



CITY OF MAPLE RIDGE  
**NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Maple Ridge City Council Delays Property Tax Penalty Date to October 1**

**Maple Ridge, BC:** On Tuesday, April 28 Council updated the 2020-2024 Financial Plan and affirmed the annual tax rate for 2020 as required under the Community Charter. The City of Maple Ridge collects taxes for others, including schools, TransLink, BC Assessment, Municipal Finance Authority and Metro Vancouver (GVRD).

As part of the City's work to update the Financial Plan and set the City tax rate, Council unanimously voted to provide citizens with extra time, if they need it, to pay their taxes. Citizens impacted financially by COVID-19 will now have until October 1, 2020 to pay their property taxes without penalty. This is possible due to the City's strong and prudent financial practices. The approved plan ensures our City is well positioned to continue to deliver essential services.

The change in deadline provides citizens, who are struggling financially due to the impacts of COVID-19, time to take advantage of Federal and Provincial programs that are being rolled out and to stabilize their personal finances. Those who are able to pay by the due date are requested to do so. In the fall of 2020 the full impacts of COVID-19 will be better known and staff will present Council with a 2021-2025 Financial Plan.

Al Horsman, City CAO noted, "Police, fire, road works, water and sewer services have continued unabated since the start of the pandemic. We continue to provide local support for the Province's pandemic response with enhanced enforcement and education to ensure compliance with Dr. Henry's public health orders. We have dramatically shifted how we deliver services to protect our employees and customers. Administration thanks Council for their support and leadership in these challenging times."