

# 2026 Financial Plan

## Public Engagement Report



This report provides a summary of public engagement activities conducted following provisional approval of the 2026 - 2030 Financial Plan on October 29, 2025.

Under the *Local Government Act*, regional districts must adopt, by bylaw, a five-year financial plan by March 31 annually. Section 374 stipulates that a board must undertake a process of public consultation regarding the proposed financial plan before it is adopted. Various CRD commissions and committees receive input leading up to the preparation of budgets in the form of user statistics, surveys, advisory body reports, annual operational reports and from a wide variety of public engagement activities. Local and sub-regional commissions may also include rate payer representatives. This input is augmented by a public feedback period from November 2025 – February 2026, focused on the following objectives:

- Inform residents about the financial planning process and outcomes through digital channels (website, social media) and media coverage.
- Collect public feedback about the provisional financial plan to be shared with the board as part of the final budget review and approval process.
- Correct misconceptions about the service and financial planning process or details of the financial plan.

## Engagement Methods

### “Get Involved” Website

The CRD uses its digital engagement platform [GetInvolved.crd.bc.ca](https://getinvolved.crd.bc.ca) to share details of the provisional plan, invite feedback, and answer questions. Comments were collected using an online form then forwarded to the Board via the correspondence portal upon receipt. Provisional plan information remains available online at: [2026 - 2030 Financial Plan | Get Involved CRD](#)

During the feedback period, 3,396 visits resulted in three levels of participation:

- Aware (visited at least one page): 2,053 participants.
- Informed (downloaded documents, visited multiple pages): 1,434 participants.
- Engaged (shared comments or asked questions): 45 participants.

The most popular documents downloaded were the 2026 Preliminary Financial Plan Summary, Capital Projects List and the Committee of the Whole Provisional Budget Package.

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### Media & Information Updates

An information bulletin was sent to media on November 5, 2025. The bulletin highlighted the preliminary financial plan, next steps and how to share feedback.

Agenda items from the Committee of the Whole meeting and links for more information were included in the Board Highlights e-newsletter sent to subscribers in November.

- Information Bulletin: [CRD and CRHD look for public feedback on the provisional 2026 – 2030 financial plans](#) November 5, 2025
- [CRD Board Highlights: November 12, 2025](#)

### Social Media

Staff scheduled a series of posts on social media that provided a snapshot of the budget. Each post included a call to action to learn more on the Get Involved website to drive further audience engagement. Each Facebook post was boosted to increase its reach.

- **Facebook** posts resulted in approximately 399,812 impressions (number of times people saw a post) with a 1.37% engagement rate (percentage of people who clicked, liked, shared or commented).
- **LinkedIn** posts resulted in approximately 7,114 impressions with a 3.91% engagement rate.
- **Instagram** posts resulted in approximately 4,500 impressions with a 1.83% engagement rate.

A list of posts is included as an appendix to this report.

### Video

To support public understanding of the CRD financial planning process, a dedicated explainer video was produced and shared. The video provides a clear overview of how budgets are developed, reviewed, and approved, as well as the sources of funding and opportunities for public input. It was promoted through CRD social media channels and featured on the Get Involved page.

- Video: [The CRD Financial Planning Process](#) resulted in 94 views.

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### Responses

The following comments were received by the CRD via an online comment form or were sent to the [engage@crd.bc.ca](mailto:engage@crd.bc.ca) email address and referenced the Financial Plan. Any personal information included in the emails have been removed in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and are provided to the Board as part of the annual final budget review and approval process.

Date received	Feedback on the CRD's provisional financial plan.
2025-11-05 11:13 am	You can start by DROPPING the taxes which you expect us to pay . Try understanding that the community does not have a bottomless wallet for you to plunder for your spurious and wasteful 'projects'
2025-11-05 2:31 pm	Thanks for doing your very best to keep increases as low as possible given all the other issues we taxpayers are facing! I appreciate the meaningful and welcome new services that the CRD has approved this year, and recognize that funding is needed to launch these services while also keeping pace with inflation and staff pay increases.
2025-11-05 5:09 pm	If the Capital region is benefitting from economies of scale related to Water, waste water, recycling, regional planning and emergency services planning, why isn't the CRD exploring economies of scale with Munis regarding back office systems like planning, engineering, public works, fire services to name a few. Perhaps a regional 'Newco' could be established to managed these resources for the 13 municipalities and save taxpayers money. Maybe even improve service levels.
2025-11-06 8:22 am	You do not need \$12.2 million dollars for a new building, nor \$3 million for 'land and site works' and another \$3 million for a new field office, considering you have asked property owners for a \$2 million direct subsidy for water upgrades on Saturna. Offices are not capital, and it is disingenuous to slide it into capital projects so you can avoid categorizing it as overhead. There seems to be plenty of money in the budget for

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	<p>waterworks elsewhere, as well. There are far more pressing infrastructure and roadway needs in the CRD.</p>
<p>2025-11-06 9:43 pm</p>	<p>This feedback mechanism is not appropriate. There is too much information to digest. Consider using a survey format that highlights the information you are seeking input on. The CRD was recently ranked the second "least efficient" district in B.C. Hopefully the CRD is taking that to heart in its financial plan.</p>
<p>2025-11-07 9:43 am</p>	<p>I am a Victoria resident and property owner. I would very much like to see the homeless and drug problem disappear from this city. Instead of trying to offer the homeless/mentally ill/drug-addicted individuals the option of a shelter bed/meal/counselling, I propose to round them all up, place them in a secure,locked facility (Riverview or another such institution comes to mind) and keep them there until such time as they are clean from the drug use, have learned some skills to provide them the ability to work and look after themselves, have received counselling and only then can the person be discharged. The drug dealers will disappear from our streets since there will be no one to sell to. There will be no market for the sale of stolen goods either. And while you are at it, implement a deer cull, and have the inmates learn how to butcher, prepare and cook the protein source that is currently roaming the streets of our city. This is how I would like a portion of my considerable tax dollars spent.</p>
<p>2025-11-14 6:06 am</p>	<p>The constant tax and fee increases are starting to wear very thin. Taxpayers are being used as ATM's without fear of consequences. The increases far outweigh the cost of living and any increases in people income especially any retirees which are plentiful in the CRD. Honestly, it's time for a taxpayer revolt in the CRD.</p>
<p>2025-11-15 1:06 pm</p>	<p>I am happy to pay more taxes to support the services that the CRD provides. Please apply a climate lens to all your operations, infrastructure and planning, with a focus on lowering climate pollution within the CRD to slow and avoid worsening climate</p>

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	<p>impacts. Spending money on this now is a wise investment in the future and will save us much more money in the long run.</p>
<p>2025-11-17 11:28 am</p>	<p>The budget will make living in the crd even more unaffordable! CRD staff are incompetent if they can't bring the increase to the same as the inflation rate! It's time to ask staff how many employees need to be laid off to bring the tax increase to zero!</p>
<p>2025-12-31 11:25 pm</p>	<p>I am deeply concerned about the lack of clarity and accountability in the CRD's financial reporting. Many of the "reports" shared with the public feel incomplete, selective, and presented in a way that makes meaningful oversight impossible. The leadership team — including the CAO — appears more focused on protecting institutional image than on providing honest, transparent information to residents. When questions are raised, they are often minimized or reframed rather than answered. If residents are expected to trust the 2026 Provisional Financial Plan, the CRD must provide detailed, verifiable reporting, publish the assumptions behind projections, and openly acknowledge risks and failures. Without genuine transparency, confidence in leadership continues to erode.</p>
<p>2026-01-01 2:26 pm</p>	<p>I think you do awesome work, all! Overall support the plan. I am solidify behind: Support funding for RCMP personnel and support staff, and new infrastructure (e.g., RCMP building and expansion). Support infrastructure for sewage and water. VIHA services/infrastructure. The only thing I do not support is anything related to rail service.</p>
<p>2026-01-01 3:37 pm</p>	<p>Please add disc golf course to the old Royal oak golf course!! Be amazing and we'll use of space. I own in Saanich and love this community cheers.</p>
<p>2026-01-02 7:42 am</p>	<p>It's time that the Board respect the CRD residents and make every every effort to automate administrative tasks. The Board members need to be trained in AI! When I</p>

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	<p>submitted the question to AI about overstaffing at the CRD, the answer was that 36 positions could be eliminated through automation.</p>
<p>2026-01-03 10:48 am</p>	<p>My comments pertain to watershed management and water resources. The greater portion of the CRD land, watersheds and water resources is contained within the Rural Resource Area of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area. The CRD is remiss in not extending its thinking to this area. The CRD has extensive data on many topics that relate to the potable water system which is protected and piped to users in the CRD water distribution system. However it seems to have almost no recognition of the much larger land area and watersheds outside of the production of drinking water for urban consumption. These areas have been logged and exploited for 150 years and thus a great amount of degradation has taken place which need to be documented and used for the process of remediation of streams, wetlands, and watersheds in the Jdf EA rural resource lands. At the very least, a Rural Water Commission should be struck to begin this work. This Commission should include professionals and experts from forestry, ecology, fisheries, wildlife, hydrology, along with CRD staff. Its overriding purpose would be to create a long term restoration plan for the preservation of the integrity and viability of the rural resource lands.</p>
<p>2026-01-03 6:14 pm</p>	<p>I have read through the CRD report on the financial plan and recognize the need to keep up on infrastructure repairs, with a focus on water provision. Calgary is a good example of what not to do, with their second big water supply break in under a year. People hate to pay any taxes, let alone more taxes and seem to have a belief that it is fine to replace phones or other electronics annually but not infrastructure in a timely way. Politicians seem to think four years down the road, at most, to the next election so are loathe to make unpopular decisions- such as higher taxes. However we need to ignore the popular opinion and be aware that climate change is real and is upon us now so we need act now. Therefore I am asking that the CRD squeeze a bit here and there on line items and include funding for rural water and watersheds. In the Juan de Fuca there are many watersheds and no one seems to be monitoring them. We need a rural water commission before we are in as dire a situation as Cowichan Valley and the Okanagan. Watersheds need to be studied, documented, monitored and cared for.</p>

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	<p>Many of the streams in the JdF are salmon bearing but are failing. Streams and wetlands are wildfire breaks. CRD has a responsibility to rural water security and to not keep pushing it off onto the Province. Thank you.</p>
2026-01-04 9:45 pm	<p>My concern is about MICROPLASTICS in our water system that the CRD says on their website are not present...and they are. Nothing is being done to address this issue...especially when CRD aka Government denies their existence.</p>
2026-01-09 10:31 pm	<p>Please ask staff how many position would have to be cut to bring rate payers tax down to a zero percent increase for the coming year!!! So many people I know are going to have to sell their homes because the cost of living is getting impossible!</p>
2026-01-09 10:31 pm	<p>1) Why is the CRD's public process so poorly designed? This comment opportunity is just an open text field, not questions you could actually use to create qualitative data and actionable information from. The presentation is very high level, poorly laid out, and doesn't give enough detail to comment on. The overall way it's presented gives the CRD an image of not really meaningfully considering public feedback 2) It's astounding how hard it is to find detailed information about the spending in this plan. The blog post announcing public feedback had more information in it (eg about capital projects) than your presentation does. 3) I am disappointed by the lack of meaningful investment in active transit outside of 4km of the galloping goose. We have such an amazing asset and nowhere in here is investing in the actual wider system? 4) generally the categories seem reasonable, but the design of the documents public seem intentionally vague enough that it's difficult to give meaningful feedback which appears to be by design I hope you seriously consider this feedback on your lack of transparency or meaningful input process. For an entity with a hundreds of millions of dollar budget it reads as intentionally opaque. I enjoy engaging with municipalities locally as they do a good job listening. The CRD by comparison appears anonymous and not truly listening to the region, it's a shame.</p>

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<p>2026-01-12 7:15 pm</p>	<p>CRD does not need to expand its mandate in any way. Looking around our parks etc., there is ample evidence that this level of government is inefficient and unaccountable. Spending my money to advertise to me about brushing my teeth or being 'kind on the trails'; young farmers' agricultural funding to learn how to garden; how many thousands of CRD safety cones are out there to warn us of a puddle on a trail, a new fence, or a picnic table that is off-limits because??? We question the CRD's legitimacy because of these silly, expensive initiatives.</p>
<p>2026-01-16 12:09 pm</p>	<p>Please ensure that water supply challenges in the CRD Rural Areas (Juan de Fuca) are adequately considered in upcoming Capital Plans. While the CRD Water Commission serves the broader region, the majority of its members are not rural residents, and this can overlook the on-the-ground realities faced by communities in the JdF. Many local residents rely on private wells that regularly run dry during the summer months. As development continues beyond Otter Point, the need for reliable and equitable water servicing becomes increasingly urgent. Currently, many rural residents are dependent on water deliveries from a single private supplier, whose costs continue to rise. Addressing long-term water servicing solutions for rural JdF residents is therefore critical to supporting sustainable growth and community resilience.</p>
<p>2026-02-18 5:33 pm</p>	<p>I want to express support for funding to advance exploration of an application for the CRD to become an UNESCO Biosphere Region. I strongly believe it is an opportunity to advance protection of biodiversity, reconciliation, and climate action, to support the academic community, and to work with the local tourism and business community. All this effort will work towards protecting the Nature in this City, the thing that leads so many of us to want to live here. It will help to protect and celebrate our natural environment, and help to ensure our children inherit a region that is healthier, more resilient, and more connected than we are today.</p>

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2026-02-18 5:52 pm	I want to express support for funding to advance exploration of an application for the CRD to become an UNESCO Biosphere Region. I strongly believe it is an opportunity to advance protection of biodiversity, reconciliation, and climate action, to support the academic community, and to work with the local tourism and business community. All this effort will work towards protecting the environment and nature in this region, the thing that leads so many of us to want to live here. It will help to protect and celebrate our natural environment, and help to ensure our children inherit a region that is healthier, more resilient, and more connected than we are today.
2026-02-18 7:05 pm	I support funding to advance an exploration of an application for the CRD to become an UNESCO Biosphere Region. Potential benefits include an opportunity to advance protection of biodiversity, reconciliation, and climate action, to support the academic community, and to work with the local tourism and business community. The CRD does a great job supporting local initiatives, and this is a wonderful opportunity to create a legacy of conservation for the region.
2026-02-18 7:32 pm	I support funding to advance a CRD application to become an UNESCO Biosphere Region. Potential benefits include an opportunity to advance protection of biodiversity, reconciliation, and climate action, to support the academic community, and to work with the local tourism and business community.
2026-02-18 8:05 pm	I support the CRD allocating funds for an application to the UN for Greater Victoria to become a UNESCO Biosphere Region. There would be benefits to the entire community in terms of protecting of our significant biodiversity throughout our lands and waters, climate mitigation and adaptation, reconciliation, and support for our local economy including tourism, outdoor recreation, academic research, and all related businesses.
2026-02-18 8:09 pm	(1) The plan to become an UNESCO Biosphere Region would be a huge win for Victoria and the entire CRD. There is no downside to this achievement and

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	<p>tremendous upside for tourism. (2) Please preserve the CRD's mature tree canopy. Killing trees here to make way for cement condo towers and unaffordable townhouses, does not save trees "somewhere" else.</p>
<p>2026-02-19 9:48 am</p>	<p>I would like to add my voice in support of funding to explore how the Greater Victoria region can become a UNESCO Biosphere Region. Such a designation, I believe, would advance protection of biodiversity, reconciliation, and climate action, as well as bolster tourism and the local economy.</p>
<p>2026-02-19 9:50 am</p>	<p>With many different needs in our community, it can seem like a competition for funding between initiatives, with the loudest voices often getting heard. While the housing and transportation advocates do have an important voice, I am endorsing funding to support initiatives related to climate adaptation, Parks, and the Natural Areas Conservation Plan. I also support funding to advance an exploration of an application for the CRD to become a UNESCO Biosphere Region. Potential benefits include an opportunity to advance protection of biodiversity, reconciliation, and climate action, to support the academic community, and to work with the local tourism and business community.</p>
<p>2026-02-19 12:42 pm</p>	<p>I strongly support funding to advance an exploration of an application for the CRD to become an UNESCO Biosphere Region. Benefits include an opportunity to advance protection of biodiversity, reconciliation, and climate action. This work would also support the academic, tourism and business communities.</p>
<p>2026-02-19 7:04 pm</p>	<p>This capital plan is strong and clearly oriented toward essential infrastructure, but the communication could be sharper and more resident-focused. The mix of investments is well balanced: trails, water, wastewater, housing, longterm care and climate-related upgrades all respond to real regional needs and longterm resilience. The housing and longterm care pieces are especially important and welljustified; they concretely show</p>

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	<p>how the plan responds to affordability, aging, and healthcare pressures rather than just abstract “capital” needs. The environmental components (biochar facility, water supply upgrades, Maliview plant) are positive, but you could state more explicitly how they advance climate, watershed health, and regulatory compliance in plain language. The 7.9% wholesale water rate increase is explained in technical terms; consider adding one or two sentences that connect this directly to household impacts and how the region is working to keep costs predictable over time. The text explaining financial pressures (inflation, labour, debt servicing) is accurate but dense; simplifying this section and highlighting the tradeoffs made to protect core services would improve transparency and trust. Finally, the closing sections do a good job inviting feedback procedurally, but a clearer “Have your say” calltoaction with where/when/how to comment would make public engagement feel more accessible and meaningful. -term care and climate-related upgrades all respond to real regional needs and long-term resilience. The housing and long-term care pieces are especially important and well-justified; they concretely show how the plan responds to affordability, aging, and health-care pressures rather than just abstract “capital” needs. The environmental components (biochar facility, water supply upgrades, -offs made to protect core services would improve transparency and trust. Finally, the closing sections do a good job inviting feedback procedurally, but a clearer “Have your say” call-to-action with where/when/how to comment would make public engagement feel more accessible and meaningful.</p>
2026-02-20 4:48 pm	<p>I strongly believe in proactive spending, just as the first CRD Water Board Directors did a century ago to by purchasing lands to ensure clean drinking water. Today we are in a climate/biodiversity crisis and need to pro-actively, and judiciously spend to mitigate as well as adapt to changing climate and weather systems. Southern Vancouver Island's rare, and endangered ecosystems need protection NOW, as they are disappearing under housing, concrete and pavement. Please champion biodiversity protection (and climate solutions) initiatives in all areas of the CRD; perhaps most importantly in the Westshore municipalities who are rapidly losing</p>

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	<p>habitat to housing. Please provide funding to support the application for UNESCO Bioregion status. We also need greater public education and awareness on climate solutions. I hope you will fund all CRD initiatives to undertake public engagement on climate solutions and ecosystem protection. Thank you.</p>
<p>2026-02-21 10:40 am</p>	<p>I would like to express my support for funding to advance an exploration of an application for the CRD to become an UNESCO Biosphere Region. I attended a presentation about the proposal last fall - the benefits include opportunities to protect the biodiversity of our region, to advance reconciliation, to address climate action, to support the academic community, and to work with the local tourism and business community.</p>
<p>2026-02-22 1:35 pm</p>	<p>I am writing to express my and my family's support for the exploration of an application for the CRD to become an UNESCO Biosphere Region. Potential benefits include an opportunity to advance protection of biodiversity, reconciliation, and climate action, to support the academic community, and to work with the local tourism and business community. We have one planet to live on, we should all be doing our best to protect what is left. Thank you for your time.</p>
<p>2026-02-22 2:39 pm</p>	<p>I would like to share my absolute, enthusiastic support for making Greater Victoria a UNESCO Biosphere Region. I cannot think of anything more inspirational than the spotlight this would put on the precious biodiversity of our region, and the need to give it more attention in the public eye. Not only would this designation support the academic community, but it would also help to advance the protection of biodiversity, show respect and positive action toward reconciliation, and direct much-needed climate action.</p>
<p>2026-02-22 5:56 pm</p>	<p>I support funding to advance an exploration of an application for the CRD to become a UNESCO Biosphere Region.</p>

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2026-02-22 7:09 pm	Support for work towards CRD becoming a UNESCO Biosphere Region Support for new Arts Facilities Service
2026-02-22 10:15 pm	Please make climate mitigation and adaptation the key components for prioritizing projects. I strongly support the thermal processing facility at Hartland that will turn waste into biochar. The regional transit plan needs to address adding busses and rail to connect Victoria to Duncan and beyond. CRD should play a leadership role in saving trees and wetlands and protecting habitat. Look at every proposed project through the lens of environment.
2026-02-23 8:43 am	Climate chaos mitigation and resilience MUST BE the umbrella for all your plans, at the top of your list, and integrated into everything else you do. (Even the senior care home in Colwood can and must take rising temperatures and other extreme weather events into account.) Food security on Vancouver Island is going to become more and more threatened. That should be woven into any plans. We need to get carbon-spewing cars off the road. That means light rapid transit between the West Shore and downtown Victoria (I can't believe they didn't install that when they spent millions on the McKenzie / Hwy 1 intersection). Anyway, whatever you do, please make sure that it doesn't exacerbate the climate emergency. Thank you.
2026-02-23 8:52 am	It would be a positive move forward to go ahead with the thermal processing plant. This is something that has been used in Europe very successfully. In regards to Transit, please consider a rail link between Victoria and Duncan as well as an improved bus link.
2026-02-23 10:35 am	I believe it is very important for there to be a processing facility at Hartland to turn waste into Biochar. There should also be the long awaited Bus and Rail, Victoria to Duncan and beyond

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2026-02-23  
9:27 am

What I would really like to see in the CRD 2026 - 2030 Financial Plan First off, I just wanted to give a huge thank you to the CRD for having the foresight to protect our water security. I was also so relieved to see that you did not cave in to the developers and their objections to the DCC's and make them pay their fair share for our water and not have all the current residents have to absorb all the costs of them bringing more people into our region. We are in a serious climate emergency and we need our leaders to act with more urgency. We need the CRD to step up to focus on and prioritize mitigation and adaptation so we can survive and thrive in the face of the looming impacts of climate change Here is my wish list for the Financial Plan: 1. I would really like to see enhanced community support for the CRD Climate Action Service. 2. For the Regional Transit Service and for Active Transportation, we really need shade trees on multi use trails and on bus routes to protect the riders from heat islands. This will make it safer and more appealing for people to take transit. 3. Set aside funds to make sure the CRD can make a successful application to nominate Greater Victoria as a UNESCO Biosphere Region. With that prestigious title that would attract many more tourists while safeguarding our unique biodiversity here on the South Island. 4. Allocate funds to purchase 1720 Wilfert Road in View Royal and add it to parkland. Over a million dollars was spent to create an amazing fish ladder for the salmon coming up Millstream Creek. There is a huge threat from developers wanting to build on that piece of land which would do untold damage to the surrounding area which hosts extremely sensitive ecosystems and it would destroy much of our critical biodiversity. The slope on that property is unstable and any disturbance would do irreparable harm to Millstream Creek. Thank you for your continued hard work.

2026-02-23  
11:46 am

I support enhancing support for the CRD Climate Action Service, seen on page 26 "Enhanced community support" Community Mobilization Scoping and What we Heard report: Amended Community Mobilization Report Final.pdf And recommend Option 3: With Additional Service (\$\$\$) The proposed \$500,000-600,000 budget lift represents a tiny fraction of the region's overall financial commitment. Investment in climate action pays lasting dividends ————— I urge you to act on CRD Climate Projections, that date back as far as 2017, and use Green Infrastructure to Shade all CRD multiuse trails and mitigate stormwater, UHI and air pollution. Supporting data:

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CRD report, Climate Projections 2024: "Strategies to support active transportation may involve installing adequate cooling infrastructure (ie., trees, benches, shade structures, misting stations and water fountains) and supporting nature's capacity to buffer climate impacts through stewardship and community engagement"

(<https://www.crd.ca/media/file/climateprojectionscapitalregion2024>) Toronto -

"..creating shade provides an environment that protects the public from the harm of UV radiation exposure while at the same time offers a cool and comfortable environment that fosters participation in physical activity" -

[https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/8ecf-](https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/8ecf-AODA_Shade_Guidelines_2010_Final_Report-002.pdf)

[AODA\\_Shade\\_Guidelines\\_2010\\_Final\\_Report-002.pdf](https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/8ecf-AODA_Shade_Guidelines_2010_Final_Report-002.pdf) Public Health Partners in Action - Shade Policy for the City of Toronto - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg1jD6E43Z4> ————— I encourage you to protect at-risk ecosystems in rapidly densifying areas. Eg 1720 Wilfert Road. The slope near Millstream is extremely unstable and any development would do untold damage to the surrounding and extremely sensitive ecosystems and destroy much of the critical biodiversity. ————— I support advancing the exploration of an

application for the CRD to become an UNESCO Biosphere Region. Potential benefits include an opportunity to advance protection of biodiversity, reconciliation, and climate action, to support the academic community, and to work with the local tourism and business community. <https://www.gvnaturehood.com/post/greater-victoria-to-become-an-urban-biosphere-region> [https://victoriaworldheritage.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/BRIEF-TO-THE-CRD-2025\\_04\\_08.pdf](https://victoriaworldheritage.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/BRIEF-TO-THE-CRD-2025_04_08.pdf) ————— Lastly but not

least, please preserve investments in infrastructure - restrict the use of so called 'flushable wipes' In 2019, Ecojustice released a report that indicated approximately \$250 million in Canadian taxpayer dollars are used to clean up the damage caused by wipes and other non-flushable products every year They should only be marketed as medical supplies for babies and dependent adults with incontinence issues, and disposed of as bagged dry biohazard waste along with diapers and adult incontinence products. For more information: Ecojustice <https://ecojustice.ca/news/good-news-were-closer-to-stopping-the-scourge-of-flushable-wipes/> Competition Bureau Claim

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/flushable-wipes-claim-environment-group-1.5117945> Vulvar Dermatitis linked to wipe

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23760148/> Metro Vancouver News Article Flushable

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	<p>Wipes <a href="https://globalnews.ca/news/10899777/metro-vancouver-flushable-wipes/">https://globalnews.ca/news/10899777/metro-vancouver-flushable-wipes/</a> McGill Study Flushable Wipes <a href="https://www.mcgill.ca/oss/article/general-science/not-advertised-case-against-flushable-wipes">https://www.mcgill.ca/oss/article/general-science/not-advertised-case-against-flushable-wipes</a> Wet Wipes and Environment <a href="https://phys.org/news/2025-07-biodegradable-terrible-environment.html">https://phys.org/news/2025-07-biodegradable-terrible-environment.html</a> 4NP and Ocean Life <a href="https://esemag.com/water/bc-researchers-find-toxic-chemical-4np-endangered-killer-whales/">https://esemag.com/water/bc-researchers-find-toxic-chemical-4np-endangered-killer-whales/</a> Anal Cancer - Howard Brown Health <a href="https://howardbrown.org/nothing-butt-the-truth-understanding-anal-cancer/">https://howardbrown.org/nothing-butt-the-truth-understanding-anal-cancer/</a></p>
2026-02-23 5:28 pm	<p>Comments on the provisional 2026-2030 CRD Financial Plan - February 23, 2026 Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The following are issues that resonated during this brief review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Development of an advanced thermal processing facility at Hartland Landfill to convert biosolids into biochar – Pure biochar is a wonderful resource, particularly for the farming community, in that it not only improves the quality of the soil (nutrient additives) and extends water retention for the area, but also plays a modest role in removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.</li><li>• Regarding Climate Action, the CRD and member municipalities all have an interest in encouraging greater community support for the CRD Climate Action Service.</li><li>• Support the CRD in becoming a UNESCO Biosphere Region.</li><li>• A new Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) – Wonderful to see an update to the 2014 RTP. While strengthening and repairing roads and enhancing road connectivity across member municipalities and electoral areas will continue to be important as the CRD population grows, and assuming the growth will be focused on increased densification, (particularly within those progressive municipalities that focus growth in centres, hubs, nodes, villages throughout the region), focusing on transit and active transportation along corridors connecting such centres will greatly facilitate non-single-occupancy-vehicle travel throughout the CRD.</li><li>• Augmenting 4 km of the Galloping Goose Trail between the Selkirk Trestle and Grange Road (adjacent to McKenzie Avenue), and 2 km of the Lochside Trail between the Switch Bridge and McKenzie Avenue/Borden Street through the Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project are most welcome. Such enhancements will help to further facilitate active transportation (e.g., walking, running, bicycling, skateboarding) spatially (from Sooke to downtown to Sidney) and temporally (beyond daylight hours). The CRD should also work with the</li></ul>

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## Public Engagement Report

	<p>appropriate member municipalities to look to connect Galloping Goose Trail and Lochside Trail 'spurs' strategically throughout the CRD that interconnect with the cycling networks that member municipalities continue to develop across the Region. Lastly, sections of the above Trails could benefit from greater tree canopy cover, thereby adding to the Region's sequestering of carbon dioxide. • Compliments to the CRD for continuing to maintain the vital drinking water, storm water and sewer service systems across the Region. • The CRD and member municipalities should be perpetually looking for development opportunities to enhance densification in the core downtown centres, trustfully reflected in the CRD growth strategy. This not only includes adequate multi-unit affordable and inclusive residential developments, but also enabling the business community and public service centres (such as the proposed long-term care facility for the City of Colwood) to be located in these key development centres across the Region. Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.</p>
2026-02-23 11:12 pm	Regarding the 2026-2030 CRD Financial Plan I wish to register my strong support for the CRD Climate Action Service, the new thermal processing plant at Hartland and transit improvements. I also support the prospect of the CRD becoming a UNESCO Biosphere Region.

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### APPENDIX: SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS BY CHANNEL

#### FACEBOOK



**Capital Regional District**

Published by Hootsuite · November 5, 2025 ·



Ever wondered how the CRD builds its budget?

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Learn how the CRD develops budgets, makes decisions, and delivers services across the region.

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Published by Hootsuite · November 17, 2025 ·



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Published by Hootsuite · December 5, 2025 at 1:00 PM ·



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**Capital Regional District**

Published by Hootsuite · December 18, 2025 at 8:35 AM ·



Why isn't the CRD Budget One-Size-Fits-All?

Each municipality, electoral area, and First Nation in the capital region takes part in a unique mix of services—from water and parks to housing and emergency response.

That means the provisional financial plan impacts each community differently, reflecting their distinct needs and priorities.

Learn more: <https://getinvolved.crd.bc.ca/2026-financial-plan>

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This plan guides how we deliver essential services—from water and housing to parks and emergency response.

We want your input!

Feedback deadline: February 23, 2026

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Capital Regional District

January 8 at 3:35 PM · 🌐



Every community in the CRD is unique, and so is its mix of services. Your comments help ensure the budget reflects your priorities and supports the services you value most.

Review the provisional 2026 – 2030 financial plan and share your thoughts:

<https://getinvolved.crd.bc.ca/2026-financial-plan>

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Published by Hootsuite · January 19 at 10:01AM ·



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Planning (May–Aug): We set budgets based on priorities and plan for services and capital projects.

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Approval (March): The CRD Board approves the final budget.

It's all about planning responsibly, investing wisely, and staying transparent.

Learn more: <https://getinvolved.crd.bc.ca/2026-financial-plan>



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February 9 at 11:50 AM · 🌐



Every year, the CRD creates a 5-year financial plan to make sure we have the resources to deliver the services you rely on like water, housing, parks, solid waste management, and more.

The plan is built around the Board's priorities and the CRD's Corporate Plan, so every dollar supports what matters most to our region.

Learn more: <https://getinvolved.crd.bc.ca/2026-financial-plan>



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Learn how the CRD develops budgets, makes decisions, and delivers services across the region.

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Did you know?

Each CRD service, from water supply to parks, has its own separate budget. By law, we can't move money from one service to another.

That means we track and report on over 200 individual service budgets every year to ensure transparency and accountability.

It's complex, but it keeps your community services running smoothly and fairly.

Learn more: <https://lnkd.in/dwrwJjuU>

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Want to know how the CRD supplies services to the people of the capital region?  
Our provisional 2026 - 2030 financial plan is ready for your review  
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#### Why isn't the CRD Budget One-Size-Fits-All?

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This plan guides how we deliver essential services—from water and housing to parks and emergency response.

We want your input!

Feedback deadline: February 23, 2026

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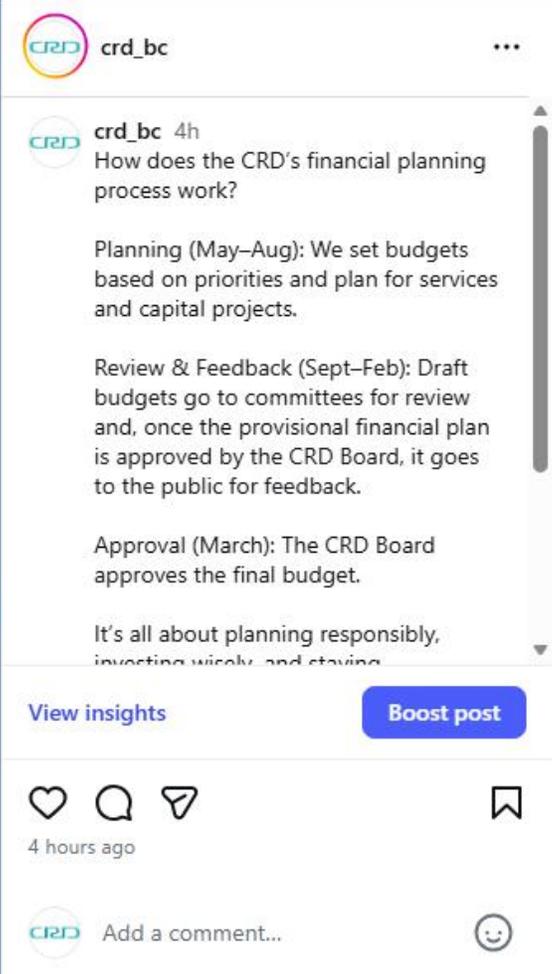
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How does the CRD's financial planning process work?

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