Welcome!

Stormwater Rate Study Virtual Meeting

January 30, 2025

We will begin shortly. This is a webinar platform, which allows you to see and hear the presenters, and will allow for facilitated input opportunities.

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Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge that the City of Vaughan is situated in the Territory and Treaty 13 lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also recognize the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and the Haudenosaunee.

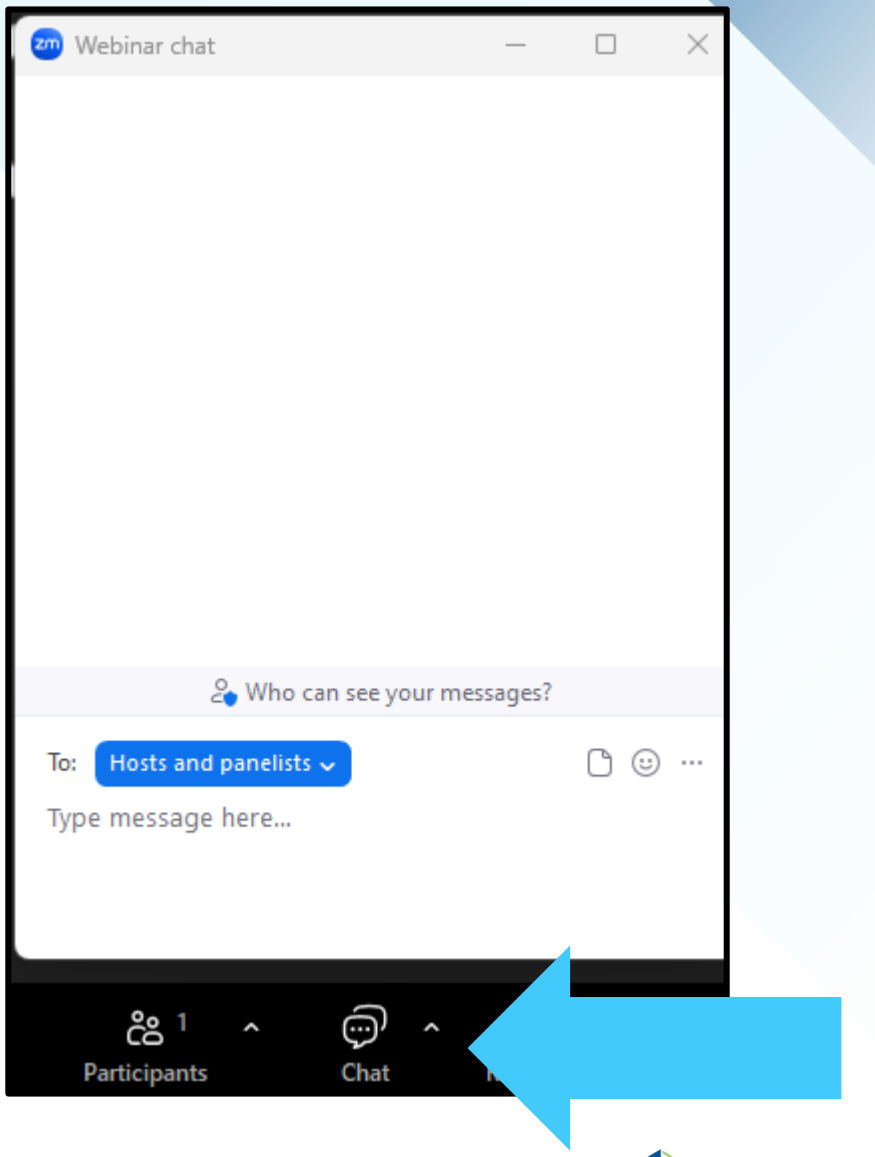
The City of Vaughan is currently home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit people today. As representatives of the people of the City of Vaughan, we are grateful to have the opportunity to work and live in this territory.

Study Goals and Objectives

- Assess the current stormwater rate structure and identify potential alternatives that are: fair, equitable, affordable and financially sustainable
- Gather feedback to determine what key criteria are most important to the Vaughan community
- Use public feedback and technical assessments to evaluate alternative stormwater rate structures

Housekeeping

- Attendees will be muted. We welcome your participation through interactive polls and the Chat window.
  - Hover your mouse on a computer or tap the screen on a smartphone or tablet for the toolbar to pop-up and then click Chat.
- If you have any technology issues, please also use the Chat window.
- If there are technical difficulties, the speaker may turn off their video.
- This meeting is being recorded.



We Want to Know Your Thoughts!

- Respond to polls throughout the presentation
- Add additional commentary or feedback through the Chat window

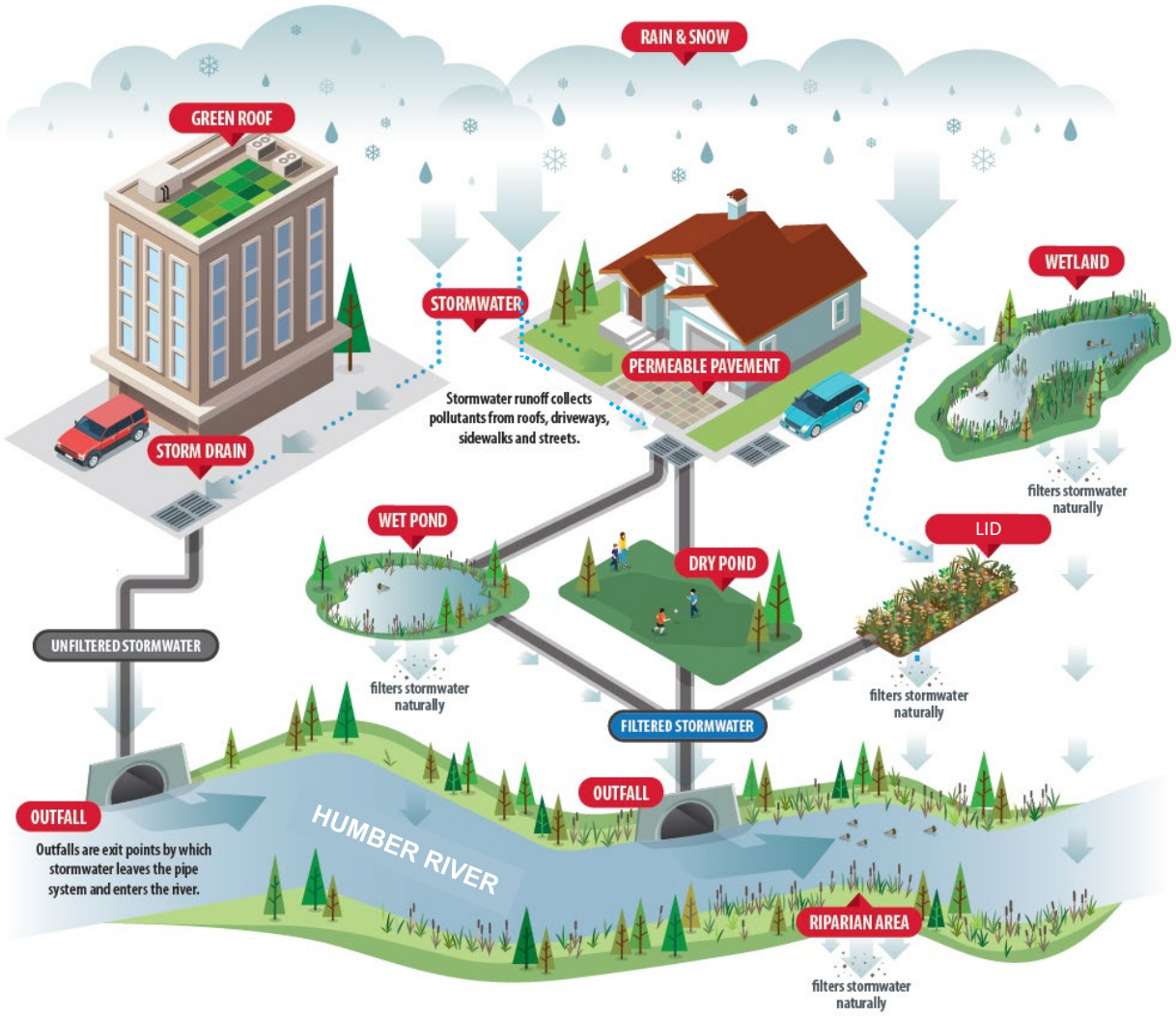
Agenda

1. Stormwater Management in Vaughan
2. Current Stormwater Rate Structure
3. New Stormwater Rate Study: Factors Under Consideration
4. Next Steps and Engagement Opportunities

Stormwater Management in Vaughan

What is Stormwater?

- Rainwater and melted snow that runs off roofs, driveways and other hard surfaces
- Hard surfaces prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground
- Stormwater runs into the City's stormwater system (i.e., catch basins, ditches, sewers, ponds)



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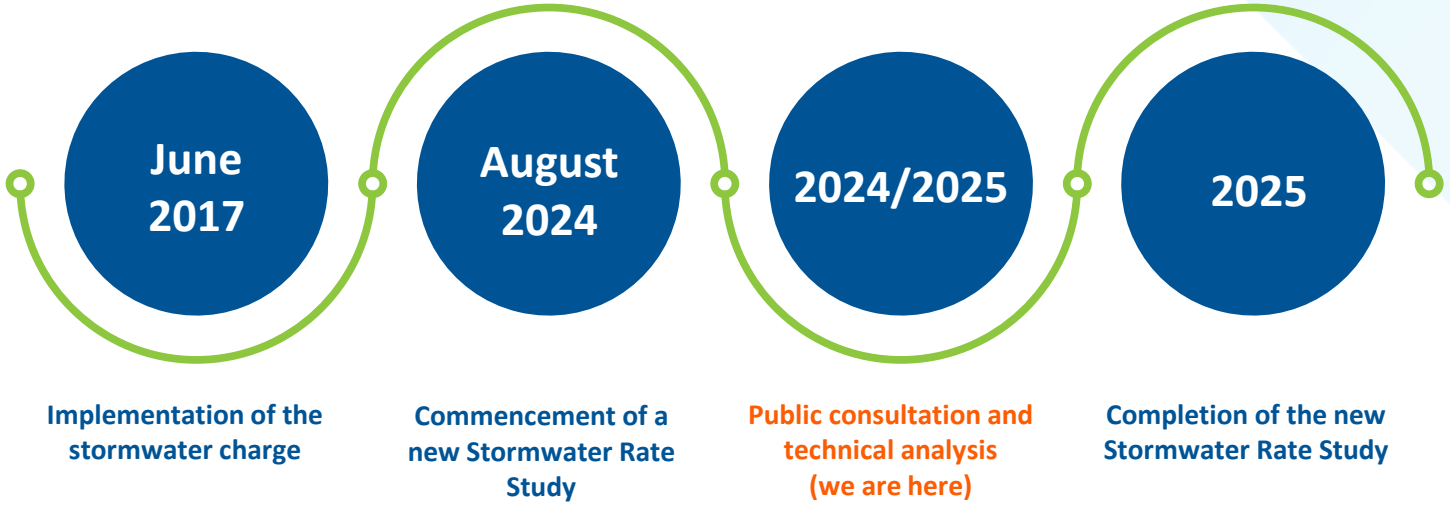

- Prior to 2017, stormwater management was funded by the general tax levy and wastewater rate revenues
- A new stormwater charge was implemented in 2017
- Billed annually and used exclusively to deliver stormwater services
- In 2024 the City decided to review the structure of the stormwater charge

Why the Stormwater Rate Study is Needed

- As the City continues to grow, so do pressures on our stormwater system.
- With more frequent and intense rain and snow events the demand on our stormwater infrastructure is intensifying.
- ***Ontario Regulation 588/17: Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure*** requires all municipalities show how they plan to pay for core services like stormwater management.

Did you know?

The City maintains a complex network of stormwater management infrastructure and provides ongoing services to keep our stormwater system operating efficiently, protect the city from flooding and safeguard our community and natural environment.

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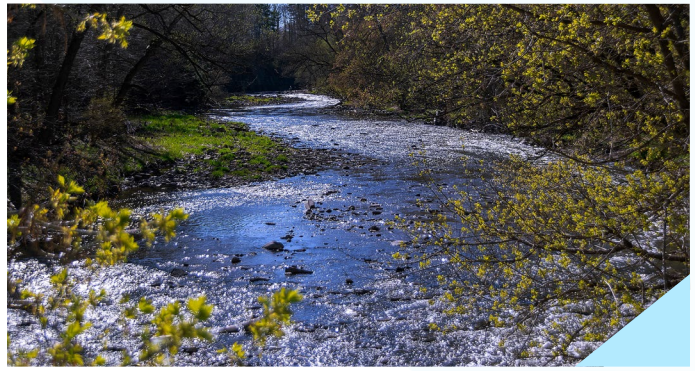
Municipal Stormwater Assets

- The City's stormwater assets include:
  - Over 1,000 kilometres of stormwater pipes
  - More than 22,000 catch basins
  - 150 stormwater management ponds
  - Over 150 kilometres of rivers and creeks
  - Over 250 kilometres of ditches



Rate-funded Operational Activities

- To keep stormwater assets in good working condition, the City delivers ongoing operational activities, such as:
  - Regular inspections
  - Cleaning and repairing storm sewers, culverts, catch basins and other assets
  - Preventing contaminants from entering the stormwater system (e.g. street sweeping)
  - Removing sediment and other debris that collects in stormwater management ponds

Rate-funded Capital Program

- As our city grows, we invest in large capital projects to expand and enhance the stormwater system. Recent examples include:
  - Rechanneling and renewing Black Creek
  - Constructing Edgeley Pond, a critical flood protection feature
  - Erosion control projects to protect rivers and streams
  - Rehabilitating aging stormwater ponds to restore their design capacity

Projects and Activities: Share your Thoughts!

- Before this meeting, how aware were you of the large capital projects and the operational activities the City undertakes to maintain the stormwater system?
  - Extremely aware
  - Moderately aware
  - Somewhat aware
  - Slightly aware
  - Not at all aware

Current Stormwater Rate Structure

Stormwater Rate Tiers

- The current stormwater rate structure divides properties into seven tiers:

Non-residential (small)

Non-residential (medium)

Non-residential (large)

Agricultural / vacant

Residential (low-density)

Residential (medium-density)

Residential (high-density)

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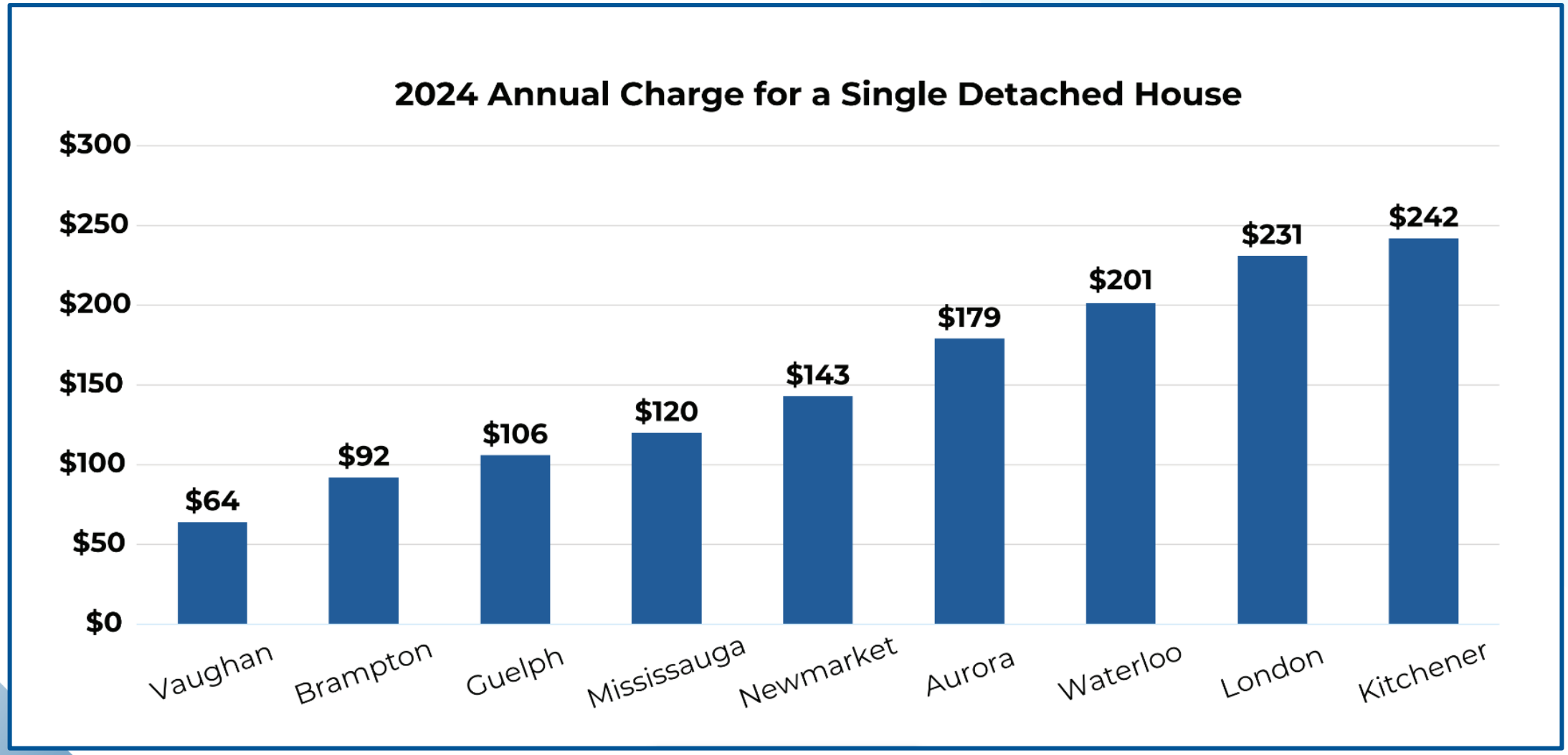
Rates

Property Type	Criteria	2024 Charge	2025 Charge
Non-residential (small)	Less than 1 acre	$58.21	$62.28
Non-residential (medium)	1 to 10 acres	$1,504.16	$1,699.70
Non-residential (large)	More than 10 acres	$22,973.14	$25,959.65
Agricultural/ Vacant	--	$806.77	$883.42
Residential (low-density)	Ex. House	$64.20	$67.73
Residential (medium-density)	Ex. Townhome	$41.20	$43.47
Residential (high-density)	Ex. Condos	$253.62	$286.60

How do we Compare to our Neighbours?



Factors under Consideration

Rate Improvement Considerations

- The current stormwater rates are applied to each tier uniformly, regardless of the property's individual characteristics
- Different factors will be considered or emphasized to develop more equitable rate options, including:
  - Property type (existing)
  - Total surface area (somewhat)
  - Hard surface area (new)

The Stormwater Rate Study will explore, analyze and evaluate modifications to the current rate structure and alternative rate structures to ensure Vaughan's stormwater management infrastructure remains financially sustainable and meets future demands.

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Modify Existing Stormwater Rate Tiers?

More tiers to consider more property types or sizes?

Non-residential (small)

Non-residential (medium)

Sliding scale based on property size or hard surface?

Non-residential (large)

Agricultural / vacant

Base tiers on actual hard surface?

Residential (low-density)

Residential (medium-density)

Residential (high-density)

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Impervious (Hard Surface) Area

- A charge focused on impervious area would emphasize the portions of a property covered by materials that prevent water being absorbed into the ground and increase runoff.
- Examples of impervious surfaces include parking lots, driveways, rooftops and compacted gravel surfaces.
- Impervious surface area can be determined using aerial photography.

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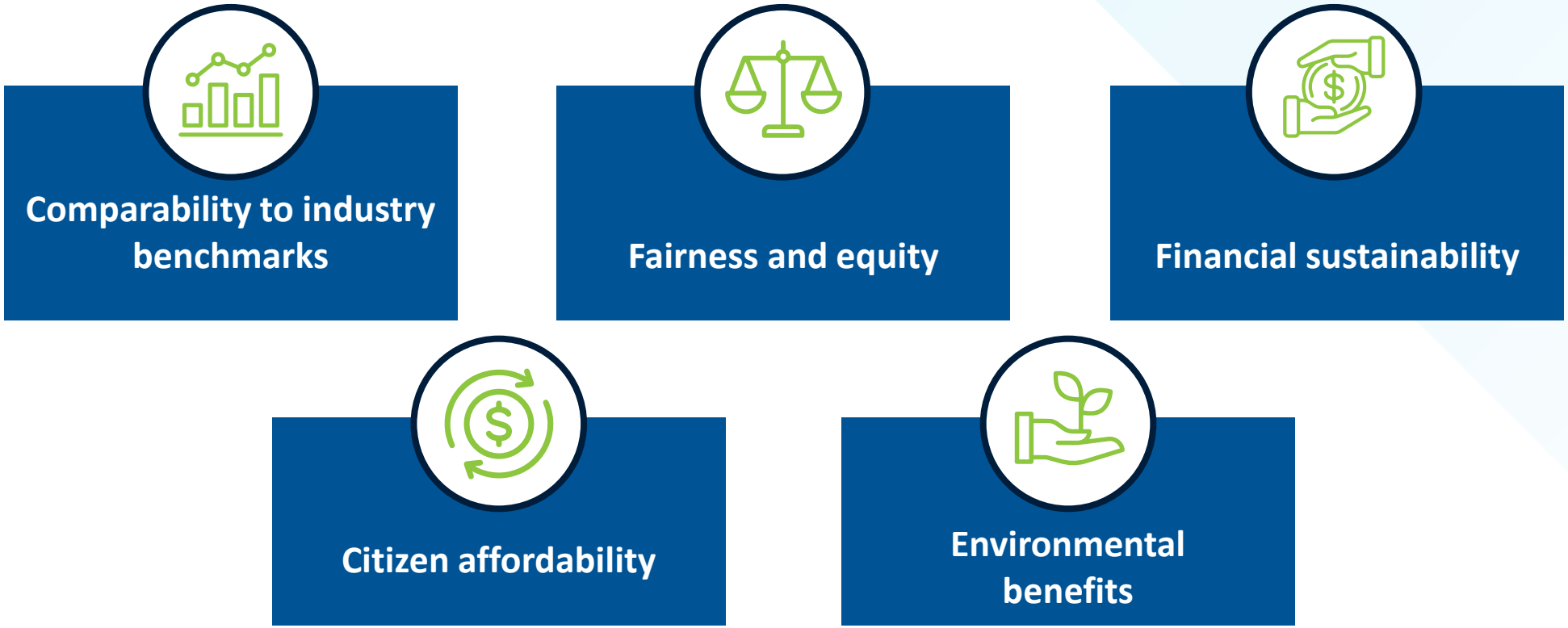
Factors Under Consideration: Share your Thoughts!

- Which of the following factors do you think is the most important for the City to determine a property's stormwater charge?
  - Total surface area
  - Impervious (hard surface) area
  - Property type

Key Criteria for Selecting a New Rate Structure



Key Criteria: Share your Thoughts!

- Which of the key criteria do you consider the most important?
  - Comparability to industry benchmarks
  - Fairness and equity
  - Financial sustainability
  - Citizen affordability
  - Environmental benefits

Next Steps and More Ways to Engage

Next Steps

- Collect input from the public and factor all ideas and feedback into the evaluation until Friday, Feb. 14
- Continue to analyze technical information
- Present recommendations to Council

More ways to Engage

- Take our survey: Scan the QR code and take our survey by Friday, Feb. 14 to provide feedback on the study
- Dig deeper: Visit vaughan.ca/**stormwater** to learn more about the study and the importance of good stormwater management.
- Reach out: Contact the study team directly via email at stormwatercharge@vaughan.ca

Thank you for participating!