# Long Term Financial Plan Indicators

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# Long Term Financial Indicators

- Sustainability
- Flexibility
- Vulnerability
- Indicators help us measure, compare and forecast financial condition



# Finding the Right Balance

- Between delivering services expected by the community in a affordable manner is a challenge.
- Maintaining existing assets in a state of good repair while financing growth related projects and new strategic initiatives.



# Sources of Funding

- Tax Levy
  - Provides funding for debt repayments and a significant source of funding for Reserves and Reserve Funds
- User Fees
- Grants and Transfers from Senior Levels of Government





### Assumptions

- ► One to four (1 4%) percent annual increases in operating costs
- ▶ Water / Wastewater rates increase by 7.4% annually to 2025, 2% thereafter
- User fees increase by 3% per year
- Arena Event Centre is included in 2019 and 2020 using the \$100 million assumption and approved financing plan
- Projects with identified financing plans are included:
  - ▶ Place des Arts, MR 35 (in 2019), Maley Drive
  - Contributions to various institutions
  - Ongoing commitments to historical large capital spend (e.g. Wells, Biosolids, 199 Larch, Transit - Fleet Garage)



### **Financial Condition Assessment**

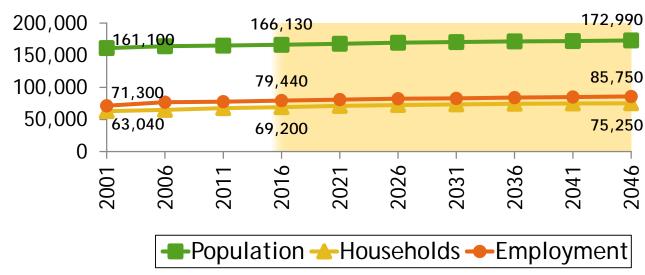
- Environmental Factors
  - ► Population and Assessment
  - Employment
  - Building Construction Activity
  - Household Income
- Financial Factors
  - Reserves and Reserve Funds
  - Debt
  - Municipal Financial Position
  - Municipal Financial Indicators



### Population Growth

Slow, modest population growth, at target assumption, 7% by 2046

> Historical and Forecasted Population, Households & Employment Trend City of Greater Sudbury 2001-2046



#### So What?

- Growing population supports business growth, provides an evolving and vibrant labour force and increased assessment
- Growth will (does) not fund all increases in cost of services and is insufficient to increase spending on long term assets.



### **Analyzing Assessment**



**Assessment Composition** 

Assessment Change



Excellent mix of residential and non-residential assessment: 28% Commercial & Industrial in Greater Sudbury

Greater Sudbury's assessment has been trending up and is expected to increase in the future by approximately 1% per year

So What?

A strong assessment base is critical to a Municipality's ability to generate revenue.



### **Environmental Factors**

| Economic Indicator     | Rating       |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Population Growth      | ×            |
| Population Density     | *            |
| Demographics           | *            |
| Unemployment Rate      | ✓            |
| Construction Activity  | ✓            |
| Assessment Composition | ×            |
| Assessment Growth      | ×            |
| Household Income       | $\checkmark$ |



#### FINANCIAL ASSETS TO FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

#### So What?

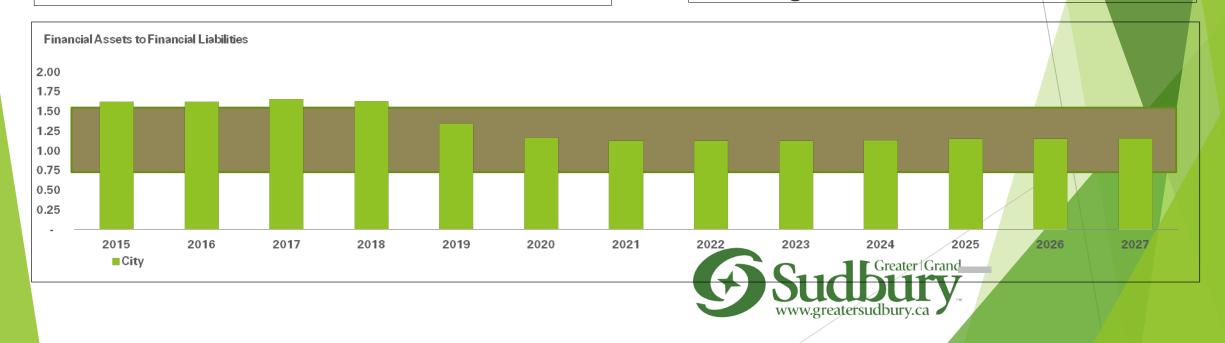
Over time City's solvency and financial sustainability decrease and yet remain within the normal range of comparator municipalities.

#### Now What?

Continue excellent return on investments.

**Develop liquidity policy.** 

Monitor credit rating and long term debt servicing costs.



#### TOTAL RESERVES AND RESERVE FUNDS PER HOUSEHOLD

#### So What?

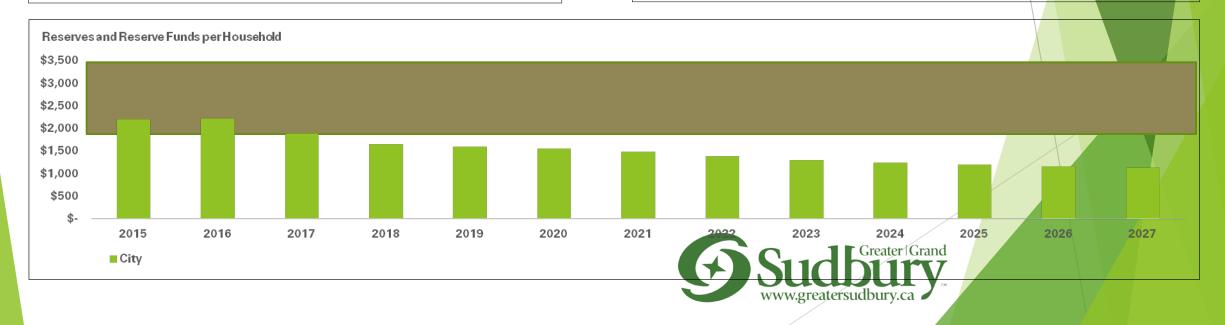
This graph reflects financing choices which have and will use reserves and reserve funds. Starting in the low range, CGS falls below the range for most municipalities.

Now What?

Reserves and Reserve Fund By-law Update.

Monitor Operational spending closely.

Develop funding plan for reserves.



#### TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TAXABLE ASSESSMENT

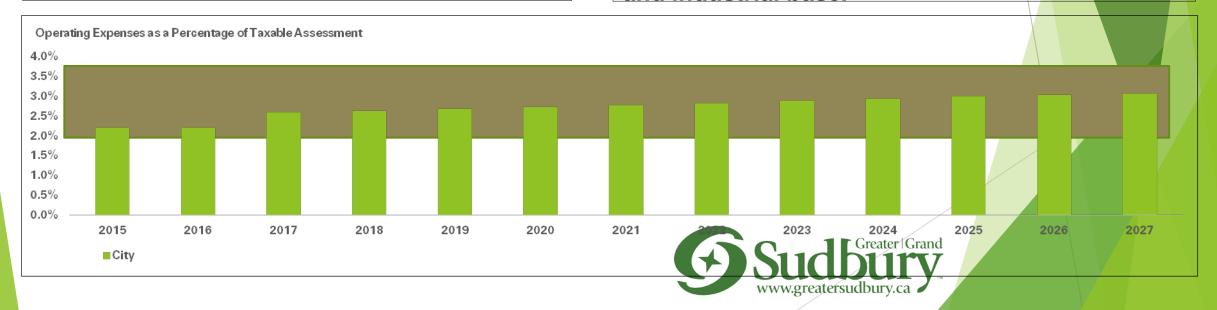
#### So What?

Level of Operating Expenses corresponds with increases in taxable assessment.

#### Now What?

Build better understanding of the relationship between service level and costs.

Economic Development - increase commercial and industrial base.



#### CAPITAL ADDITIONS AS A PERCENTAGE OF AMORTIZATION EXPENSE

#### So What?

Capital additions / plans have been strong yet fall off after major planned projects.

#### Now What?

Asset Management Policy / Next Steps
Capital Levy Recommendation to address
asset renewal needs.



#### RESIDENTIAL TAXES PER HOUSEHOLD

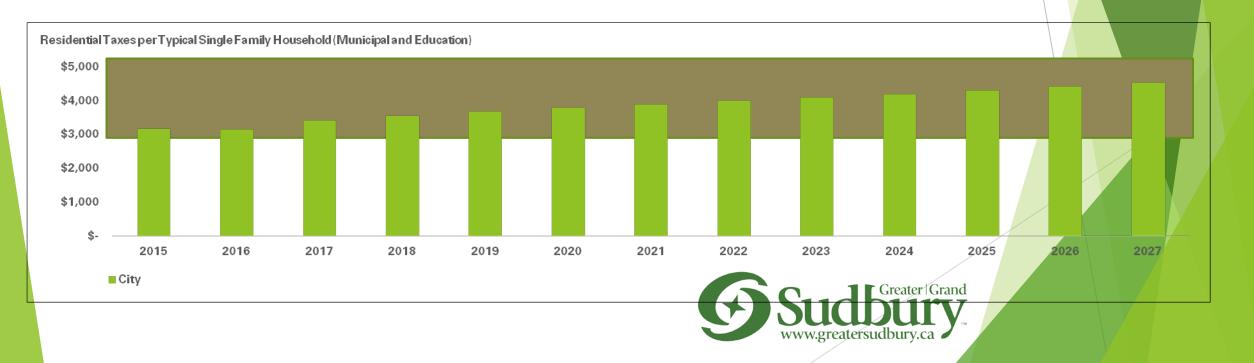
#### So What?

Residential taxes remain well within a range of our comparators which signals our competitiveness and affordability.

#### Now What?

Continue comparison to BMA comparators during the budget process.

Continue practice of limiting burden on residential class to the levy amount agreed by Council.



#### TOTAL LONG-TERM DEBT PER HOUSEHOLD

#### So What?

Total per household debt rises from historical levels but remains well within the range of our comparators.

Now What?

Monitor credit rating impact.

Continue with debt management policy to ensure it is maintained within acceptable levels.



#### RESIDENTIAL TAXATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME

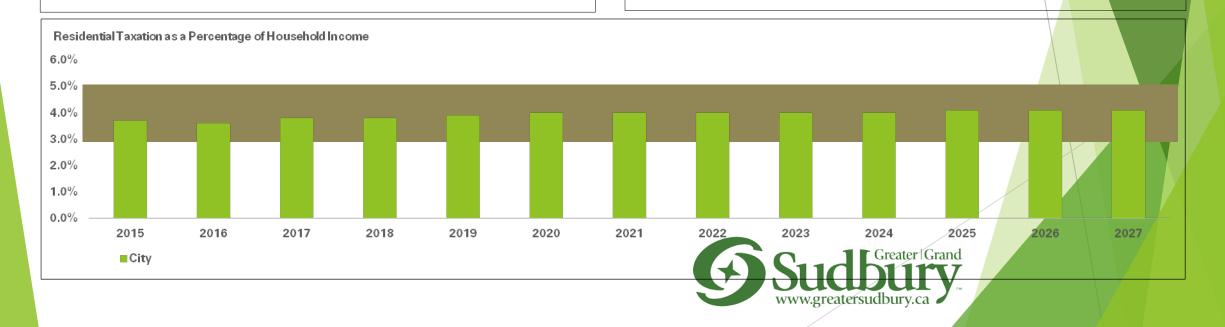
#### So What?

Average affordability is well within range of our comparators and below 4% over the LTFP period.

**Now What?** 

Continue supports for those on fixed or low incomes.

Continue to pursue non tax revenues.



#### TOTAL TAXATION AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ASSESSMENT

#### So What?

This indicator remains relatively flat, CGS is well within range of comparators and relatively low percentages over the LTFP period, which indicates flexibility to generate incremental revenue in future.

#### Now What?

Economic Development – increase commercial and industrial base.



DEBT SERVICING COSTS (INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL) AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REVENUES

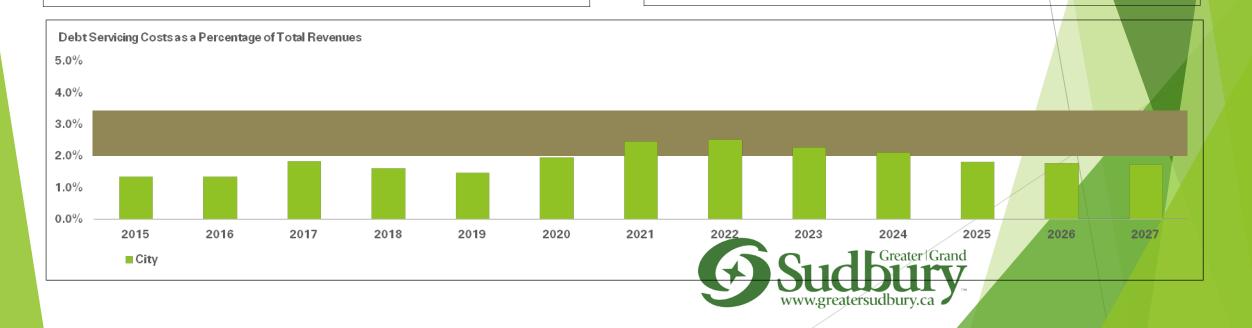
#### So What?

CGS Debt Servicing costs increase over the LTFP plan period yet are well within approved Debt policy limits.

Now What?

Monitor credit rating.

Ensure debt levels and repayment terms reflect affordability thresholds.



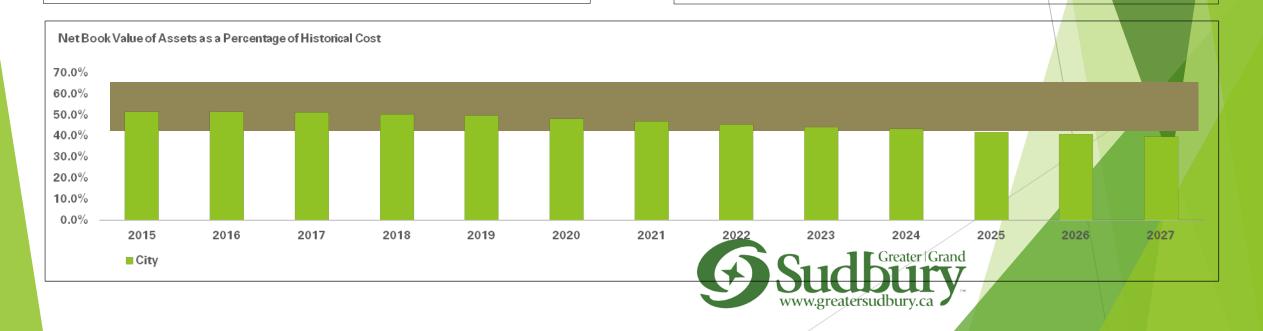
# NET BOOK VALUE OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS AS A PERCENTAGE OF HISTORICAL COST OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

#### So What?

This indicator of reinvestment in capital assets decreases over time and falls below a 50% threshold indicating CGS's reinvestment is not keeping pace with the aging of its assets.

**Now What?** 

Asset Management Policy / Next Steps
Capital Levy Recommendation to address asset renewal needs.



### Financial Indicators - Vulnerability

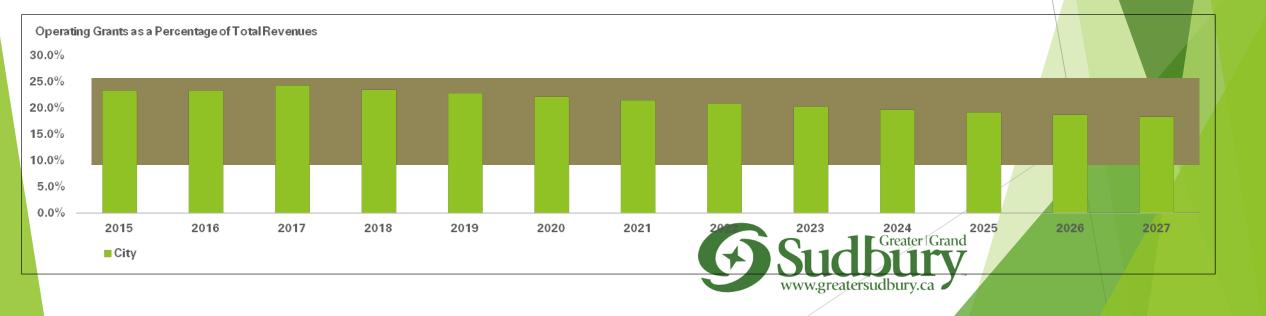
#### OPERATING GRANTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REVENUES

#### So What?

CGSs degree of reliance on senior levels of government improves over time yet is relatively high. Less vulnerability and severity of impact of a decrease in operating grants is a positive.

#### Now What?

Continue to articulate priorities to maximize operating grant revenues while monitoring this indicator's positive progress.



### Financial Indicators - Vulnerability

#### CAPITAL GRANTS AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

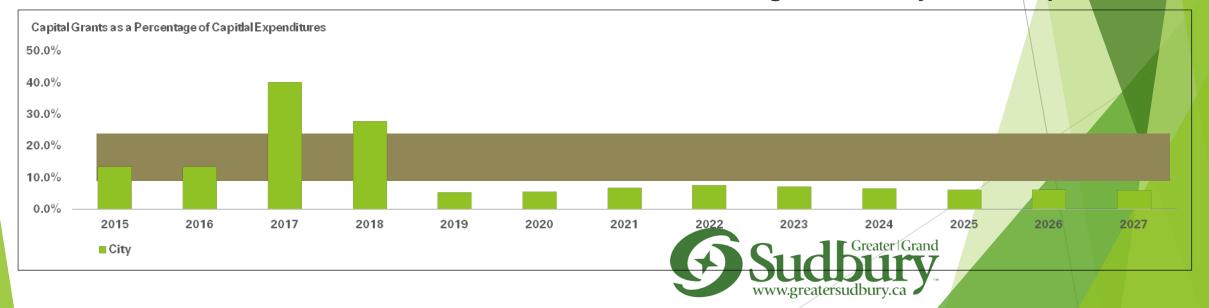
#### So What?

CGS's reliance on funding from senior levels of government for capital is highly variable and predicted to be below the current range of our comparator municipalities.

#### Now What?

Continue to articulate priorities for capital expenditure to senior levels of government using this comparative measure.

**Asset Management Policy / Next Steps** 



# Strengths

- Strong Asset Management Policy and forward looking work underway to articulate most pressing capital needs and address infrastructure funding challenges
- Good average household income combined with relatively low overall tax burden (on average)
- Debt and overall debt servicing costs well within City's debt policy
- Reducing vulnerability and strong arguments to make for capital funding from senior levels of government
- Stable local economy and good assessment mix



# Future Challenges and Risks

- ► Slow, modest growth in population, somewhat mitigated by steady growth in assessment base
- Some of the City's costs rising at a rate higher than inflation
  - Municipalities are not households and do not spend on the same "basket of goods" that make up the CPI indicator
- Despite positive overall and comparative taxation, impatience with perceived value for money
- Significant gap between capital spending and asset renewal requirements
- ► Lower than peer and lower than recommended reserves and reserve funds



### Questions?

