



Local Urban District of Richer

2026 Service Plan

Introduction

The *Municipal Act* (Section 117(1)) reads as follows :

Responsibilities of committee

117(1) The committee of a local urban district is responsible for

- (a) preparing and adopting a service plan for the local urban district;
- (b) submitting the service plan to the council before it adopts its operating and capital budgets; and
- (c) the exercise of those powers delegated to it by the council of the municipality.

Services provided by the LUD

1. General Government Services (Total budgeted = \$24,275.00)

Legislative (Indemnities):

- This category outlines the costs for committee member indemnities and benefit expenses. The indemnities will increase in 2026 for the first time since 2012. The current \$500.00 monthly indemnity will be increased by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rate as outlined in the Indemnity By-law #2025-10. In 2026, this resulted in a 3.3% increase, being \$516.50 per member per month rounded up to **\$18,595.00**.
- \$930 has also been included for member remuneration for attending additional meetings on behalf of the LUD Committee. This equals 9 half-day meetings at \$100 (plus 3.3% CPI inflation rate) each for all 3 members in 2026.
- An annual amount of **\$4,750** has been budgeted for legislative benefits such as Health and Dental insurance, mileage, promotional item entitlements, as well as for provincially and federally regulated source deductions, where applicable (such as CPP).

2. Transportation Services (Total budgeted = \$75,500)

Street Maintenance and Repairs:

- **\$33,500** has been budgeted for the regular maintenance and repairs of all roads and streets within the boundaries of the LUD. This amount also includes provisions for additional gravel to be applied, asphalt maintenance, street sweeping, and sign maintenance.

Dust Control:

- An amount of **\$10,500** is budgeted for dust control to be applied on gravel roads within the LUD.

Sidewalks and Pathways:

- An amount of **\$2,500** is budgeted for the ongoing maintenance and repair of sidewalks in the LUD as well as Ms. K's Way walking path.

Ditches and Road Drainage:

- An amount of **\$5,000** is budgeted for any drainage maintenance or repair work that may be required during the year, such as from damages to culverts due to spring flooding. This amount does not include any large or special projects, which would be considered a capital project.

Snow and Ice Removal:

- Snow removal from streets, pathways, and sidewalks is to be done as required to ensure that they are passable and safe at all times. Sanding of all roadways shall be done as required. The Province and the RM of Ste. Anne currently provide these services during the course of the year. A budget of **\$10,000** has been established for this service.

Street Lighting:

- An amount of **\$14,000** is budgeted for the annual operating cost of the existing streetlights, as well as the winter holiday ornamental lights' basic maintenance and annual mounting/dismounting costs.

3. Environmental Health Services (Total Budgeted = \$30,120.00)

Garbage Collection:

- An amount of **\$30,120.00** is budgeted for garbage collection. Under the framework of Special Services By-Law No. 2023-15, an \$86.32 levy has been applied to a total of 291 units, amounting to an annual cost of \$25,119.12 for curbside waste collection services. The remaining amounts, levied by general taxation, is to cover the cost of the Spring & Fall Town Clean-up events and other solid-waste related expenses.

Recycling:

- Since 2014, the RM of Ste. Anne provides for weekly recycling pick-up from the collection site located in the Richer Husky parking lot paid through the general At Large levy. There are no additional costs to the LUD of Richer ratepayers and so no amounts have been budgeted specifically for recycling services.

4. Environmental Development Services (Total Budgeted = \$21,000)

Grass Cutting:

- An amount of **\$18,000** is budgeted for grass and brush cutting of boulevards, pathways, road-side ditches, etc. in the LUD.

West Nile Virus – Larviciding:

- An amount of **\$3,000** is being budgeted for the larviciding of the LUD of Richer and surrounding areas in order to protect against West Nile Virus in Richer. The RM of Ste. Anne will once again be covering approximately 75% of the larviciding costs for the LUD of Richer area this year.

5. Recreation and Cultural Services (Total Budgeted = \$78,800)

LUD Community and Meeting Hall

- An amount of **\$8,800** is budgeted for general LUD expenses including:
 - \$2,000 for the rental of the Hall building and associated potential expenses;
 - \$2,300 for general and miscellaneous LUD expenses, such as computer software licenses, and insurance;
 - \$4,500 for community development and other general expenses such as the annual winter yard decorating contest, flowers, flags, etc.

Community Grants

- An amount of **\$70,000** is budgeted for grants supporting Richer non-profit organizations and events, an amount transferred from the Municipal budget.

Total Operating Expenditures, not including special projects, amount to **\$229,695.00**

- \$134,575.88 of which is being raised by taxation as part of the LUD Mill Rate,
- \$25,119.12 of which is being raised through the LUD curbside garbage collection Special Service Levy, and
- \$70,000 is being transferred from the Municipal budget for community grants, raised by taxation through municipal At Large mill rate, which is collected from every taxable property in the RM of Ste. Anne, including those in the LUD.

Capital Projects, Debentures, and Transfers

As mentioned above, the LUD of Richer Committee is also responsible for special and/or larger projects within Richer. These are categorized as *Capital Projects* when they are creating or improving a municipal asset, such as major roadwork, asphaltting, new sidewalks, or significant drainage works, among others. These types of projects can be funded by taxation, from reserve funds (savings accounts), or by borrowing money (called a Debenture).

The LUD Committee can also choose to budget certain amounts transfer into their savings account. This is known as a *Transfer to the LUD Reserve Fund*.

Transfer to Debenture

The LUD of Richer does not currently have any active debentures, and is not planning on borrowing money for any projects this year.

Transfer to Capital (\$147,500)

This year, the LUD of Richer Committee proposes a few larger scaled projects, the value of which will then be transferred to the Municipal Capital Assets list. The following is a summary of the projects the Committee proposes to complete this year.

1. The **2026 Sidewalk Construction Project** proposes to finish rebuilding the sidewalks along the East side of PR 302, continuing from where we left off in 2025 up to the end of the sidewalk, being the driveway to Derica's restaurant. **\$75,000** has been budgeted for this Capital Project.
Funding Note: \$62,500 of the required funds are proposed to be raised from taxation, with \$7,500 to come from the LUD's Canada Community Building Fund Reserve.
2. **\$7,500** has been included in the 2026 Capital Projects budget for a **"Welcome to Richer"** sign/monument and rest area. Committee discussions on this topic are very preliminary and will be developed over time. At this time, the goal is to

secure a site, request outside funding, and include the community in the design process, with the end result to pay homage to our roots, celebrate our culture and community, and inform visitors of the various attractions in town.

Funding Note: funds were raised by taxation through the 2024 budget, but no costs were incurred. Those funds were then placed in the general LUD reserves, from where they are proposed to be used in 2026 for this same project.

3. In Spring 2024, deterioration of the asphalt quality on **Dawson Road, east of Forsythe Road** was observed. Once the area was fully thawed, the road surface had settled sufficiently to leave the area untouched for another year. **\$35,000** is being budgeted for possible repairs to this segment of asphalted roadway, should conditions warrant this capital improvement in 2025.

Funding Note: funds were raised by taxation through the 2024 and 2025 budgets, but no costs were incurred. Those funds were then placed in the general LUD reserves, from where they are proposed to be used in 2026 for this same project.

4. **Perimeter Pathways** is a project that the LUD Committee would like to see accomplished over time. This pathway would first connect Dawson Road to PR 302 by following Forsythe Road N. north from Dawson Rd. to the boundary of the LUD at the TransCanada Highway, then along Highway #1E's road allowance to PR 302. This project would be completed in phases over a few years, as required permissions are received and budgets allow. Phase 1 consists of building a segment of pathway along Forsythe Rd, from Dawson Rd. to the Hwy #1 Right-of-Way. This phase is estimated to cost a total of **\$30,000** and is included in the 2026 budget, however this project may not be undertaken in 2026 if we are unable to secure outside funding through grant applications.

Funding Note: 33% (\$10,000) of this amount is hopefully going to be funded through grant applications that have been made for this project, with the balance (\$20,000) to be taken from accumulated general LUD reserve funds.

Transfer to/from LUD Reserves

The LUD of Richer has access to savings accounts, created for various purposes, where they can transfer money into, or withdraw from, as outlined in the annual Financial Plan.

Through By-law #9-2012, the RM of Ste. Anne created a **general purpose LUD of Richer Reserve Fund**. Funds are placed in this reserve until they are needed. This can be due to emergency costs, major road or sidewalk construction or repairs, lagoon or sewer services or other purposes related to the LUD of Richer, as deemed appropriate. Since its creation in 2012, the LUD of Richer has at times transferred a portion of their annual surplus into this general

Reserve fund. Additionally, a portion of the fees collected through subdivision in the LUD of Richer are transferred into this account automatically.

In 2025, Council of the RM of Ste. Anne created a sub-account within its **Wastewater Reserve Fund** for a future LUD area Wastewater Management system (such as a lagoon & sewer system). A portion of the fees collected through subdivision in the LUD of Richer are deposited into this account automatically. The LUD Committee can also then allocate funds to this Reserve from its annual surplus, or through taxation.

The RM of Ste. Anne also receives Federal funding through the Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF), formerly called the Gas Tax Fund. The amount of funding received is based on population. All funds received by the Government of Canada under this program are placed in this CCBF Reserve for the LUD of Richer to be used towards infrastructure projects.

Transfers TO Reserves:

In 2026, the LUD of Richer Committee proposes the following:

- Raise \$10,000 through taxation to transfer into the LUD of Richer Area Wastewater Reserve Fund.
- Allocate the entire 2025 Surplus into the general LUD of Richer Reserve Fund.

Transfers FROM Reserves:

In 2026, \$70,000 is proposed to be withdrawn from reserve funds, for various capital projects as follows:

- \$35,000.00 for the possible Dawson Road asphalt improvements east of Forsythe Rd. from the General LUD Reserve Fund.
- \$7,500.00 for the Welcome to Richer Monument and Rest Area project from the General LUD Reserve Fund.
- \$20,000.00 for the Perimeter Pathways project from the General LUD Reserve Fund.
- \$7,500.00 for the sidewalk construction project from the LUD Canada Community Building Fund Reserve.

Transfer to/from Other Sources:

Since 2023, the Council of the RM of Ste. Anne chose to provide **\$70,000** in grants to entities within the Local Urban District of Richer, with the LUD Committee being tasked with the distribution of those funds. This amount will be repeated in the same manner this year. The Financial Plan reflects this as a *Transfer from RM*, for this specific purpose.

We have applied for the MB Trails Grant Program for \$10,000 towards the Perimeter Pathway Project. As this amount is not guaranteed to be received, this project will only begin if this funding is received.

Other Revenues

Along with the transfers from the RM, from LUD Reserve Funds, Debentures, or general taxation, the LUD of Richer is also proposing to raise funds as follows:

- An annual \$86.32 special service levy will be applied to each of the 291 units receiving the weekly curbside garbage collection service as per Special Services By-Law No. 2023-15, totally **\$29,119.12** this year.
- We project **\$1,000** will be raised from supplemental taxation. This stems from new assessment values being determined from new subdivisions, homes, garages, decks, pools, etc. having been built in the previous 2 years, that have not yet been taxed.
- We project the LUD will receive approximately **\$50** from miscellaneous sources, such as rebates or donations.

Currently, there are no other anticipated revenues. Other grant applications that might have been made on behalf of the LUD of Richer have not been included in the financial plan, as the projects associated do not depend on that outside funding to proceed.

Closing Statements

The above represents the service plan for the LUD of Richer. The total budgeted expenditures for this year are **\$387,195.00**. In order to cover these anticipated expenditures, the LUD is going to be raising:

- **\$211,025.88** through taxation;
- **\$25,119.12** for weekly curbside garbage collection raised through the Special Service Levy of \$86.32 per unit;
- **\$1,000.00** is projected to be received from supplemental taxes issued throughout the year,
- **\$50.00** from insurance rebates, refunds, and other miscellaneous revenues
- **\$62,500.00** to be taken from the LUD General Reserve Fund for capital projects,
- **\$7,500 to be taken from the LUD Canada Community Building Fund Reserve.**
- **\$10,000.00** is being requested through provincial grants for the Perimeter Pathways Project
- **\$70,000.00** is transferred from the Municipality's Operating Budget for Grants the LUD Committee is to distribute between organizations within the LUD who've made applications in accordance with the Municipal Grants Policy.

Local Urban District of Richer Service Plan

In 2026, the LUD of Richer's portioned assessment increased by \$79,010 or 0.26% mainly due to minor amounts of property improvements, such as renovations, new construction, and subdivisions, which were completed between 2024 and early 2025.

The LUD of Richer Committee recommends increasing the total taxes collected from LUD properties by \$13,025.88, or 6.58% more than in 2025, resulting in a **mill rate of 6.929 for 2026**. In light of the decrease in garbage levy, the overall residential tax impact should be an increase of between 2-4%.

John Lenton
Chair
LUD of Richer

Dated this 4th day of February, 2026
Res#LUD-2026-12

2025 mill rate was 6.518
2024 mill rate was 8.012
2023 mill rate was 8.009
2022 mill rate was 8.037
2021 mill rate was 8.036
2020 mill rate was 9.03
2019 mill rate was 9.03
2018 mill rate was 9.04
2017 mill rate was 9.13
2016 mill rate was 9.14



Local Urban District of Richer

2026 Service Plan Appendix 'A'

Long-Term Goals

The LUD of Richer has established the following future goals to better plan and budget for long-term projects. These are simply an expression of possible future intentions and are in no way commitments to complete the projects listed.

Near future (2-5 years) :

- Continue building and improving the LUD's network of sidewalks and pathways
- Commemorate past Local Urban District Elected Officials with an appropriate permanent fixture in the community.
- Continue improving the quality of LUD roads and drains with reconstructions where frost boils are problematic, or drainage is being impeded.

Not-so near future (5-10 years) :

- Continue building and improving the LUD's network of sidewalks and pathways
- Continue improving the quality of LUD roads and drains with reconstructions where frost boils are problematic, or drainage is being impeded.
- Establish a new LUD of Richer Meeting Hall building, potentially with additional community spaces and/or services being made available.

Distant future (10-15 years) :

- Establish a sewer system for the LUD of Richer