

SOUTHWEST MIDDLESEX

Quarterly Newsletter



WELCOME TO 2022

A Brand New Year full of Opportunity

It is always good to start a year with hope and positivity while taking advantage of opportunities to move forward and experience new things. We hope that 2022 is filled with many wonderful opportunities for you this year.

Enjoy the latest version of our quarterly newsletter which includes the County Warden's Report. If you ever have any topics that you would like to see covered in future editions please contact Sheila by email at smccahon@southwestmiddlesex.ca or by phone at 519-287-2015 x8107.

Find us on the following social media channels (linked at the top of our webpage):

- Facebook - Municipality of Southwest Middlesex
- Instagram - @southwestmiddlesex
- LinkedIn - Southwest Middlesex Municipality
- Twitter - @SouthwestMidd1
- YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6oo98BZcAvuVMKLDx88l4A>



WHAT THIS ISSUE CONTAINS:

- Budget
- CIP
- County Warden's Report
- Dog Licensing
- Elections
- Fire Department





Community Improvement in 2021

Council approved two community improvement applications in 2021 which have really made an impact on Glencoe's Main Street. See the before and after photos below. The work completed by these first businesses has prompted many inquiries into the 2022 CIP Program. Information about the CIP applications for 2022 follows on the next page.

Elite Agri Solutions located at 247 Main Street gave their business a face with new signage. Good work Elite Agri!

We also had a team effort at 214, 216 & 218 Main Street, Glencoe with facade work and signage being updated at the building which houses Ashton's Hair Design, Redberry Gardens and the residential unit above the two businesses. What a difference this has made to this prominent location!



Before

247 Main Street, Glencoe



After



Before

214, 216 & 218 Main Street, Glencoe



After



SWM Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Submit Your Application February 1-21, 2022

Get Ready!

Now is the time to start getting your CIP application ready for submission.

2022 CIP applications will be received February 1 to 21, 2022.

Who is Eligible to Participate?

Owners of multi-unit residential properties, mixed-use buildings, commercial businesses, and industrial businesses within the urban boundary of Glencoe or Wardsville, as well as hamlet commercial uses within the Hamlet Areas or agricultural-business owners within municipality may be eligible to apply.

Additional applications or permits may be required prior to the submission of a CIP Application. Please contact the Municipality for more information.

What Incentives are available?

Grant programs offer up to 75%* of eligible project costs, up to \$5,000!

- ✓ Design and Study Grant
- ✓ Commercial Conversion / Rental Housing Grant
- ✓ Planning and Building Permit Fee Grant
- ✓ Façade Improvement Grant
- ✓ Signage Improvement Grant
- ✓ Building, Property, and Accessibility Improvement Grant
- ✓ Tax Increment Grant (TIG)
- ✓ Pop-up Business Construction Grant
- ✓ Public Safety Improvement Grant
- ✓ Farm Gate Grant
- ✓ Public Art Grant
- ✓ Technology Expansion Grant
- ✓ Multiple Properties Supplemental Grant



How to Apply?

- ✓ Meet with the Economic Development & Communications Officer
- ✓ Fill out an application form
- ✓ Get cost estimates
- ✓ Submit your application

Application forms and more information can be found online: <https://www.southwestmiddlesex.ca/Public/Building-And-Planning-Department>



The Municipality of Southwest Middlesex has developed a Community Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP is a tool that allows the Township to contribute financially to help fund physical improvements to private businesses and properties.

Our Goal...

- Retain and support existing businesses;
- Attract new investment, partnerships, and funding to the community;
- Reduce the number of vacant or under-utilized or non-performing buildings and properties;
- Promote Southwest Middlesex's agricultural heritage and character;
- Revitalize local streetscapes and gateways into the community to create a vibrant and stimulating public realm that attracts outside people and businesses; and,
- Increase opportunities for attainable housing options.

More Information

For further information regarding this initiative please contact:

Sheila McCahon
Economic Development & Communications Officer

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Glencoe, ON N0L 1M0

519-287-2015 x8107

SMcCahon@southwestmiddlesex.ca

For full program details of each program, please visit: <https://southwestmiddlesex.ca/services/economic-development>



Download CIP details and application form from our website <https://www.southwestmiddlesex.ca/services/economic-development>





Thank You from Your 2020 & 2021 Warden

I am pleased to present the first annual Middlesex County Warden's Report. It has been an honour and a privilege to be your Warden over the past two years. While it goes without saying that the pandemic has presented us all with some very difficult challenges, I believe there has also been opportunity in those challenges. In many ways Middlesex County thrived as we embraced the virtual world and found innovative ways for County employees to work and deliver services to our residents. We strengthened our relationships with municipal and provincial partners, and we continued to seek new solutions to support our community everyday.

This report highlights some of the important work done by the County in 2021. Middlesex County delivers a wide range of services and I encourage you to visit middlesex.ca to learn more.

I would also like to congratulate and thank Warden Alison Warwick as she begins her term as your 2022 Warden. I am proud of the work that Middlesex County has accomplished over the past two years and I have great faith in our future. Thank you for allowing me to serve our community as I have, I wish you all the best in 2022.

- Cathy Burghardt-Jesson



Warden Honours Outstanding Community Service

Congratulations to the 2021 Warden's Honour Roll Honourees: Bill Smith, Pat Van Geleuken, the Lucan District Lions Club and the Middlesex-London Paramedic Service COVID-19 Response Team. Thank you for your outstanding contributions to the citizens of Middlesex County.

2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

WARDEN'S REPORT

Over 1400 Vaccinations Administered in 2021

The Middlesex-London Paramedic Service (MLPS) COVID-19 Response Team launched its COVID-19 vaccine initiative early in 2021 and continues to offer vaccinations to residents in Middlesex County and London. What began as a mission to bring vaccines to homebound clients in Middlesex-London, soon developed into a comprehensive mobile vaccination program that brought thousands of vaccines to high-risk workplaces and small communities across the County.

Over the course of 2021, MLPS held twelve drive thru and pop-up vaccination clinics and administered over 1400 vaccines to employees and residents in Middlesex-London. To learn more about vaccination locations and updates, follow MLPS on social media at @MLPS911



Warden's Charity Golf Tournament Raises \$24,000

Thanks to the generous support of the local business community, the 2021 Middlesex County Warden's Charity Golf Tournament succeeded in supporting important community services in Middlesex County. Held on September 16, 2021, at The Fox Golf Club in Granton, the event raised \$20,000 for the Lucan Legion and \$4,000 for Victim Services Middlesex-London (VSML).



The funds will be used by the Lucan Legion to complete local capital improvements and support veterans in our community. VSML will apply the funds to support victims of crime and traumatic circumstances in Middlesex-London.

Middlesex County sees \$13 Million in Rural Broadband Investment

As a municipal partner of the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) project, Middlesex County has been a strong advocate for the expansion of broadband in the County. Focused on bridging the digital divide in Southwestern Ontario, SWIFT subsidizes the construction of open-access, high-speed networks in underserved rural areas.

There are seven SWIFT related projects underway in Middlesex County. These projects cover a total of 221 km and are valued at more than \$13 million.

County Receives over \$1.4 Million to Support Residents in Need

In 2021, over \$1.4 million in new funding supported Middlesex County residents with housing, transportation, and other core needs.

The funds, received through the Government of Ontario's Social Service Relief Fund, support programs including: the Middlesex County Housing Benefit, a benefit that offers partial support to low-income residents looking for market rentals; the Middlesex County Shuttle Service, a service that provides low-income and vulnerable residents in the County with free transportation to vaccination and medical appointments; and the Whatever It Takes Fund, a fund to provide emergency accommodation, emergency food, personal hygiene items and other necessities to vulnerable persons.

Expanded Active Transportation Networks Underway

In 2021, the Middlesex County Cycling Strategy moved from planning to implementation. Over 24 km of new paved shoulders were completed and many more repaved. Middlesex County is committed to continuing the expansion of safe, active transportation as part of capital construction in the County.

Library's Community Navigator Connects Families

In 2021, Middlesex County Library's Community Navigator program supported residents facing homelessness, housing insecurity and other related challenges. In the first year of operation, the Community Navigator helped 478 families access services and supports related to housing, employment, education, mental health and addiction, food and clothing, and social assistance.

The program also helped 18 families secure and maintain long-term housing in Middlesex. Learn more about Middlesex County Library programs and services at library.middlesex.ca



Women's Caucus Established to Address Pandemic Challenges

The first-ever Middlesex County Women's Caucus was established in October 2020 in response to the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women. Throughout 2021, the Caucus met virtually with dozens of women from communities across the County to better understand the challenges women are facing because of the pandemic. The Women's Caucus continues to host focus groups in early 2022 to determine how Middlesex County can best support women in a post-pandemic world. For more information on the work of the Women's Caucus visit: middlesex.ca/living-here/womens-caucus

New Campaigns Support Local Businesses During Pandemic

Through the Middlesex Resiliency Task Force, the County's Economic Development team has been seeking innovative ways to support local businesses impacted by the pandemic. From the delivery of COVID-19 business safety kits to radio advertisements and social media contests like #TakeoutInMiddlesex, #MiddlesexDateNight and #MiddlesexExcellence, our Economic Development team has supported and promoted businesses impacted by the pandemic since March 2020. The team continues to work with the local business community on ongoing solutions as public health guidelines continue into 2022. To learn more about how Middlesex County is supporting business, agri-business and tourism, visit: investinmiddlesex.ca or visitmiddlesex.ca

Alison Warwick Elected 2022 County Warden

On December 2, 2021, Middlesex County Council elected Thames Centre Mayor Alison Warwick as the 2022 Warden. A member of her local municipal Council since 2014, Warwick joined Middlesex County Council when she was elected Mayor in 2018.



"I would like to thank 2020 and 2021 Warden Cathy Burghardt-Jesson for her outstanding leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic," said Warwick. "I am looking forward to continuing to move the County forward in 2022. I am particularly excited about advancing important issues such as community transportation, rural broadband and rural education."

CONTACT

Telephone: 519 434 7321
Website: middlesex.ca



2022 ONTARIO MUNICIPAL AND
SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS
OCTOBER 24, 2022

ON THE LIST
TO VOTE?
HAVE YOUR SAY!



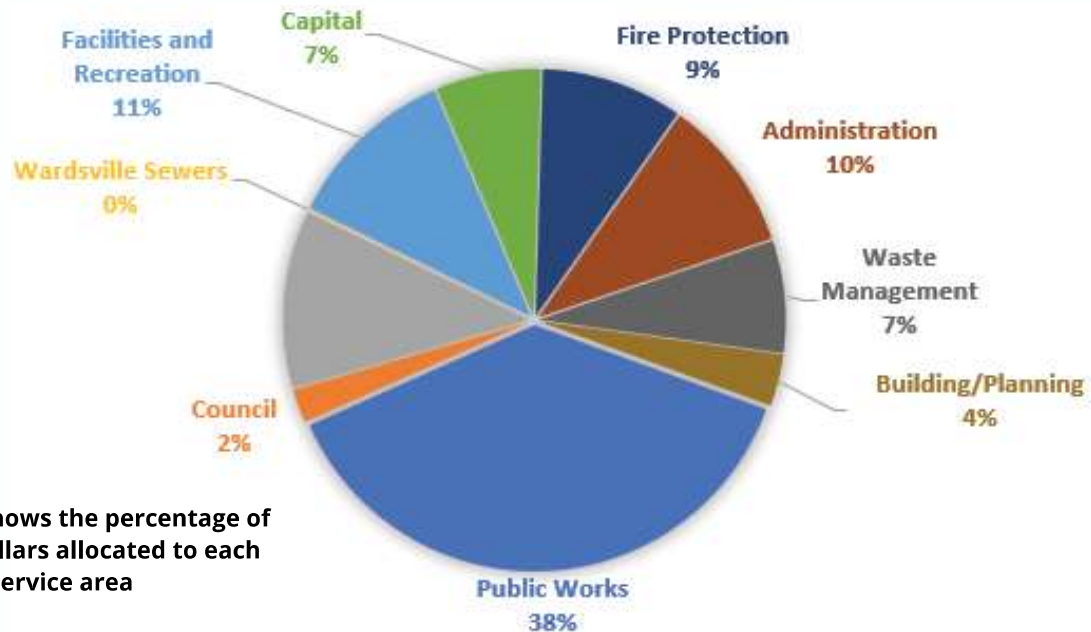
VISIT VOTERLOOKUP.CA





2022 Budget

Council approved the 2022 operating budget at a 2.53% increase over the previous year. This translates to an increase of \$8.41/month for an average home valued at \$186,224. Council was first presented with a budget that was a 6.58% increase over 2021 but with a lot of hard decisions they were able to reduce expenses in the budget by \$279,319 resulting in responsible increase for 2022 while exceeding existing service levels.



This chart shows the percentage of 2022 tax dollars allocated to each service area

We are excited about the capital projects planned for 2022, including playground equipment, new sidewalks, and the Glencoe Memorial Arena renovation project which is also supported through Federal and Provincial funding, just to name a few.

