



Sault Ste. Marie
POLICE

2026 Budget

Investing Responsibly in Community Safety

Presented To: City of Sault Ste. Marie Council

November 17, 2025

Presented By: Nuala Kenny, Police Service Board Chair

Brent Duguay, Chief of Police

Angela Davey, C.P.A., C.A., Manager – Finance Services



Building the
2026 Budget

New Chapter

- New Police Service Board leadership
- New Chief of Police (& soon-to-be-appointed new Deputy Chief of Police)



Building the
2026 Budget

Our Approach

The development of the 2026 budget was guided by:

1

Requirements

2

Efficiency

3

Responsibility

4

Transparency

+ Board Mandate: Providing adequate and effective policing to our community



Building the
2026 Budget

Our Approach

Prepared, developed, reviewed, and approved collaboratively by:

- Senior Management Team
- Finance Committee
- Sault Ste. Marie Police Service Board



At a Glance

Budget Summary

Total Budget (2026): \$44,000,252

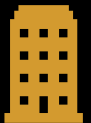
Of 2026 expenditures...



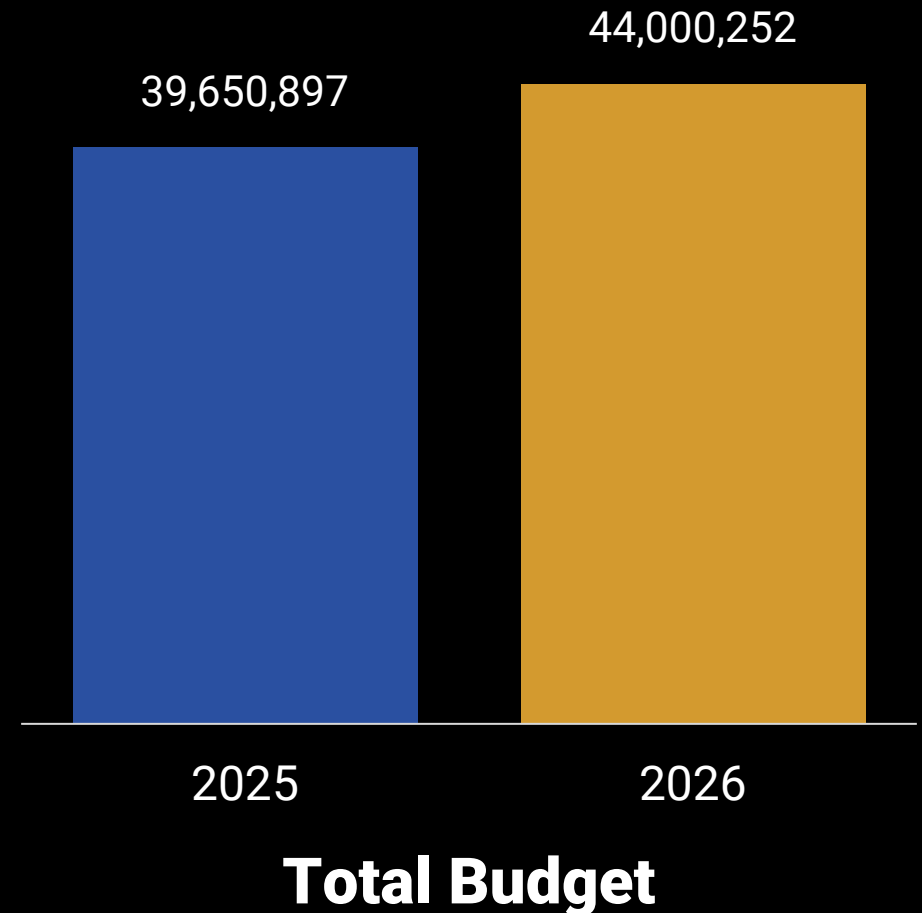
Salaries & Benefits: 85%



Operating: 13%

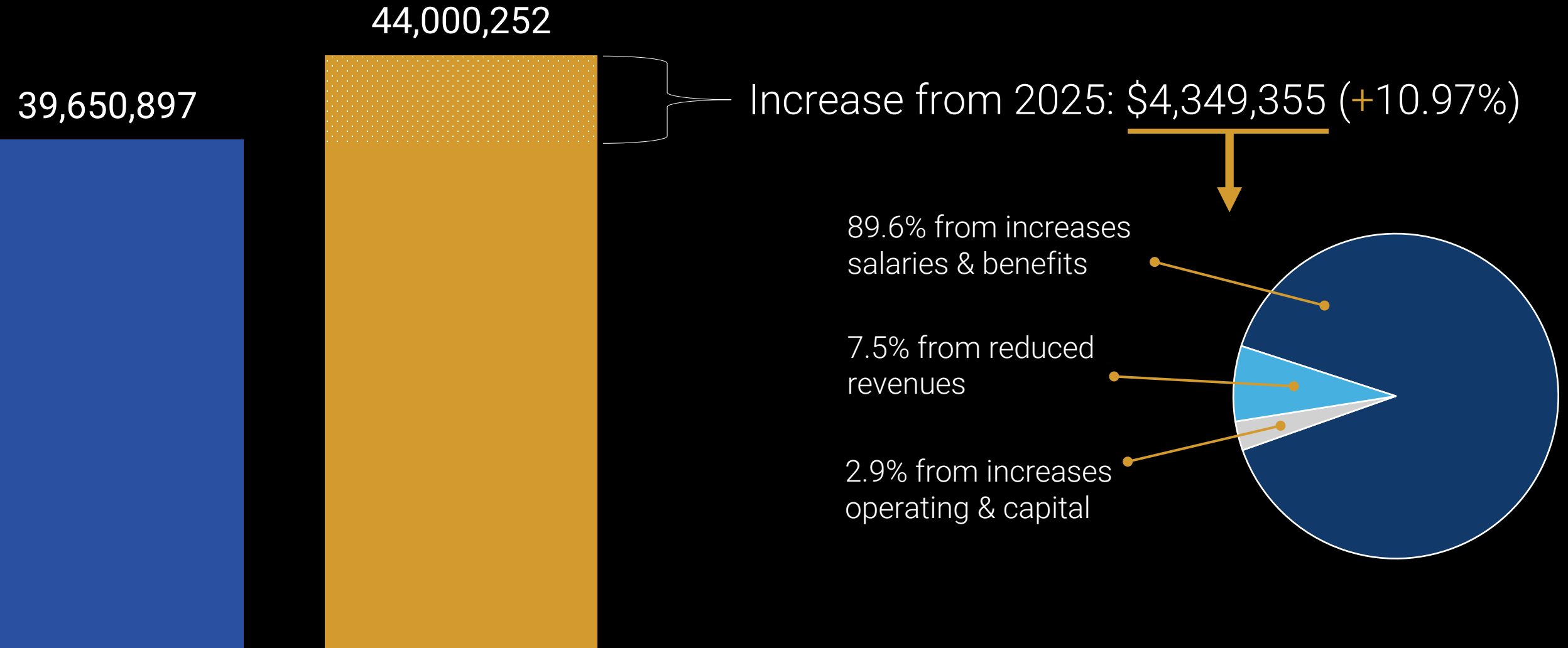


Capital: 2%



At a Glance

Budget Summary



Factors Influencing the 2026 Budget

- CSPA requirements
- Crime trends/calls for service
- New technology
- Division 2
- Salaries & benefits
- Other



CSPA Requirements

- Marine Unit
- New equipment (e.g. VR headsets, night vision, satellite)
- Expanded training and duties of Special Constables (two-tiered policing)



Crime Trends/ Calls for Service

Increased calls for service, and workload,
related to...

- Violent crime
- Intimate partner violence (IPV)
- Tech crime





Technology

- Drones
- In-Car Camera Systems (2024)
- Body-Worn Cameras (2025)
- CCTV (2025)
- NG911 (2026)



Drones

- In use since 2017; program is expanding
- Require specially trained officers
- Contribute to efficient & effective responses to calls for service
 - Cost savings
 - Public/officer safety



In-Car Camera System, Body-Worn Cameras, CCTV

Important tools for...

- Enhancing public trust
- Demonstrating accountability and transparency
- Streamlining investigations



Next-Generation 9-1-1

- Required by CRTC
- Modernizes and improves 911 systems
- Enables text, photos, videos, video calls, etc. to be sent to 911 Communicators
 - Will increase workload

The Context



The People Behind the Tools:

Digital Evidence Management System Unit

Increased use of technology = Enormous amount of data/digital evidence = Increased # of hours and # of staff required to manage and prepare evidence

- Hiring 2 new DEMS members in 2026 to manage additional workload



The People Behind the Tools:

Central Emergency Reporting Bureau

Answers all calls for service (911, non-emergency line, etc.)

Calls for service are increasing

- Jan – Oct (2024): 29,750 calls for service
- Jan – Oct (2025): 32,092 calls for service



The People Behind the Tools:

Central Emergency Reporting Bureau

Increasing # of calls for service + Increased workload from Next-Generation 9-1-1 = Increased # of staff required

- Hiring 4 new 911 Communicators in 2026 to ensure adequate and effective policing



Division 2

- Located at 180 Brock Street
- Houses Division 2 Unit, Traffic Services (Marine Unit), Canine Unit, Central Support Bureau (Community Safety Officer, School Liaison Officers)



Division 2 Unit

- Dedicated to patrolling downtown core
- Proactive crime prevention via increased visibility and relationship building
- Improved response to calls for service downtown, including social disorder

As part of Division 2 rollout, Board approved increased staffing; filled in 2024/25 ✓



Salaries & Benefits

- Collective Bargaining Agreement increases (contracts expire end of 2026)
 - 2.03% increase in salaries + approximately 1% increase in benefits



Notable* Increases

- New survey system to meet grant requirements
- Prisoner meals
- Miscellaneous (rent, reintegration, peer support programs, etc.)
- Software upgrades (for cybersecurity, stability, digital evidence management, etc.)

**changes of 30% or greater*



Notable* Decreases

- Revenue (no major capital projects/not drawing from reserve accounts; K9 reimbursement anomaly in 2025)
- Capital (no major capital projects planned)

**changes of 30% or greater*

A Responsible Budget

- 2026 Budget reflects real cost of policing – salaries, benefits, operations, and mandated modernization
- The Board asserts this is a responsible budget which balances stewardship of taxpayer dollars with an investment in community safety