverness County.*

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

Industry Standard Multiplier Analysis

TOTAL INVESTMENT

$32.0M

2026–27 Capital Plan Investment

TOTAL ECONOIMIC ACTIVITY GENERATED

$48M–$58M

Based on 1.5x–1.8x Economic Multiplier

JOB-YEARS SUPPORTED

200–250

Full-time Equivalent Jobs (Direct, Indirect & Induced)

Every **$1.00** invested in the local economy is expected to generate **$1.50–$1.80** in economic activity and support **6–8** job-years per $1 million invested.

LOCAL BUSINESS SPIN-OFFS

- Local excavation, trucking & aggregate suppliers
- Fuel distributors
- Hardware & building supply stores
- Restaurants, food services & accommodations
- Equipment rental providers, contractors & trades
- Professional services: engineering, environmental, surveying & more
- Waste management & hauling services

STRONGER TODAY. BETTER TOMORROW.

Strategic infrastructure investment creates good jobs, supports local businesses, strengthens our tax base, and improves quality of life for residents—today and for generations to come.

These impacts extend well beyond construction, leaving a lasting legacy for our communities.

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STRONGER COMMUNITIES

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENTS

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