



2026 BUDGET A BUDGET THAT PUTS YOU FIRST



My number one job as your Mayor is to listen to your concerns and work as hard as I can to deliver for you and your family.

These are uncertain and difficult times, with the cost of everything you need going up and stories of local crime combined with global instability dominating the news.

So many of you have told me it's getting harder and harder to keep up, and that you're looking to your elected representatives to have your back and be on your side.

I want to assure you that, together with Vaughan Council, I am doing everything I can to ensure Vaughan remains a safe, secure and affordable community.

I am happy to confirm that Council has approved the budget I proposed for 2026 with **no local property tax increase at the local level and no service cuts**. At a time when households are stretching every dollar, we refuse to ask you to pay more.

Public safety remains front and centre. Everyone deserves to be secure (and feel secure) in their neighbourhood. For the second straight year, Vaughan's representatives at York Region

enthusiastically backed historic investments in York Regional Police – helping put more police staff and resources on the ground to keep our community safe.

And as our city continues to grow, we are taking action to reduce gridlock so that you can spend more time with the ones you love rather than being stuck in traffic. Projects such as the Canada Drive-America Avenue Bridge and the Kirby Road and Bass Pro Mills Drive extensions are just a few examples of how we are getting shovels in the ground at a rapid pace.

This budget is a demonstration of strong, steady, responsible leadership that is focused on affordability, safety and fighting traffic.

You can count on me to keep delivering on these priorities, for you and your family.

LEADERSHIP Mayor's Luncheon: Securing Vaughan's Future

At this year's Vaughan Chamber of Commerce Annual Mayor's Luncheon, the message was clear: the future doesn't secure itself – we must lead with stability and purpose.

Mayor Del Duca told business and community leaders that in uncertain times, strong local leadership matters. Securing Vaughan's future means creating conditions for businesses to invest and grow with confidence.

This year's budget reflects that commitment – **with no local property tax increase and no service cuts** – protecting affordability while maintaining fiscal discipline.

The Mayor also highlighted continued investments in York Regional Police, road expansions and critical infrastructure to strengthen safety and reduce gridlock.

As the status quo is tested, he committed to exploring every option – including

innovative solutions to improve housing affordability – to ensure Vaughan's future is at its best.



SAFETY Strengthening Community Safety with Crime-Fighting Technology



Mayor Del Duca is committed to community safety through continued investments in advanced crime-fighting technology in partnership with York Regional Police.

To address vehicle theft and other crime, the City has funding for up to 10 new crime-fighting cameras. The cameras will feature automated licence plate

recognition and gunshot detection technology to support catching criminals on the run and improve response times.

Mayor Del Duca, Members of Council and City staff continue to work closely with York Regional Police and community partners to help keep Vaughan neighbourhoods safe for residents, families and businesses.

COMMUNITY

Vaughan Hosts Ambassador of Italy to Canada at City Hall!



It was a true honour to welcome His Excellency Alessandro Cattaneo, Ambassador of Italy to Canada, for a luncheon with Italian-Canadian business and community leaders in Vaughan.

Vaughan is proudly home to one of the largest Italian-Canadian communities in the country, whose contributions are woven into the fabric of our city. Like many families, my father arrived with values of sacrifice, perseverance and a determination to build a better future – values reflected in the entrepreneurs and builders who have helped shape Vaughan.

From construction and manufacturing to small businesses, their leadership and work ethic continue to drive our city's growth and prosperity.

Festa d'Italia 2026 Lineup Revealed!

We're excited to announce that Festa d'Italia is returning in 2026 as a two-day festival on June 6 and June 7 at Boyd Conservation Park and will feature the legendary **Pupo & Band** and beloved internationally renowned comedian **Joe Avati!**

Join us for a FREE fun-filled weekend featuring spectacular music, entertainment, art, food and more!



For all things Festa d'Italia, visit vaughan.ca/festa!

Ring in the New Year



Mayor Steven Del Duca welcomed residents to the City of Vaughan's fourth annual New Year's Levee to celebrate the start of a new year.

The family-friendly event featured a complimentary breakfast, live musical performances, interactive activities and opportunities for neighbours and friends to connect. Mayor Del Duca and Members of Council spent the morning greeting

residents, engaging in conversations and celebrating the strong sense of community that defines Vaughan.

Now in its fourth year, the New Year's Levee has become a beloved family tradition. The event served as a reminder that Vaughan's greatest strength lies in its people and the shared values that unite the community as it looks to the year ahead.

Iranian Lion and Sun Flag Flies at City Hall



A historic moment at Vaughan City Hall as the Iranian Lion and Sun flag was raised for the very first time on Jan. 29, 2026. Hundreds stood together in the cold, united in solidarity with the brave women and men of Iran who continue to stand up to the murderous Islamic Republic.

The Canadian Iranian community is strong, resilient and deeply united. It was a reflection of that strength, heart and courage.

This was about more than raising a flag at City Hall.

It was about raising awareness of the atrocities happening in Iran.

It was about freedom.

It was about hope.

I look forward to the day this flag is raised freely in Iran.

Vaughan stands with the Iranian-Canadian community in these difficult times.

Celebrating the True Meaning of Christmas



In December 2025, we celebrated a first for Vaughan – the installation of our very own Nativity Scene at Vaughan City Hall, now on display each year throughout the Christmas season.

This new tradition was made possible by a Members' Resolution Councillor Adriano Volpentesta and I brought forward, recognizing the deep cultural and spiritual significance Christmas holds for so many families in our community.

The Nativity reminds us of the values that guide this time of year: peace, compassion and hope.

A heartfelt thank you to Most Reverend John A. Boissonneau, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Toronto, Northern Pastoral Region, for joining us and offering his prayers. It was an honour to recognize his remarkable milestones, including 50 years of priesthood. The year 2026 will also mark 25 years since his ordination as Bishop.

Thank you as well to the North City Church Band for the beautiful music that made the evening even more meaningful.

Santafest Returns to Vaughan



After a five-year hiatus, the Santafest Parade returned in 2025 – and Vaughan's Christmas and holiday spirit was stronger than ever.

Thousands of residents lined the streets for a festive afternoon filled with music, colour and celebration. The parade featured lively marching bands, vibrant floats, a mischievous appearance by the Grinch and, of course, Santa Claus himself. KISS 92.5's Damn it Maurie helped bring extra energy to the route, keeping the crowd smiling and engaged.

More than 2,000 volunteers and participants helped make Santafest possible, showcasing the incredible community spirit that defines our city. Their time, creativity and dedication transformed the event into a safe, inclusive and memorable experience for families of all ages.

Mayor Steven Del Duca joined residents along the parade route, celebrating with families and thanking the many community groups who helped bring this cherished tradition back to life.

Santafest is more than a parade – it's a reminder of the joy that comes from coming together as a community.

Stay tuned for details on Santafest 2026!

STAYING SAFE IN VAUGHAN BEWARE OF SCAMMERS

Following reports of distraction thefts across our community, particularly affecting vulnerable older adults, I want to remind residents to remain vigilant.

These incidents often occur when an individual approaches a resident, pretending to ask for directions or assistance. In moments of distraction, valuables such as jewelry may be stolen. Residents are advised not to engage with strangers on their front lawns, driveways or in parking lots, and to trust their instincts if a situation feels suspicious.

Anyone who experiences or witnesses an attempted theft is encouraged to report it to York Regional Police. If you witness a crime in progress, make sure to call 9-1-1 right away. Reporting incidents helps authorities deploy resources and increase patrols where they are needed most.

I will continue to work closely with York Regional Police to support community safety and help keep residents informed and protected.



Stay engaged. Stay informed.

Follow Mayor Steven Del Duca on Instagram!

It's the perfect way to get the latest updates on city initiatives, events and community news.



Stay connected!

