



400 Clyde Road, P.O. Box 729 Cambridge, ON N1R 5W6

Phone: 519.621.2761 Toll free: 866.900.4722 Fax: 519.621.4844 Online: www.grandriver.ca

January 25, 2023

By Email: csenior@oxfordcounty.ca

Chloe Senior, Clerk
County of Oxford
21 Reeve Street, PO Box 1614
Woodstock, ON N4S 7Y3

Dear Chloe Senior

Re: 2023 Grand River Conservation Authority Budget and Levy Meeting

Please be advised that the Annual General Meeting of the Grand River Conservation Authority will be held on Friday, February 24, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to consider the 2023 Budget and General Municipal Levy.

The attached report, which includes the most recent draft of the 2023 Budget, will be presented to the GRCA General Membership on January 27, 2023. Based on board direction to staff, this draft budget includes a General Levy of \$12,968,000 which represents a 3.5% increase over 2022. The General Levy, if approved at the Annual General Meeting, will be apportioned to watershed municipalities on the basis of "Modified Current Value Assessment" as defined in Ontario Regulation 670/00.

The attached draft 2023 Budget outlines the programs and services of the Grand River Conservation Authority and how those programs are expected to be funded in 2023. Also attached is a calculation of the apportionment of the 2023 General Levy to participating municipalities. Should you have any questions concerning the draft Budget or the levy apportionment, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Armstrong".

Karen Armstrong,
Deputy CAO and Secretary-Treasurer

Grand River Conservation Authority Summary of Municipal Levy - 2023 Budget

DRAFT - January 27, 2023

	% CVA in Watershed	2022 CVA (Modified)	CVA in Watershed	CVA-Based Apportionment	2023 Budget Matching & Maintenance Levy	2023 Budget Admin & Maintenance Levy	2023 Budget Capital Maintenance* Levy	2023 Budget Total Levy	Actual 2022	% Change
Brant County	82.9%	7,349,082,037	6,092,389,009	2.92%	13,125	337,655	27,729	378,509	361,733	4.6%
Brantford C	100.0%	15,438,439,128	15,438,439,128	7.40%	33,261	855,636	70,266	959,163	925,478	3.6%
Amaranth Twp	82.0%	823,007,110	674,865,830	0.32%	1,454	37,403	3,072	41,929	40,312	4.0%
East Garafraxa Twp	80.0%	646,737,870	517,390,296	0.25%	1,115	28,675	2,355	32,145	31,052	3.5%
Town of Grand Valley	100.0%	602,204,454	602,204,454	0.29%	1,297	33,376	2,741	37,414	34,921	7.1%
Melancthon Twp	56.0%	605,191,515	338,907,248	0.16%	730	18,783	1,542	21,055	20,387	3.3%
Southgate Twp	6.0%	1,095,001,488	65,700,089	0.03%	142	3,641	299	4,082	3,913	4.3%
Haldimand County	41.0%	7,387,846,603	3,029,017,107	1.45%	6,526	167,875	13,786	188,187	180,063	4.5%
Norfolk County	5.0%	9,785,538,892	489,276,945	0.23%	1,054	27,117	2,227	30,398	29,714	2.3%
Halton Region	10.5%	48,462,400,444	5,103,428,670	2.44%	10,995	282,844	23,227	317,066	304,589	4.1%
Hamilton City	26.8%	96,614,037,173	25,844,254,944	12.38%	55,679	1,432,351	117,626	1,605,656	1,557,692	3.1%
Oxford County	36.5%	4,574,385,729	1,667,806,332	0.80%	3,593	92,434	7,591	103,618	100,481	3.1%
North Perth T	2.0%	2,359,924,293	47,198,486	0.02%	102	2,616	215	2,933	2,779	5.5%
Perth East Twp	40.0%	2,078,521,741	831,408,696	0.40%	1,791	46,079	3,784	51,654	49,597	4.1%
Waterloo Region	100.0%	105,303,687,542	105,303,687,542	50.45%	226,867	5,836,184	479,273	6,542,324	6,325,085	3.4%
Centre Wellington Twp	100.0%	5,401,783,927	5,401,783,927	2.59%	11,638	299,380	24,585	335,603	319,769	5.0%
Erin T	49.0%	2,607,980,359	1,277,910,376	0.61%	2,753	70,825	5,816	79,394	77,102	3.0%
Guelph C	100.0%	28,289,926,279	28,289,926,279	13.55%	60,948	1,567,896	128,757	1,757,601	1,702,688	3.2%
Guelph Eramosa Twp	100.0%	2,930,879,758	2,930,879,758	1.40%	6,314	162,436	13,339	182,089	176,486	3.2%
Mapleton Twp	95.0%	1,881,798,619	1,787,708,688	0.86%	3,851	99,079	8,136	111,066	106,574	4.2%
Wellington North Twp	51.0%	1,801,568,972	918,800,176	0.44%	1,979	50,922	4,182	57,083	55,274	3.3%
Puslinch Twp	75.0%	2,769,118,798	2,076,839,099	0.99%	4,474	115,103	9,452	129,029	124,311	3.8%
Total		348,809,062,729	208,729,823,079	100.00%	449,688	11,568,310	950,000	12,968,000	12,530,000	3.5%

*Capital Maintenance Levy represents levy allocated to maintenance of capital infrastructure, studies, and/or equipment.

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-01-23-04

Date: January 27, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Budget 2023 – Draft #2

Recommendation:

THAT Report 01-23-04 - Budget 2023 - Draft #2 be received as information;

AND THAT an amount equal to any undesignated surplus realized from the 2022 year-end operating results be transferred to the Transition reserve at the end of 2022.

Summary:

This draft continues to present a balanced budget position for 2023.

This draft of the budget includes the following significant changes since the October 28, 2022 draft #1 budget report:

- \$1,060,000 Special Projects spending
- (\$1,060,000) Special Project funding increased
- \$ 475,000 Motor Pool capital spending increased
- (\$ 475,000) Transfer from Motor Pool Reserve increased

This report includes a recommendation to transfer a portion of the 2022 operating surplus into the transition reserve at year-end 2022.

The Final Budget will include adjustments to the Conservation Area program, Outdoor Education Program, Forestry (Tree Planting) program, special projects, expenses carried forward from 2022, and the 2022 surplus carry forward (based on audited 2022 results). These adjustments are not anticipated to affect the 2023 budgeted general levy increase of 3.5%.

This draft includes the following amounts:

- Expenditures \$34,814,188
- General Municipal Levy \$12,968,000 (\$438,000 or 3.5% increase over prior year)
- Provincial Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECl) Grant \$700,000
- Provincial Source Protection Program Grant \$640,000
- Reserves to decrease by \$1,379,500 in 2023

Report:

The final 2023 budget will be presented for approval at the February 24, 2023 General Membership Meeting.

This draft of the 2023 Budget includes the following changes made since the October 28, 2022 General Membership Meeting:

Special Projects Budget 2023 (net increase in expenses \$1,060,000):

- \$ 130,000 Waste Water Optimization Project expenses increased
- \$ 130,000 Provincial funding increased

\$ 100,000	Ecological Restoration Project expenses increased
\$ 100,000	Other Donations funding increased
\$ 25,000	Haldimand Water Festival expenses increased
\$ 25,000	Municipal Government funding increased
\$ 35,000	Brant/Brantford Water Festival expenses increased
\$ 35,000	Donation funding increased
\$ 30,000	Species at Risk expenses increased
\$ 30,000	Federal Government funding increased
\$ 75,000	Nature Smart Climate Solutions expenses increased
\$ 75,000	Federal Government funding increased
\$ 85,000	Profit Mapping expenses increased
\$ 85,000	Provincial funding increased
\$ 80,000	Subwatershed Study-City of Kitchener
\$ 80,000	Municipal Funding-Other
\$500,000	Guelph Lake NC Building expenses increased
\$500,000	Foundation funding increased

Capital Budget 2023 (net increase in expenses \$475,000)

\$475,000	Motor Pool Equipment expenses increased (from \$375K to \$850K)
\$475,000	Transfer from Motor Pool Reserve increased

Operating Budget 2023 (no changes for draft #2)

Transition Reserve

The transition reserve was established at year-end 2020. The purpose of the reserve is to fund expenditures related to the transitioning of GRCA to new provincial regulations requirements and/or fund costs related to managing expenses impacted by COVID-19 or revenue losses due to COVID-19. It is recommended that any 2022 year-end operating surplus that has not been designated to be incorporated into the 2023 budget be transferred to the transition reserve in 2022. By February, the year-end audit will have been completed and the year-end 2022 operating surplus will be finalized and the amount to be transferred into this reserve will be incorporated into the 2023 final budget report at the February 24, 2023 General Meeting.

Significant Outstanding Budget Items

Draft #2 operating budget continues to assume status quo operations. After actual 2022 figures are finalized, the final budget will be prepared and the outstanding matters listed below will be addressed.

(a) Year 2022 Carry forward Adjustments

2022 Surplus carry forward

Budget 2023 draft #2 assumes a \$100,000 surplus carry over from year 2022. The December 2022 Financial Summary for year-end 2022 forecasts a \$650,000 surplus. Some surplus will be carried over to 2023 to cover additional costs added to the 2023 budget. Staff recommend that any 2022 surplus that is not required to achieve a breakeven 2023 budget (i.e. municipal levy increase kept to 3.5%) be transferred into the transition reserve as outlined above. The amount of surplus to be transferred to the transition reserve is estimated to be \$300,000 to \$500,000. The 2022 carry forward surplus will be updated based on the actual yearend results.

2022 Special Projects carry forward

Any projects commenced in year 2022 or earlier and not completed by December 31, 2022 will be carried forward and added to Budget 2023 (i.e. both the funding and the expense will be added to Budget 2023 and therefore these adjustments will have no impact on the breakeven net result).

(b) Conservation Areas

Conservation Area 2023 budgeted revenue is \$10,000,000. Actual 2022 revenue is approximately \$11,200,000. The final budget version will include revised operating and capital expense amounts. The program is budgeted to break even.

(c) Outdoor Education Program.

Following an analysis of actual 2022 expenses the final budget version will be revised as considered necessary.

(d) Forestry (Tree Planting) Program

Following an analysis of actual 2022 expenses the final budget version will be revised as considered necessary.

(e) Major Water Control Structures Capital Maintenance Expenditures

A final determination of the amount of spending to be added to Budget 2023 will be impacted by unspent amounts from 2022 that will be carried forward to 2023, including the use of the reserve for 2023 projects. Current government funding opportunities includes the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF), the National Damage Mitigation Program (NDMP), and the Provincial Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Program.

Attached are the following related documents:

- Budget 2023 Timetable
- Summary Reserve Report – Budget 2023
- Preliminary Budget 2023 Package to Municipalities

Financial Implications:

In this draft, the GRCA is proposing a \$34,814,188 budget. A net decrease to reserves of \$1,379,500 is budgeted.

The current inflationary economic situation and supply chain challenges have the potential to result in significant unbudgeted cost increases, in particular for large purchases/capital projects, which in turn may result in outcomes such as deferral of projects, changes in the scope of projects, and/or the use of reserves to fund unbudgeted costs.

Other Department Considerations:

None

Prepared by:

Sonja Radoja
Manager of Corporate Services

Approved by:

Karen Armstrong
Deputy CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

Samantha Lawson
Chief Administrative Officer



2023 BUDGET

(Draft to January 27, 2023 General Board Meeting)

Grand River Conservation Authority

2023 Budget

Index

<u>Schedules</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1) Summary Schedules	
• GRCA 2023 Budget Highlights	1-4
• Summary of Revenue and Expenditures	5
• Overview - 2023 Revenue by Source	6
• Overview – 2023 Expenditures by Category	7
• GRCA Per Capita Levy 2013 to 2023	8
• Summary of Expenditures, Funding and Change in Municipal Levy	9
• Summary of Municipal General Levy	10
2) Section A – Operating Budget	11-37
• Table 1: Water Resources Planning and Environment	
• Table 2: Flood Forecasting and Warning	
• Table 3: Water Control Structures	
• Table 4: Planning	
• Table 5: Forestry and Conservation Lands Property Tax	
• Table 6: Conservation Services	
• Table 7: Communications and Foundation	
• Table 8: Outdoor Education	
• Table 9: Corporate Services	
• Table 10: Conservation Lands, Property Rentals, Hydro, Conservation Areas, and other Miscellaneous Revenues and Expenditures	
• Other Information (Information Systems and Motor Pool)	
3) Section B – Capital Budget	38-40
4) Section C – Special Projects Budget	41-43

GRCA 2023 Budget Highlights

The Grand River Conservation Authority is a successful partnership of municipalities, working together to promote and undertake wise management of the water and natural resources of the Grand River watershed.

The Grand River stretches 300 kilometres from Dundalk in Dufferin County to Port Maitland on Lake Erie. It takes in one of the fastest growing regions in the province, with a population of approximately 1,000,000. The Grand River watershed is also home to some of the most intensively farmed land in the nation.

The prospect of high growth and the impact on water and natural resources and the quality of life present an enormous challenge to the GRCA, municipalities and all watershed residents. It creates an urgent need to work co-operatively to care wisely for the Grand River and its resources.

The work of the GRCA is divided into seven business areas:

- Reducing flood damages
- Improving water quality
- Maintaining reliable water supply
- Protecting natural areas and biodiversity
- Watershed planning
- Environmental education
- Outdoor recreation

In order to carry out these functions, the GRCA draws revenues from a variety of sources:

- User fees, such as park admissions, nature centre programs, planning fees and others
- Revenues from property rentals and hydro generation at our dams
- Municipal levies, which are applied primarily to watershed management programs
- Municipal grants dedicated to specific programs, such as the Rural Water Quality Program and Water Quality Monitoring
- Provincial transfer payments for water management operating expenses
- Provincial grants for specific purposes, such as the provincial Source Protection Program and Capital Projects related to water management
- Donations from the Grand River Conservation Foundation for programs such as outdoor education, tree nursery operations and various special projects
- Federal grants and other miscellaneous sources of revenue

The GRCA continues to work on the updates and implementation of a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan for each of the four watersheds in the Lake Erie Source Protection Region, including the Grand River watershed, as part of the provincial Source Protection Program under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. Besides supporting municipalities and other agencies in implementing the plans, the focus in 2023 continues on completing updates to the Grand River Source Protection Plan, including development of water quantity policies, updating water quality vulnerability assessments, and the development of the annual progress report for the Grand River Source Protection Plan.

In 2022 terms of reference for a watershed-based resource management strategy was completed as part of the requirement of the Conservation Authorities Act to develop a watershed strategy. In 2023, the focus will be on developing a draft watershed-based resource management strategy and engage municipalities through the Water Managers Working group. The existing water management plan will provide important information to the watershed strategy.

Bill 23 – More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 impacts the 2023 Budget to the extent that certain fees are being frozen and there is the potential for revenue declines due to restrictions on natural heritage resource planning services offered by Conservation Authorities.

1. Watershed Management and Monitoring

Watershed management and monitoring programs protect watershed residents from flooding and provide the information required to develop appropriate resource management strategies and to identify priority actions to maintain a healthy watershed. Activities include operation of flood and erosion control structures such as dikes and dams; flood forecasting and warning; water quality monitoring; natural heritage restoration and rehabilitation projects; water quantity assessment; watershed and subwatershed studies.

Operating Expenditures:

Water Resources Planning and Environment	\$2,338,900	(Table 1)
Flood Forecasting and Warning	\$ 923,000	(Table 2)
Water Control Structures	\$1,944,200	(Table 3)

Capital Expenditures: **\$1,800,000** (Section B)

Total Expenditures: **\$7,006,100**

Revenue sources: Municipal levies, provincial grants and reserves

2. Planning

Program areas:

- a) Natural Hazard Regulations
The administration of conservation authority regulations related to development in the floodplain, and other natural hazards e.g. wetlands, slopes, shorelines and watercourses.
- b) Plan Input and Review
Planning and technical review of municipal planning documents and recommending policies related to natural hazards; providing advice and information to municipal councils on development proposals and severances; review of environmental assessments.

Operating Expenditures: **\$2,574,200** (Table 4)

Capital Expenditures: **NIL**

Revenue sources: Permit fees, enquiry fees, plan review fees, and municipal levy

3. Watershed stewardship

The watershed stewardship program provides information and/or assistance to private and public landowners and community groups on sound water and environmental practices that will enhance, restore or protect their properties. Some activities are reforestation/tree planting through the Burford Tree Nursery, the Rural Water Quality Program, restoration and rehabilitation projects. The program also, provides conservation information through workshops, publications, the web site and media contacts.

Operating Expenditures:

Forestry & Conservation Land Taxes	\$ 1,402,500 (Table 5)
Conservation Services	\$ 605,700 (Table 6)

Capital Expenditures: NIL

Total Expenditures: \$ 2,008,200

Revenue sources:

Municipal levies and grants, provincial grants, tree sales, landowner contributions, donations from the Grand River Conservation Foundation and other donations.

4. Conservation Land Management

This includes expenses and revenues associated with the acquisition and management of land owned or managed by the GRCA including woodlots, provincially significant wetlands (e.g. Luther Marsh, Dunnville Marsh), passive conservation areas, rail-trails and a number of rental properties. Activities include forest management, woodlot thinning, and hydro production at our dams.

Operating Expenditures:

Conservation Lands, Rentals, Misc	\$4,218,800 (Table 10-Conservation Lands)
Hydro Production	\$ 212,000 (Table 10-Hydro Production)

Capital Expenditures: NIL

Total Expenditures: \$4,430,800

Revenue sources:

Property rentals, hydro production, timber sales, conservation land income, donations from the Grand River Conservation Foundation

5. Education

The GRCA operates six nature centres, which provide curriculum-based programs to about 50,000 students from six school boards and independent schools throughout the watershed. In addition, about 16,000 members of the public attend day camps and weekend family and community events.

Operating Expenditures: \$810,100 (Table 8)

Capital Expenditures: NIL

Revenue sources: School boards, nature centre user fees, community event fees, donations from the Grand River Conservation Foundation and municipal general levy.

6. Recreation

This includes the costs and revenues associated with operating the GRCA's 11 active conservation areas. The GRCA offers camping, hiking, fishing, swimming, skiing and other activities at its parks. It provides 2,200 campsites, making it the second-largest provider of camping accommodation in Ontario. About 1.7 million people visit GRCA parks each year.

Operating Expenditures: \$ **8,500,000** (Table 10)
Capital Expenditures: \$ **2,000,000** (Section B)
Total Expenditures: \$ **9,800,000**

Revenue sources:
Conservation Area user fees, government grants, reserves and donations.

7. Corporate services & Strategic Communications

This includes the cost of head office functions such as accounting and human resources, as well as the cost of facilities, insurance, consulting and legal fees and expenses relating to the General Membership.

Operating Expenditures:

Strategic Communications \$ 597,500 (Table 7)
Corporate Services \$3,568,288 (Table 9)

Capital Expenditures: \$ **779,000** (Section B)

Total Expenditures: \$ **4,944,788**

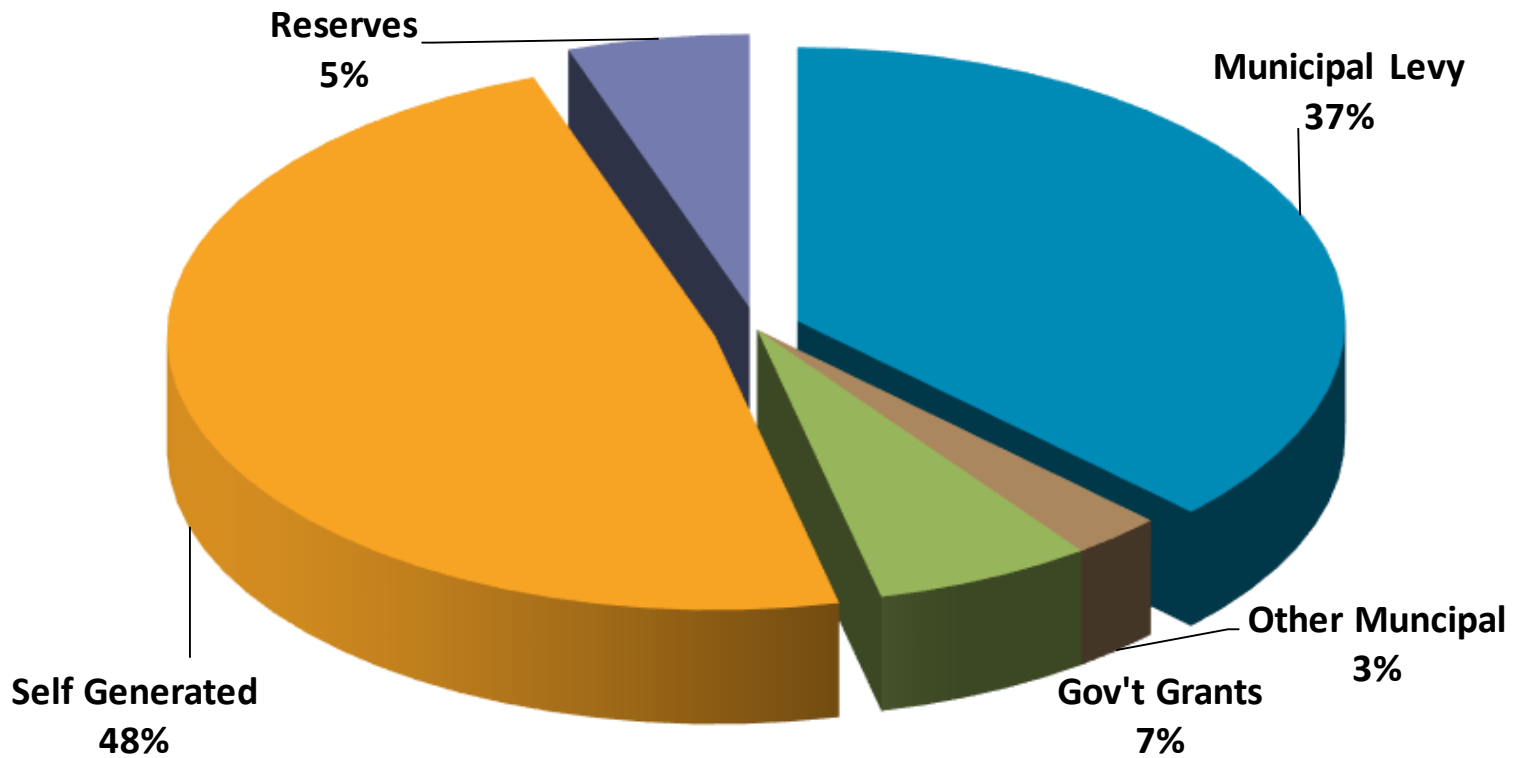
Revenue sources: Municipal levies and reserves.

BUDGET 2023 - Summary of Revenue and Expenditures

FUNDING		Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Budget Incr/(decr)
Municipal General Levy Funding		12,225,000	12,530,000	12,968,000	438,000 3.50%
Other Government Grants		3,131,738	3,927,188	3,172,188	(755,000) -19.2%
Self-Generated Revenue		16,021,037	16,273,177	16,803,000	529,823 3.3%
Funding from Reserves		494,912	2,144,000	1,871,000	(273,000) -12.7%
TOTAL FUNDING		31,872,687	34,874,365	34,814,188	(60,177) -0.2%
EXPENDITURES		Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Budget Incr/(decr)
Base Programs - Operating includes funding to reserves	SECTION A	27,048,151	26,497,365	27,695,188	1,197,823 4.52%
Base Programs - Capital	SECTION B	2,150,870	5,102,000	4,579,000	(523,000) -10.25%
Special Projects	SECTION C	2,106,489	3,275,000	2,540,000	(735,000) -22.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		31,305,510	34,874,365	34,814,188	(60,177) -0.2%
NET RESULT		567,177	-	-	

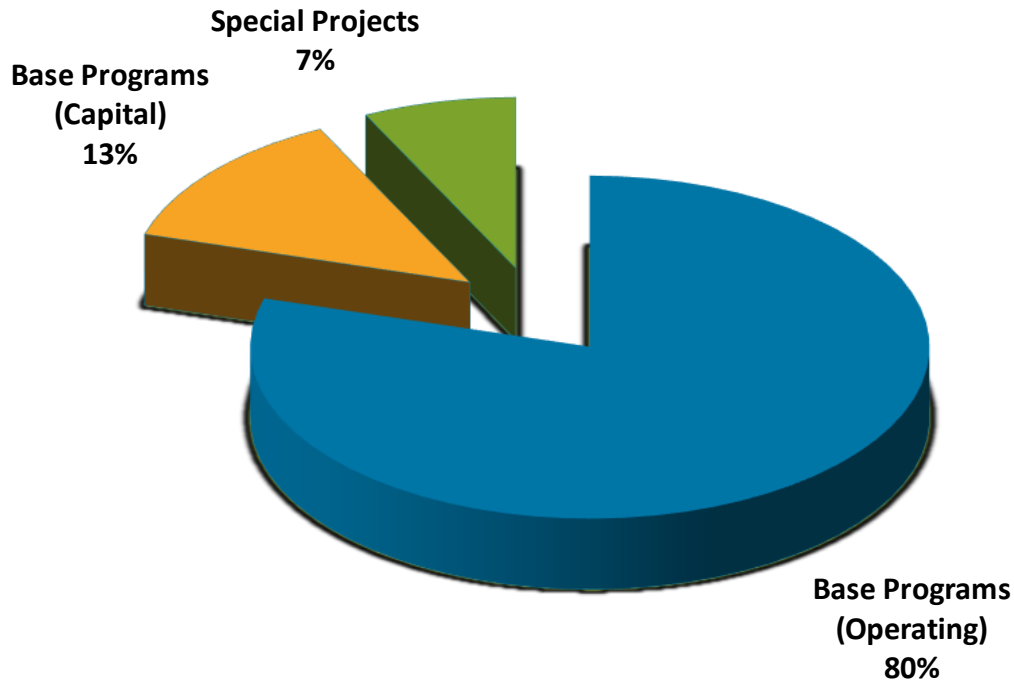
2023 Budget – Revenue by Source

Total 2023 Budget Revenue = \$34.8 Million (\$ 34.9 Million in 2022)

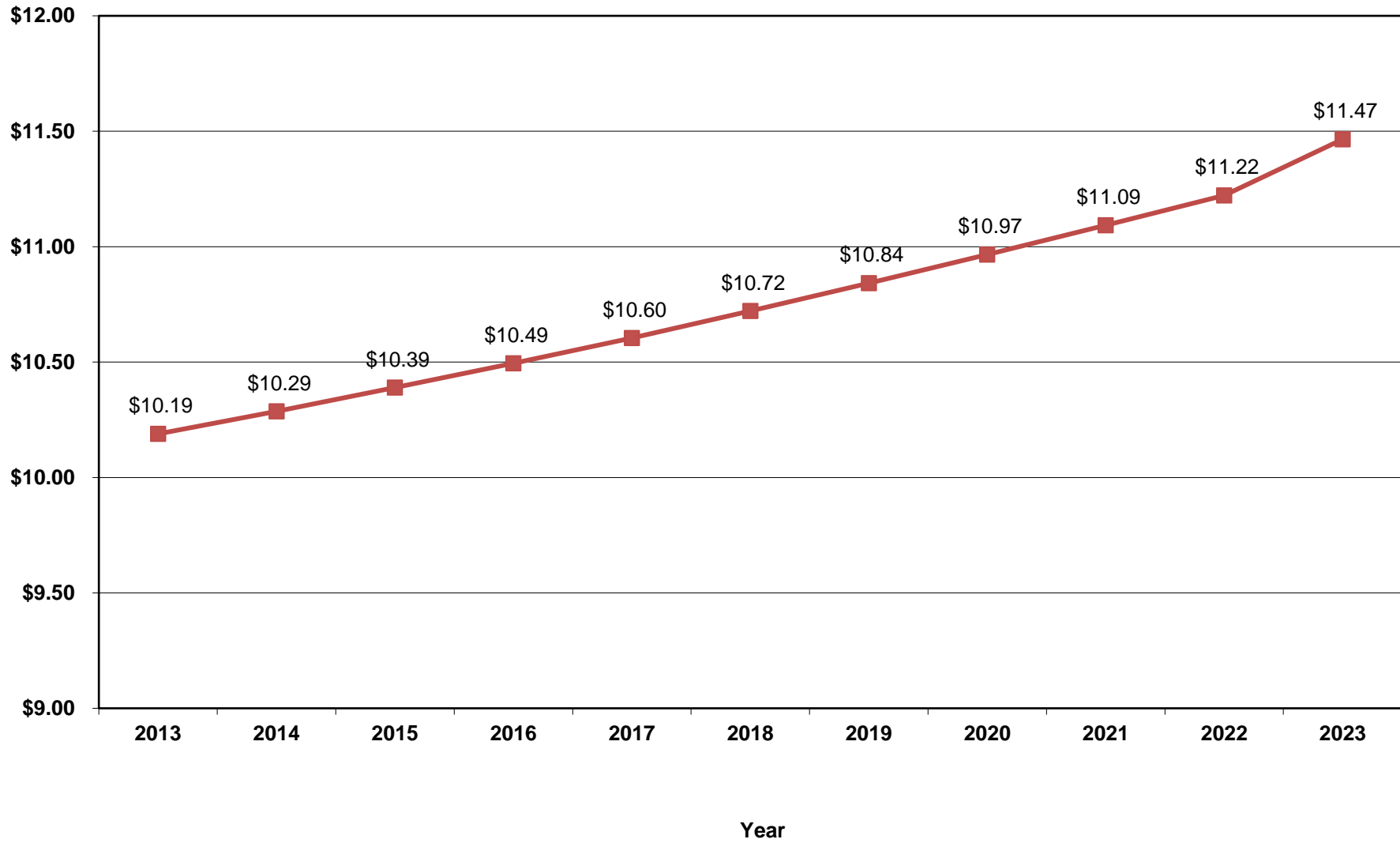


2023 Budget – Expenditures by Category

2023 Budget Expenditures = \$34.8 Million (\$ 34.9 Million in 2022)



Grand River Conservation Authority Per Capita General Levy 2013 to 2023



GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Budget 2023 - Summary of Expenditures, Funding and Change in Municipal Levy

		TABLE 1	TABLE 2	TABLE 3	TABLE 4	TABLE 5	TABLE 6	TABLE 7	TABLE 8	TABLE 9	TABLE 9	TABLE 10	TABLE 10	TABLE 10	
		Water Resources Planning & Environment	Flood Forecasting & Warning	Water Control Structures	Resource Planning	Forestry & Conservation Land Taxes	Conservation Services	Communications	Environmental Education	Corporate Services	Loss/(Surplus) impact on Municipal Levy Increase	Conservation Land and Rental Management and Misc	Hydro Production	Conservation Areas	TOTAL
2023 OPERATING															
TOTAL EXPENSES	A	2,338,900	923,000	1,944,200	2,574,200	1,402,500	605,700	597,500	810,100	3,568,288		4,218,800	212,000	8,500,000	27,695,188
TOTAL OTHER FUNDING	B	87,500	224,338	355,350	1,189,000	607,000	31,000	0	500,000	135,000		3,368,000	580,000	8,500,000	15,577,188
"Other Programs" Surplus/(Loss)	B less A											(850,800)	368,000	-	(482,800)
Loss to be offset with Surplus	C										482,800				(482,800)
Surplus 2021 carried forward to 2022											(100,000)				100,000
2023 Levy	A less B less C	2,251,400	698,662	1,588,850	1,385,200	795,500	574,700	597,500	310,100	3,433,288	382,800	0	0	0	12,018,000
															0
<u>Levy Increase:</u>															
2023 Levy		2,251,400	698,662	1,588,850	1,385,200	795,500	574,700	597,500	310,100	3,433,288	382,800				12,018,000
2022 Levy		2,179,900	678,662	1,537,350	1,307,200	773,500	555,200	577,500	284,600	3,786,565	(100,477)				11,580,000
Levy Increase over prior year		71,500	20,000	51,500	78,000	22,000	19,500	20,000	25,500	(353,277)	483,277	n/a	n/a	n/a	438,000
2023 CAPITAL															
TOTAL EXPENSES	A	110,000	190,000	1,500,000						779,000				2,000,000	4,579,000
TOTAL OTHER FUNDING	B	75,000	25,000	750,000						779,000				2,000,000	3,629,000
2023 Levy	A less B	35,000	165,000	750,000						-				-	950,000
<u>Levy Increase:</u>															
2023 Levy		35,000	165,000	750,000						-				-	950,000
2022 Levy		35,000	165,000	750,000						-				-	950,000
Levy Increase/(decrease) over prior year		-	-	-						-				-	-
2023 SPECIAL															
TOTAL EXPENSES	A	210,000		640,000		100,000	1,090,000		500,000						2,540,000
TOTAL OTHER FUNDING	B	210,000		640,000		100,000	1,090,000		500,000						2,540,000
2023 Levy	A less B	-	-	-		-	-		-						-
														TOTAL EXPENSES	34,814,188
														TOTAL FUNDING	34,814,188
														NET RESULT	-

Grand River Conservation Authority Summary of Municipal Levy - 2023 Budget

DRAFT - January 27, 2023

	% CVA in Watershed	2022 CVA (Modified)	CVA in Watershed	CVA-Based Apportionment	2023 Budget Matching & Maintenance Levy	2023 Budget Admin & Maintenance Levy	2023 Budget Capital Maintenance* Levy	2023 Budget Total Levy	Actual 2022	% Change
Brant County	82.9%	7,349,082,037	6,092,389,009	2.92%	13,125	337,655	27,729	378,509	361,733	4.6%
Brantford C	100.0%	15,438,439,128	15,438,439,128	7.40%	33,261	855,636	70,266	959,163	925,478	3.6%
Amaranth Twp	82.0%	823,007,110	674,865,830	0.32%	1,454	37,403	3,072	41,929	40,312	4.0%
East Garafraxa Twp	80.0%	646,737,870	517,390,296	0.25%	1,115	28,675	2,355	32,145	31,052	3.5%
Town of Grand Valley	100.0%	602,204,454	602,204,454	0.29%	1,297	33,376	2,741	37,414	34,921	7.1%
Melancthon Twp	56.0%	605,191,515	338,907,248	0.16%	730	18,783	1,542	21,055	20,387	3.3%
Southgate Twp	6.0%	1,095,001,488	65,700,089	0.03%	142	3,641	299	4,082	3,913	4.3%
Haldimand County	41.0%	7,387,846,603	3,029,017,107	1.45%	6,526	167,875	13,786	188,187	180,063	4.5%
Norfolk County	5.0%	9,785,538,892	489,276,945	0.23%	1,054	27,117	2,227	30,398	29,714	2.3%
Halton Region	10.5%	48,462,400,444	5,103,428,670	2.44%	10,995	282,844	23,227	317,066	304,589	4.1%
Hamilton City	26.8%	96,614,037,173	25,844,254,944	12.38%	55,679	1,432,351	117,626	1,605,656	1,557,692	3.1%
Oxford County	36.5%	4,574,385,729	1,667,806,332	0.80%	3,593	92,434	7,591	103,618	100,481	3.1%
North Perth T	2.0%	2,359,924,293	47,198,486	0.02%	102	2,616	215	2,933	2,779	5.5%
Perth East Twp	40.0%	2,078,521,741	831,408,696	0.40%	1,791	46,079	3,784	51,654	49,597	4.1%
Waterloo Region	100.0%	105,303,687,542	105,303,687,542	50.45%	226,867	5,836,184	479,273	6,542,324	6,325,085	3.4%
Centre Wellington Twp	100.0%	5,401,783,927	5,401,783,927	2.59%	11,638	299,380	24,585	335,603	319,769	5.0%
Erin T	49.0%	2,607,980,359	1,277,910,376	0.61%	2,753	70,825	5,816	79,394	77,102	3.0%
Guelph C	100.0%	28,289,926,279	28,289,926,279	13.55%	60,948	1,567,896	128,757	1,757,601	1,702,688	3.2%
Guelph Eramosa Twp	100.0%	2,930,879,758	2,930,879,758	1.40%	6,314	162,436	13,339	182,089	176,486	3.2%
Mapleton Twp	95.0%	1,881,798,619	1,787,708,688	0.86%	3,851	99,079	8,136	111,066	106,574	4.2%
Wellington North Twp	51.0%	1,801,568,972	918,800,176	0.44%	1,979	50,922	4,182	57,083	55,274	3.3%
Puslinch Twp	75.0%	2,769,118,798	2,076,839,099	0.99%	4,474	115,103	9,452	129,029	124,311	3.8%
Total		348,809,062,729	208,729,823,079	100.00%	449,688	11,568,310	950,000	12,968,000	12,530,000	3.5%

*Capital Maintenance Levy represents levy allocated to maintenance of capital infrastructure, studies, and/or equipment.

SECTION A

BASE PROGRAMS – OPERATING

SECTION A - Operating Budget

GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Budget 2023 vs Budget 2022

	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Incr/(Decr)	%age change
EXPENDITURES					
OPERATING EXPENSES	27,048,151	26,497,365	27,695,188	1,197,823	4.52%
Total Expenses	27,048,151	26,497,365	27,695,188	1,197,823	4.52%
SOURCES OF FUNDING					
MUNICIPAL GENERAL LEVY (NOTE)	10,701,206	11,580,000	12,018,000	438,000	3.78%
MUNICIPAL SPECIAL LEVY	43,047	50,000	50,000	-	0.00%
OTHER GOVT FUNDING	636,502	517,188	517,188	-	0.00%
SELF-GENERATED	15,035,681	13,666,000	14,568,000	902,000	6.60%
RESERVES	315,474	117,000	442,000	325,000	277.78%
SURPLUS CARRYFORWARD	316,241	567,177	100,000	(467,177)	-82.37%
Total BASE Funding	27,048,151	26,497,365	27,695,188	1,197,823	4.52%

NOTE: See "Summary of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Municipal Levy" for details of \$438,000 levy increase.

TABLE 1

(a) Watershed Studies

This category includes watershed and subwatershed studies. These studies provide the strategic framework for understanding water resources and ecosystem form, functions and linkages. These allow for assessment of the impacts of changes in watershed resources and land use. Watershed studies also identify activities and actions that are needed to minimize the adverse impacts of change. This program supports other plans and programs that promote healthy watersheds.

Specific Activities:

- Carry out or partner with municipalities and other stakeholders on integrated subwatershed plans for streams and tributaries. Subwatershed Plans are technical reports which provide comprehensive background on how surface water, groundwater, terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems function in a subwatershed. The plans recommend how planned changes such as urbanization can take place in a sustainable manner. Subwatershed studies are ongoing or planned in the City of Kitchener, Region of Waterloo, City of Guelph and City of Brantford.
- In 2022 terms of reference for a watershed-based resource management strategy was completed as part of the requirement of the Conservation Authorities Act to develop a watershed strategy. In 2023, the focus will be on developing a draft watershed-based resource management strategy and engage municipalities through the Water Managers Working group.

(b) Water Resources Planning and Environment and Support

This category includes the collection and analysis of environmental data and the development of management plans for protection and management of water resources and natural heritage systems. These programs assist with implementation of monitoring water and natural resources and assessment of changes in watershed health and priority management areas.

Specific Activities:

- operate 8 continuous river water quality monitoring stations, 73 stream flow monitoring stations, 27 groundwater monitoring stations, and 37 water quality monitoring stations in conjunction with MOE, apply state-of-the-art water quality assimilation model to determine optimum sewage treatment options in the central Grand, and provide technical input to municipal water quality issues
- analyze and report on water quality conditions in the Grand River watershed
- maintain a water budget to support sustainable water use in the watershed, and maintain a drought response program
- analyze water use data for the watershed and provide recommendations for water conservation approaches

- provide advice to Provincial Ministries regarding water use permits to ensure that significant environmental concerns are identified so that potential impacts can be addressed.

(c) Water Management Division Support

Provides support services to the Water Management Division including support for Flood Forecasting and Warning and Water Control Structures.

Specific Spending:

- administrative services
- travel, communication, staff development and computer
- insurance

(d) Natural Heritage Management

The natural heritage management program includes those activities associated with providing service and/or assistance to private and public landowners and community groups on sound environmental practices that will enhance, restore or protect the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. The program includes watershed scale natural heritage assessments and implements restoration activities on GRCA land.

Specific Activities:

- implement “best bets” for protection and enhancement of fisheries, work with outside agencies, non-government organizations and the public to improve fish habitat through stream rehabilitation projects including the implementation of the recommendations of the watershed studies.
- maintain and implement the Forest Management Plan for the Grand River watershed and develop and implement components of the watershed Emerald Ash Borer strategy
- carry out restoration and rehabilitation projects for aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems e.g. species at risk and ecological monitoring on GRCA lands, and prescribed burn activities and community events such as tree planting and stream restoration

TABLE 1
 GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Water Resources Planning & Environment

OPERATING	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Budget Change
Expenses:				incr/(decr)
Salary and Benefits	1,380,849	1,684,000	1,706,500	22,500
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	175,035	268,300	268,300	0
Insurance	122,304	150,000	199,000	49,000
Other Operating Expenses	100,978	165,100	165,100	0
Amount set aside to Reserves	336,000	-	-	0
TOTAL EXPENSE	2,115,166	2,267,400	2,338,900	71,500
Funding				(incr)/decr
Municipal Special/Other	43,047	50,000	50,000	0
Prov & Federal Govt	-	37,500	37,500	0
Funds taken from Reserves	-	-	-	0
TOTAL FUNDING	43,047	87,500	87,500	-
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	2,072,119	2,179,900	2,251,400	
Net incr/(decr) to Municipal Levy				71,500

TABLE 2

Flood Forecasting and Warning

The flood warning system includes the direct costs associated with monitoring the streams, and rivers in order to effectively provide warnings and guidance to municipalities and watershed residents during flood emergencies.

Overall, flood protection services provide watershed residents with an effective and efficient system that will reduce their exposure to the threat of flood damage and loss of life. It is estimated that the existing flood protection in the Grand River watershed saves an average of over \$5.0 million annually in property damage.

Specific Activities:

- maintain a ‘state of the art’ computerized flood forecasting and warning system.
- operate a 24 hour, year-round, on-call duty officer system to respond to flooding matters.
- collect and manage data on rainfall, water quantity, reservoir conditions, water levels from 56 stream flow gauges, 24 rainfall gauges, and 12 snow courses.
- use Ignition system to continuously, monitor river conditions and detect warning levels, assist municipalities with emergency planning, and respond to thousands of inquiries each year.
- assist municipalities with municipal emergency planning and participate in municipal emergency planning exercises when requested.
- hold municipal flood coordinator meetings twice a year to confirm responsibilities of agencies involved in the flood warning system. Test the system. Update and publish a flood warning system guide containing up to date emergency contact information. Maintain update to date emergency contact information throughout the year.

TABLE 2
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Flood Forecasting & Warning

OPERATING	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Budget change
Expenses:				incr/(decr)
Salary and Benefits	386,529	499,000	579,000	80,000
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	236,160	236,000	236,000	-
Other Operating Expenses	111,778	108,000	108,000	-
Amount set aside to Reserves		-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	734,467	843,000	923,000	80,000
Funding				(incr)/decr
MNR Grant	164,338	164,338	164,338	-
Prov & Federal Govt	(53)	-	-	-
Funds taken from Reserves			60,000	(60,000)
TOTAL FUNDING	164,285	164,338	224,338	(60,000)
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	570,182	678,662	698,662	
Net incr/(decr) to Municipal Levy				20,000

TABLE 3

Water Control Structures

This category includes costs associated with the capital and maintenance of structures, the primary purpose of which is to provide protection to life and property. These structures include dams, dykes, berms and channels etc. Also included in this category are non-flood control dams and weirs, which maintain upstream water levels.

Overall, flood protection services provide watershed residents with an effective and efficient system that will reduce their exposure to the threat of flood damage and loss of life. It is estimated that the existing flood protection in the Grand River watershed saves an average of over \$5.0 million annually in property damage.

Specific Activities:

- operate and maintain 7 major multi-purpose reservoirs, which provide flood protection and flow augmentation, and 25 kilometres of dykes in 5 major dyke systems (Kitchener-Bridgeport, Cambridge-Galt, Brantford, Drayton and New Hamburg)
- ensure structural integrity of flood protection infrastructure through dam safety reviews, inspections and monitoring, reconstruction of deteriorating sections of floodwalls and refurbishing of major components of dams and dykes.
- carry out capital upgrades to the flood control structures in order to meet Provincial standards
- operate and maintain 22 non-flood control dams, which are primarily for aesthetic, recreational, municipal fire suppression water supply or municipal drinking water supply intake purposes
- develop and implement plans to decommission failing or obsolete dams
- ice management activities to prevent or respond to flooding resulting from ice jams
- develop and implement public safety plans for structures

TABLE 3
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Water Control Structures

OPERATING	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Budget change
Expenses:				incr/(decr)
Salary and Benefits	1,159,637	1,278,000	1,399,500	121,500
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	31,939	29,200	29,200	-
Property Taxes	156,533	170,700	170,700	-
Other Operating Expenses	288,690	344,800	344,800	-
Amount set aside to Reserves	251,000	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,887,799	1,822,700	1,944,200	121,500
Funding				(incr)/decr
MNR Grant	285,350	285,350	285,350	-
Funds taken from Reserves			70,000	70,000
TOTAL FUNDING	285,350	285,350	355,350	70,000
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	1,602,449	1,537,350	1,588,850	
Net incr/(decr) to Municipal Levy				51,500

TABLE 4

(a) PLANNING - Regulations

This category includes costs and revenues associated with administering the *Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation* made under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. This includes permit review, inspections, permit issuance, enforcement and follow-up, which may include defending appeals.

Specific Activities:

- Process over 1,000 permits each year related to development, alteration or activities that may interfere with the following types of lands:
 - ravines, valleys, steep slopes
 - wetlands including swamps, marshes, bogs, and fens
 - any watercourse, river, creek, floodplain or valley land
 - the Lake Erie shoreline
- The regulation applies to the development activities listed below in the areas listed above:
 - the construction, reconstruction, erection or placing of a building or structure of any kind,
 - any change to a building or structure that would have the effect of altering the use or potential use of the building or structure, increasing the size of the building or structure or increasing the number of dwelling units in the building or structure
 - site grading
 - the temporary or permanent placing, dumping or removal of any material originating on the site or elsewhere.
- maintain policies and guidelines to assist in the protection of people and property (i.e. Policies for the Administration of the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation)
- enforcement of the Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation and maintain compliance policies and procedures
- update and maintain flood line mapping; develop natural hazards mapping in digital format to be integrated into municipal planning documents and Geographic Information Systems

(b) PLANNING - Municipal Plan Input and Review

This program includes costs and revenues associated with reviewing Official Plans, Secondary and Community Plans, Zoning Bylaws, Environmental Assessments, development applications and other proposals, in accordance with Conservation Authority and provincial or municipal agreements.

Specific Activities:

- review municipal planning and master plan documents and recommend environmental policies and designations for floodplains, wetlands, natural heritage areas, fisheries habitat, hazard lands and shorelines, which support GRCA regulations and complement provincial polices and federal regulations
- provide advice to municipalities regarding environmental assessments, and other proposals such as aggregate and municipal drain applications to ensure that all natural hazard concerns are adequately identified and that any adverse impacts are minimized or mitigated
- provide information and technical advice to Municipal Councils and Committees and Land Division Committees regarding development applications to assist in making wise land use decisions regarding protection of people and property from natural hazard areas such as flood plains, erosion areas, Lake Erie shoreline, watercourses and wetlands.

TABLE 4
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Resource Planning

OPERATING	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Budget change
Expenses:				incr/(decr)
Salary and Benefits	1,736,286	2,074,000	2,297,000	223,000
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	183,298	222,500	222,500	-
Other Operating Expenses	51,609	54,700	54,700	-
Amount set aside to Reserves	310,000	-	-	-
-	2,281,193	2,351,200	2,574,200	223,000
Funding				(incr)/decr
Self Generated	1,190,560	1,044,000	1,144,000	(100,000)
Funds taken from Reserves			45,000	(45,000)
TOTAL FUNDING	1,190,560	1,044,000	1,189,000	(145,000)
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	1,090,633	1,307,200	1,385,200	
Net incr/(decr) to Municipal Levy				78,000

TABLE 5

Forestry & Property Taxes

The forestry program includes those activities associated with providing service and/or assistance to private and public landowners and community groups on sound environmental practices that will enhance, restore or protect their properties.

This category includes direct delivery of remediation programs including tree planting/reforestation.

General Municipal Levy funds the property tax for GRCA owned natural areas/passive lands.

Specific Activities:

- plant trees on private lands (cost recovery from landowner)
- operate Burford Tree Nursery to grow and supply native and threatened species
- carry out tree planting and other forest management programs on over 7,000 hectares of managed forests on GRCA owned lands
- hazard tree management to protect people and property

TABLE 5
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Forestry & Conservation Land Taxes

OPERATING	Actual 2021	Budget 2021	Budget 2022	Budget change
Expenses:				incr/(decr)
Salary and Benefits	467,005	531,000	553,000	22,000
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	46,925	54,300	54,300	0
Property Taxes	167,524	183,200	183,200	0
Other Operating Expenses	533,611	612,000	612,000	0
Amount set aside to Reserves	100,000			0
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,315,065	1,380,500	1,402,500	22,000
Funding				(incr)/decr
Donations	15,198	27,000	27,000	-
Self Generated	600,015	580,000	580,000	-
TOTAL FUNDING	615,213	607,000	607,000	0
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	699,852	773,500	795,500	
Net incr/(decr) to Municipal Levy				22,000

TABLE 6

Conservation Services

The Conservation Services program includes those activities associated with providing service and/or assistance to private and public landowners and community groups implementing projects to conserve and enhance natural resources on their properties.

This category includes the Rural Water Quality program and Forestry extension services.

Specific Activities:

- Co-ordinate the Rural Water Quality Program. This involves landowner contact, community outreach and delivery of a grant program to encourage adoption of agricultural management practices and projects to improve and protect water quality. Funding for this important initiative comes from watershed municipalities and other government grants.
- Carry out tree planting, and naturalization projects with private landowners
- Co-ordinate community events e.g. children's water festivals and agricultural and rural landowner workshops to promote landowner environmental stewardship action

TABLE 6
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Conservation Services

OPERATING	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Budget change
Expenses:				incr/(decr)
Salary and Benefits	410,257	478,000	497,500	19,500
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	50,831	86,200	86,200	-
Other Operating Expenses	1,432	22,000	22,000	-
Amount set aside to Reserves	125,000	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	587,520	586,200	605,700	19,500
Funding				(incr)/decr
Prov & Federal Govt	-	30,000	30,000	-
Funds taken from Reserves	552	1,000	1,000	-
TOTAL FUNDING	552	31,000	31,000	-
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	586,968	555,200	574,700	
Net incr/(decr) to Municipal Levy				19,500

TABLE 7

Strategic Communications

The communications department provides a wide range of services and support for the GRCA, the Grand River Conservation Foundation, and the Lake Erie Region Source Protection Program. This category includes watershed-wide communication and promotion of conservation issues to watershed residents, municipalities and other agencies.

Communications - Specific Activities:

- Media relations
- Public relations and awareness building
- Online communications
- Issues management and crisis communications
- Community engagement and public consultation
- Corporate brand management

TABLE 7
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Strategic Communications

OPERATING	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Budget change
Expenses:				incr/(decr)
Salary and Benefits	358,234	492,000	512,000	20,000
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	42,067	62,000	62,000	-
Other Operating Expenses	3,885	23,500	23,500	-
Amount set aside to Reserves	55,000	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	459,186	577,500	597,500	20,000
Funding				
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	459,186	577,500	597,500	
Net incr/(decr) to Municipal Levy				20,000

TABLE 8

Environmental Education

This category includes costs and revenues associated with outdoor education facilities, which provide education and information about conservation, the environment and the Conservation Authority's programs to 50,000 students in 6 school boards and 16,000 members of the general public annually. The majority of funding for this program comes from school boards, the Grand River Conservation Foundation and public program fees.

Specific Activities:

- operate 6 outdoor education centres under contract with watershed school boards, providing hands-on, curriculum-based, outdoor education (App's Mills near Brantford, Taquanyah near Cayuga, Guelph Lake, Laurel Creek in Waterloo, Shade's Mills in Cambridge and Rockwood)
- offer curriculum support materials and workshops to watershed school boards
- offer conservation day camps to watershed children and interpretive community programs to the public (user fees apply)

TABLE 8
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Environmental Education

OPERATING	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Budget 2023	Budget change
Expenses:				incr/(decr)
Salary and Benefits	430,437	553,000	574,500	21,500
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	48,032	57,000	57,000	0
Insurance	15,491	17,000	21,000	4,000
Property Taxes	10,048	14,000	14,000	0
Other Operating Expenses	144,476	143,600	143,600	0
Amount set aside to Reserves	55,000	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSE	703,484	784,600	810,100	25,500
Funding				(incr)/decr
Provincial & Federal Grants	748	0	0	0
Self Generated	362,912	500,000	500,000	0
TOTAL FUNDING	363,660	500,000	500,000	0
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	339,824	284,600	310,100	
Net incr/(decr) to Municipal Levy				25,500

TABLE 9

CORPORATE SERVICES

This category includes the costs for goods and services, as listed below, that are provided corporately. A small portion of these costs is recovered from provincial grants, namely from source protection program funding and from the MNR operating grant.

Specific Activities:

This category includes the following departments:

- Office of the Chief Administrative Officer and the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Payroll
- Health & Safety
- Office Services

In addition, this category includes expenses relating to:

- The General Membership
- Head Office Building
- Office Supplies, Postage, Bank fees
- Head Office Communication systems
- Insurance
- Audit fees
- Consulting, Legal, Labour Relations fees
- Health and Safety Equipment, Inspections, Training
- Conservation Ontario fees
- Corporate Professional Development
- General expenses

TABLE 9
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Corporate Services

Budget 2023

Deficit to be funded
with Municipal Levy

Expenses:

Salary and Benefits	2,133,000
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	359,000
Insurance	127,000
Other Operating Expenses	949,288
Amount set aside to Reserves	-
TOTAL EXPENSE	3,568,288

Funding

Recoverable Corporate Services Expenses	70,000
Funds taken from Reserves	65,000
TOTAL FUNDING	135,000

Net Result before surplus adjustments	3,433,288
Deficit from Other Programs offset by 2022 Surplus Carryforward	(482,800)
2022 Surplus Carried Forward to 2023 used to reduce Levy	100,000
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	3,433,288

(482,800)
100,000
(382,800)

Budget 2022

Surplus available to
offset Municipal
Levy Increase

Expenses:

Salary and Benefits	2,051,000
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	379,000
Insurance	103,000
Other Operating Expenses	1,338,565
TOTAL EXPENSE	3,871,565

Funding

Recoverable Corporate Services Expenses	70,000
Funds taken from Reserves	15,000
TOTAL FUNDING	85,000

Net Result before surplus adjustments	3,786,565
Deficit from Other Programs offset by 2021 Surplus Carryforward	(466,700)
2021 Surplus Carried Forward to 2022 used to reduce Levy	567,177
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	3,786,565

(466,700)
567,177
100,477

ACTUAL 2021

Surplus available to
offset Municipal
Levy

Expenses:

Salary and Benefits	1,977,881
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	311,950
Insurance	83,833
Other Operating Expenses	835,919
Amount set aside to Reserves	490,000
TOTAL EXPENSE	3,699,583

Funding

Provincial Grant	500
Donations/Other	
Recoverable Corporate Services Expenses	61,040
TOTAL FUNDING	61,540

Net Result before surplus/(deficit) adjustments	3,638,043
2021 Surplus from Other Programs used to reduce Levy	41,809
2020 Surplus Carried Forward to 2021 used to reduce Levy	316,241
Net Funded by General Municipal Levy	3,638,043

41,809
316,241
358,050

TABLE 10 (a)

Conservation Lands, Rental Properties, Forestry & Misc

The Conservation Land Management Program includes all expenses and revenues associated with acquisition and management of land owned/managed by the Authority. This includes protection of provincially significant conservation lands, woodlot management, rental/lease agreements and other revenues generated from managing lands and facilities. These expenses do not include those associated with the “active” Conservation Areas and outdoor education programs on GRCA lands.

Specific Activities:

- acquire and manage significant wetlands and floodplain lands, e.g. the Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area, the Keldon Source Area, the Bannister-Wrigley Complex, and the Dunnville Marsh
- operate “passive” conservation areas in order to conserve forests and wildlife habitat (Puslinch Tract in Puslinch, Snyder’s Flats in Bloomingdale, etc.). Some are managed by municipalities or private organizations (Chicopee Ski Club in Kitchener, Scott Park in New Hamburg, etc.)
- develop and maintain extensive trail network on former rail lines owned by GRCA and municipalities (much of this is part of the Trans-Canada Trail network). The Grand River Conservation Foundation is one source of funding for the trails.
- rent 733 cottage lots at Belwood Lake and Conestogo Lake; hold leases on over 1200 hectares of agricultural land and 8 residential units, and over 50 other agreements for use of GRCA lands. Income from these rentals aids in the financing of other GRCA programs
- permit hunting at various locations including Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area and Conestogo Lake
- carry out forestry disease control, woodlot thinning and selective harvesting on GRCA lands in accordance with the Forest Management Plan while generating income from sale of timber. Income generated helps pay for future forest management activities
- where appropriate, dispose of lands that have been declared surplus and continue to identify and plan for disposition of other surplus lands. Proceeds from future dispositions will be used for acquisition of “Environmentally Significant Conservation Lands” and for other core programs
- payment of non-insured losses and deductibles for vandalism, loss or theft; miscellaneous amounts recovered from insurance settlements

- investment income arising from reserves and funds received in advance of program expenses

TABLE 10 (b)

HYDRO PRODUCTION

This program generates revenue from ‘hydro production’.

Specific Activities:

- generate hydro from turbines in 4 dams, Shand, Conestogo, Guelph and Drimmie; the income is used to fund GRCA programs and repay reserves accordingly for the cost of building/repairing turbines.

TABLE 10 (c)

CONSERVATION AREAS

These programs include costs and revenues associated with delivering recreational programs on GRCA lands and include the costs and revenues associated with day-use, camping, concessions and other activities at GRCA active Conservation Areas.

Specific Activities:

- operate 11 “active” Conservation Areas (8 camping and 3 exclusively day-use) that are enjoyed by over 1.7 million visitors annually. These visitors also help generate significant spin-off revenues for the local economies
- offer camping, hiking, fishing, swimming, boating, picnicking, skiing and related facilities
- provide 2,200 campsites – second only to the provincial park system as a provider of camping accommodation in Ontario
- employ seasonally over 230 students within the conservation areas

TABLE 10
 GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
OTHER PROGRAMS - OPERATING - SUMMARY of Results

	Conservation Lands	Property Rentals	MISC	(a) Cons Lands, Rental, Misc	(b) Hydro Production	(c) Conservation Areas	TOTAL Other Programs
Budget 2023 - OPERATING							
Expenses:							
Salary and Benefits	1,540,000	731,000	-	2,271,000	70,000	4,675,000	
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	152,600	74,500	-	227,100	-	210,000	
Insurance	290,000	35,000	-	325,000	-	-	
Property Taxes	-	88,000	-	88,000	-	65,000	
Other Operating Expenses (consulting etc)	606,000	701,700	-	1,307,700	25,500	3,550,000	
Amount set aside to Reserves	-	-	-	-	116,500	-	
TOTAL EXPENSE	2,588,600	1,630,200	-	4,218,800	212,000	8,500,000	12,930,800
Funding							
Self Generated	86,000	2,981,000	100,000	3,167,000	580,000	8,500,000	
Funds taken from Reserves	101,000	100,000	-	201,000	-	-	
TOTAL FUNDING	187,000	3,081,000	100,000	3,368,000	580,000	8,500,000	12,448,000
NET Surplus/(Deficit) for programs not funded by general levy	(2,401,600)	1,450,800	100,000	(850,800)	368,000	-	(482,800)
Budget 2022 - OPERATING							
Expenses:							
Salary and Benefits	1,384,500	703,400	-	2,087,900	68,000	4,300,000	
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	152,600	74,500	-	227,100	-	195,000	
Insurance	234,000	28,000	-	262,000	-	-	
Property Taxes	-	88,000	-	88,000	-	65,000	
Other Operating Expenses (consulting etc)	606,000	701,700	30,000	1,337,700	25,500	3,240,000	
Amount set aside to Reserves	-	-	-	-	116,500	-	
TOTAL EXPENSE	2,377,100	1,595,600	30,000	4,002,700	210,000	7,800,000	12,012,700
Funding							
Self Generated	86,000	2,921,000	108,000	3,115,000	530,000	7,800,000	
Funds taken from Reserves	1,000	100,000	-	101,000	-	-	
TOTAL FUNDING	87,000	3,021,000	108,000	3,216,000	530,000	7,800,000	11,546,000
NET Surplus/(Deficit) for programs not funded by general levy	(2,290,100)	1,425,400	78,000	(786,700)	320,000	-	(466,700)
Actual 2021 - OPERATING							
Expenses:							
Salary and Benefits	1,121,516	577,516	-	1,699,032	64,084	4,094,760	
Travel, Motor Pool, Expenses, Telephone, Training and Development, IT	108,111	67,600	-	175,711	-	206,141	
Insurance	193,465	25,045	-	218,510	-	-	
Property Taxes	-	111,996	-	111,996	-	52,898	
Other Expenses	472,671	744,264	10,755	1,227,690	159,759	3,015,607	
Amount set aside to Reserves	198,000	166,500	-	364,500	60,000	1,814,000	
TOTAL EXPENSE	2,093,763	1,692,921	10,755	3,797,439	283,843	9,183,406	13,264,688
Funding							
Provincial/Federal	-	-	-	-	-	185,619	
Donations	33,521	-	-	33,521	-	8,979	
Self Generated	171,588	2,892,673	108,116	3,172,377	601,942	8,989,137	
Funds taken from Reserves	-	314,922	-	314,922	-	-	
TOTAL FUNDING	205,109	3,207,595	108,116	3,520,820	601,942	9,183,735	13,306,497
NET Surplus/(Deficit) for programs not funded by general levy	(1,888,654)	1,514,674	97,361	(276,619)	318,099	329	41,809

OTHER INFORMATION

1. INFORMATION SYSTEMS & TECHNOLOGY - COMPUTER CHARGES

The work of the IS&T Group includes wages, capital purchases and ongoing maintenance and operations is funded through the Information Systems and Technology Reserve. The IS&T Reserve is sustained through a charge back framework. A “Computer Charge” is allocated to the individual programs based on the number of users and the nature of system usage or degree of reliance on IS&T activities and services.

The *Information Systems and Technology* (IS&T) group leads GRCA’s information management activities; develops and acquires business solutions; and oversees investment in information and communications technology as detailed below:

Specific Activities:

- Develop and implement GRCA's long-term information management, information technology and communications plans.
- Assess business needs and develop tools to address requirements, constraints and opportunities. Acquire and implement business and scientific applications for use at GRCA. Manage information technology and business solutions implementation projects on behalf of GRCA, GRCF and the Lake Erie Source Protection Region.
- Develop, and implement GRCA’s Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology and spatial data infrastructure. Manage GRCA’s water-related data. Create and maintain standards for the development, use and sharing of corporate data. Develop policies and implement tools to secure GRCA’s data and IT and communications infrastructure.
- Acquire, manage and support GRCA’s server, storage, network and personal computer infrastructure to support geographic information systems (GIS); flood forecasting and warning, including real-time data collection; database and applications development; website hosting; electronic mail; internet access; personal computing applications; and administration systems, including finance, property and human resources.
- Develop and operate a wide area network connecting 14 sites and campus style wireless point-to-multipoint networks at Head Office, Conservation Areas, Nature Centres and Flood Control Structures. Develop and operate an integrated Voice over IP Telephone network covering nine sites and 220 handsets. Support and manage mobile phones, smart phones and pagers. Develop, implement and maintain GRCA’s IS&T disaster recovery plan.
- Operate on-line campsite reservation and day-use systems with computers in 10 Conservation Areas. Provide computers and phone systems for use at outdoor education centres.
- Build and maintain working relationships with all other departments within GRCA. Develop and maintain partnerships and business relationships with all levels of government, Conservation Ontario, private industry and watershed communities with respect to information technology, information management, business solutions and data sharing.

2. VEHICLE, EQUIPMENT – MOTOR POOL CHARGES

Motor Pool charges are allocated to the individual sections based on usage of motor pool equipment. Effectively, motor pool charges are included with administrative costs or other operating expenses, as applicable, on Tables 1 to 10.

Specific Activities:

- Maintain a fleet of vehicles and equipment to support all GRCA programs.
- Purchases of new vehicles and/or equipment.
- Disposal of used equipment.
- Lease certain equipment.

SECTION B

BASE PROGRAMS – CAPITAL

SECTION B – CAPITAL BUDGET

Capital maintenance spending in 2023 includes spending in the following program areas:

- Water Resources Planning
- Flood Forecasting and Warning
- Water Control Structures
- Conservation Areas
- Corporate Services

Water Resources Planning expenditures will be for water quality monitoring equipment. Flood forecasting and warning expenditures will be for software systems and gauge equipment.

Water Control Structures expenditures will be for major maintenance on dams and dykes.

Conservation Area capital spending includes expenditures as part of the regular maintenance program as well as spending on major repairs and new construction. In 2023, major capital projects within the Conservation Areas will include:

- New workshop at the Brant CA
- Water service upgrades at Shade’s Mill CA
- Planning for Harris Mill masonry repairs at Rockwood CA
- Bridge replacement at Rockwood CA
- Septic replacements at Conestogo CA
- Constructing washrooms at Byng CA

Corporate Services capital spending represents the portion of overall Information Services and Motor Pool expenses that are funded by the Information Technology (IT) and Motor Pool (MP) reserve. See “Other Information” above for spending descriptions for IT and MP.

SECTION B - Capital Budget

GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Budget 2023

	Water Resources Planning & Environment	FFW	Flood Control Expenses	Conservation Land Management (Sch 4)	Conservation Areas	Corporate Services	BUDGET TOTAL
Expenses:							
WQ Monitoring Equipment & Instruments	110,000						110,000
Flood Forecasting Warning Hardware and Gauges		190,000					190,000
Flood Control Structures-Major Maintenance			1,500,000				1,500,000
Conservation Areas Capital Projects					2,000,000		2,000,000
Net IT/MP Capital Spending not allocated to Departments						779,000	779,000
TOTAL EXPENSE	110,000	190,000	1,500,000	-	2,000,000	779,000	4,579,000
Funding							
Prov & Federal Govt			700,000				700,000
Self Generated					1,500,000		1,500,000
Funding from Reserves	75,000	25,000	50,000		500,000	779,000	1,429,000
TOTAL FUNDING	75,000	25,000	750,000	-	2,000,000	779,000	3,629,000
Net Funded by General CAPITAL Levy	35,000	165,000	750,000	-	-	-	950,000

Budget 2022

	Water Resources Planning & Environment	FFW	Flood Control Expenses	Conservation Land Management (Sch 4)	Conservation Areas	Corporate Services	BUDGET TOTAL
Expenses:							
WQ Monitoring Equipment & Instruments	110,000						110,000
Flood Forecasting Warning Hardware and Gauges		190,000					190,000
Flood Control Structures-Major Maintenance			2,200,000				2,200,000
Conservation Areas Capital Projects					2,000,000		2,000,000
Net IT/MP Capital Spending not allocated to Departments						602,000	602,000
TOTAL EXPENSE	110,000	190,000	2,200,000	-	2,000,000	602,000	5,102,000
Funding							
Prov & Federal Govt			1,110,000				1,110,000
Self Generated					1,200,000		1,200,000
Funding from Reserves	75,000	25,000	340,000		800,000	602,000	1,842,000
TOTAL FUNDING	75,000	25,000	1,450,000	-	2,000,000	602,000	4,152,000
Net Funded by General CAPITAL Levy	35,000	165,000	750,000	-	-	-	950,000

ACTUAL 2021 - CAPITAL

	Water Resources Planning & Environment	FFW	Flood Control Expenses	Conservation Land Management (Sch 4)	Conservation Areas	Corporate Services	ACTUAL TOTAL
Expenses:							
WQ Monitoring Equipment & Instruments	49,233						49,233
Flood Forecasting Warning Hardware and Gauges		476,563					476,563
Flood Control Structures-Major Maintenance			1,267,010				1,267,010
Conservation Areas Capital Projects					533,606		533,606
Net IT/MP Expenses in excess of chargebacks						(175,542)	(175,542)
TOTAL EXPENSE	49,233	476,563	1,267,010	-	533,606	(175,542)	2,150,870
Funding							
Prov & Federal Govt		200,000	619,331				819,331
Self Generated					533,606	1,140	534,746
Funding from Reserves		16,858				(176,682)	(159,824)
TOTAL FUNDING	-	216,858	619,331	-	533,606	(175,542)	1,194,253
Net Funded by General CAPITAL Levy	49,233	259,705	647,679	-	-	-	956,617

SECTION C

SPECIAL PROJECTS

SECTION C – SPECIAL PROJECTS

This category of activity represents projects that the GRCA undertakes where special one time and/or multi-year funding is applicable. The duration of these projects is typically one year although in some instances projects may extend over a number years, such as the Source Protection Planning Program. External funding is received to undertake these projects.

The main project in this category is the provincial Source Protection Planning Program under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. Plan development work commenced in 2004, with plan implementation starting in 2015. Work includes research and studies related to the development and updates of a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan for each of the four watersheds in the Lake Erie Source Protection Region. The focus in 2022 continues on completing updates to the Grand River Source Protection Plan, including development of water quantity policies, updating water quality vulnerability assessments, and the development of the annual progress report for the Grand River Source Protection Plan.

Other special projects in the area of watershed stewardship include the “Rural Water Quality Program” grants, floodplain mapping projects, subwatershed study, waste water optimization project, trail development, and numerous ecological restoration projects on both GRCA lands and private lands in the watershed.

SECTION C - Special Projects Budget

GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Budget 2023

EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL 2021	BUDGET 2022	BUDGET 2023
Subwatershed Plans - City of Kitchener	67,118	80,000	80,000
Dunnville Fishway Study	-	-	-
Waste Water Optimization Program	91,630	130,000	130,000
Floodplain Mapping	155,567	575,000	-
RWQP - Capital Grants	637,503	800,000	800,000
Brant/Brantford Children's Water Festival	228	-	35,000
Haldimand Children's Water Festival	0	-	25,000
Species at Risk	79,121	40,000	70,000
Ecological Restoration	91,142	100,000	100,000
AGGP-UofG Research Buffers	15,268	-	-
Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative	1,711	-	-
Precision Agriculture-OMFRA	41,572	70,000	-
Great Lakes Protection Initiative	39,220	100,000	-
Nature Smart Climate Solutions	-	-	75,000
Profit Mapping	-	-	85,000
Trails Capital Maintenance	38,154	240,000	-
Emerald Ash Borer	238,306	-	-
Lands Mgmt - Land Purchases/Land Sale Expenses	27,814	-	-
Guelph Lake Nature Centre	12,480	500,000	500,000
Total SPECIAL Projects 'Other'	1,536,834	2,635,000	1,900,000
Source Protection Program	569,655	640,000	640,000
Total SPECIAL Projects Expenditures	2,106,489	3,275,000	2,540,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING			
Provincial Grants for Source Protection Program	569,655	640,000	640,000
OTHER GOVT FUNDING	1,056,112	1,610,000	1,240,000
SELF-GENERATED	128,980	840,000	660,000
FUNDING FROM/(TO) RESERVES	351,742	185,000	-
Total SPECIAL Funding	2,106,489	3,275,000	2,540,000