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NEWS RELEASE

December 5, 2024

County Council Approves the 2025 Operating and Capital Budget

For Immediate Release – On December 3, 2024, the County of Wetaskiwin's Council approved the Operating and Capital Budget for 2025. The comprehensive budget, amounting to \$48.7 million, includes \$26 million funded through tax support. This budget represents a 3.55% tax increase for the average residential ratepayer, based on a property valued at \$350,000—equivalent to less than the cost of a Big Mac each month. The County's Mill Rate will be determined in 2025, post-receipt of provincial assessment figures and the educational requisition with the Provincial Budget announcement.

“This budget reflects a strategic shift in how we are allocating resources. Going forward we will be concentrating even more on our infrastructure and delivering value for residents,” said Reeve Josh Bishop. “Through the most collaborative process yet, Administration has delivered exactly what we had asked for. Thanks to the whole team!”

Key Highlights of Budget 2025

- Enhancing 40 kilometers of gravel roads through strategic investments in both operating and capital budgets, prioritizing cost-effectiveness and maximizing value for residents.
- Actively seeking grants to reduce reliance on local tax dollars to fund critical infrastructure.
- Maintaining core services while investing in initiatives to diversify and grow the County's future.
- Continuing investments in recreation with upgrades at the Winfield Arena, Twin Lakes and Viola Beach Day Use areas, and expanded campground improvements.

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