

Budget Survey 2024: Written Comments

In the Creating our Budget survey (July - August 2023), residents were asked **“What do you think is the single biggest challenge facing Middlesex Centre that the budget should address?”**

One-hundred and ninety (190) residents responded to the question. The responses are presented below as they were received – no edits were made – except in a few instances where the comments were derogatory nature or where the comments could lead to a specific individual being identified.

Staff sorted and combined responses on similar issues / topics. If a resident commented on more than one issue in a response, their response was split to allow for response to each topic.

These comments were shared with Municipal Council as they began deliberations on the 2024 Middlesex Centre Budget.

By-law & Building Services

- By-law enforcement for burning in Ilderton should be looked at more closely (ie enforced).
- Our neighborhood has become a trailer park. RVs are parked in driveways everywhere all year round. It's very unsightly and makes pulling out of your own driveway with a car unsafe because the reduce visibility to oncoming traffic
- Three of us own 48 acres of bush which has been classified as residential/farm. There is no farming done nor is there any residence on the property. However one of the owners who lives near the property has found evidence of hunting, hunting gear such as cameras and blinds put there illegally. This is of concern to us should there be an accident. What has Middlesex Centre done for us to prevent illegal hunting?

Fire Services

- Fire services to Komoka/Kilworth
- The fact that the most densely populated area (Komoka/kilworth) does not have a fire department within reasonable response time given all the new construction type homes which have a much quicker burn rate!!!

Public Works & Engineering - Transportation

Active Transportation

- 13 mile road is a popular cycling route for us and many others....why do we have no bike lanes??
- Accessible leisure spaces to walk and enjoy our community would be nice if it were expanded. The service road that runs parallel to Willow Ridge and runs along the Stanton farm is not maintained and an eye sore. Connecting this to existing paths would encourage neighbours to be out more and enjoy our community. The old rail trail is a lovely example of a nice space to walk and it would be nice to connect paths in the different neighborhoods.

- Cycling trails
- Followed by sidewalks/bike path between Komoka and Kilworth (it's the county's responsibility but it's the lives of the residents and kids of Komoka and Kilworth that are at risk.
- Safe bike lanes on roads
- There are very few trails, we moved outside of London for more trails and green space and are disappointed to find that London has more.
- Walking and or bike trails seem to be almost non-existent. Build some!!!! County Roads that go through our municipality. Improving those.
- Walking trails/ sidewalks
- We are a country community. Without enough Greenspace for walking/biking. YOU visit city communities and they have residential areas built around lakes and miles of trails to walk. Run/bike. We only have small short paths and many lead through the community. Lambeth and Sunningdale are great examples of Residential areas creating great walking/bike trails .
- With the population exploding in Kilworth and Komoka, we need to plan around ways to get around that don't require a car. Walking paths, bike paths.
- As the Ilderton community grows, I have concerns about additional traffic brought to our neighborhood. The speed of traffic on Hyde Park Rd from the fire station to the lights at Ilderton Rd is dangerous. Few obey the speed limit and I've personally almost been struck by a vehicle and witnessed it with others while trying to cross over Hyde Park. The current crosswalk is not suitable for a village this size and makes no sense given there is a proper crosswalk north of Ilderton Rd on Hyde Park. Please consider installing a flashing light crosswalk south of Ilderton Rd.
- Before any new development we need to expand the road going into London at west 5 and fix the intersection at Jefferies and Oxford street extension.
- Better traffic flow, better traffic signage in neighbourhoods. 4-way stop signs would be more beneficial to keeping people safe and slowing down drivers. Especially at westbrook dr. and westbrook dr.
- ensuring flow of traffic
- Expanding Glendon Dr faster. Many houses are going up and the traffic is heavy
- Focus should be on road safety/addressing speeding issues within our communities
- Given the significant increase in the number of new homes, and traffic on our streets, I think that traffic management, road expansion, building of roundabouts and signage is of prime importance.
- Growing vehicle traffic.
- Increased traffic due to all the building going on. 5 corners in Kilworth is a nightmare
- Increasing traffic
- It's a three way tie between traffic management on Ilderton Road...
- Keeping traffic moving efficiently along the highways and through the hamlets that dot them.
- Land use planning - traffic planning - environmental considerations - please we need more ring roads and less traffic lights.

Traffic and Transportation Planning

- A sufficient crosswalk for kids walking to Parkview when crossing Komoka Rd. There are no safe routes.
- Although i believe Msex centre is not responsible for Glendon Dr, maybe you have influence. Sidewalks along Glendon Dr are needed. Traffic along Glendon Dr has increased immensely. I see older children and young adults walking on the shoulder of the road hence the need for sidewalks. Perhaps a bike lane too.

- Not sure if this is the biggest challenge, but a proper pedestrian crosswalk (with lights) is required urgently at Hyde Park Rd and Heriftahe Drive. It's a currently a tragedy waiting to happen
- Not sure when talking to my neighbors we are very concerned about cars always speeding on our road. No speed limits are posted and on a country road we do not feel that we should have anything over 60 KM, often the roads are not too wide and it is very dangerous when speeding. Its an accident waiting to happen. Perhaps speed bumps would help...
- Pedestrian lights should be placed along gideon drive from kilworth heights west as a lot of people are crossing that street going into foodland and the community center. In order for it to be accessible and safe for these kids who risks their lives when they cross here.
- Put in a proper crosswalk with lights at the medical centre library on Hyde Park Road like the one north of there on Ilderton Road where no one is crossing at!
- replace speed bumps with. ""! STOP SIGNS' ! They should accomplish your goals and create a possible cash flow ? You don't seem to know how many people are upset with these installations .
- Road and bicycle safety
- Road safety/ traffic management at five corners and at the bridge
- Road to access London wider but not once in London. Traffic is already an issue along Glendon and will be much worse with new planned builds.
- safer roads (ex: longwoods road, Victoria/Springer crossing. Put in a light or crosswalk light and reduce speed thru Delaware hill to 40.
- Sidewalks need to be added to main roads for safety
- Speed of traffic through the village
- Speeding and road safety for both drivers and pedestrians.
- The placement of speed video posts on Longwood Road in Delaware are in a dumb location. Video signs do not thank the driver for slowing down. For example I go 61 kph going up the hill and the video thing telling me too fast.
- The services you do provide don't have the best interest of the community and only respond to complaints. Too many speed bumps in areas where they are not needed and not enough around children's areas. Clear that the city is responding to small groups of complainers rather than looking at what is in the best interest of the community.
- To be honest there is more than one...crosswalk
- Too many speedbumps on too many streets. I understand the ones in front of parks, but they don't need to be on all streets. More permanent traffic calming measures would be prepared. An example is on Jefferies. 6 speed bumps are unnecessary especially considering there are no houses that look onto that street. That is the road you want more traffic to take. You don't want them in the subdivisions trying to avoid the speed bumps.
- traffic
- Traffic - there needs to be a cross walk for all schools (Our Lady of Lourdes in Delaware does not have one). There is not sidewalk or bike lane on Westbrook Drive (East of Jeffries) where a lot of children and families walk. Parking should also be limited to one side of the street to assist with this. It is very unsafe!
- Traffic calming measures at Gideon and Jeffries.
- Traffic control and safety of people walking.
- Traffic flow in Kilworth. With the number of vehicles increasing so rapidly so is the speed and frustration levels of drivers.
- Traffic flow!!!
- Traffic issues
- Traffic management resulting from growth

- Traffic on Glendon. Kilworth heights development not taken over by municipality yet. Would like to see green space long Daventry way in Kilworth heights cleaned up. Safer walking trails along the river.
- Traffic with new development
- Traffic. We need better access to kilworth Komoka. Including roundabouts
- With the ever increasing traffic something will have to be done with easing same especially in peak periods. I realize this can only be accomplished when the City of London does the same.
- With the influx of new development the single biggest challenge is by far traffic. We need to look ahead to build the infrastructure needed now to support and handle the huge increase of vehicles on our roadways.
- Road development and maintenance is the greatest challenge. More oversight of the companies doing road and sidewalk work is needed. The new sidewalk on Hamilton Rd, in front of the Komoka Seniors Apartments is the worst new work I have ever seen. I can imagine that seniors with walking aids have difficulty walking along there. We deserve a better return on our hard earned tax dollars.
- road infrastructure
- Road maintenance
- Road maintenance
- Roadways
- Sidewalk on the young street hill in Delaware.
- Sidewalks need to be added to main roads for safety
- snow removal.
- When looking at upcoming budget I would like to see MC Improve road conditions and safety. This service has drastically declined since we originally moved to Middlesex Centre and with the increased amount of vehicles and pedestrian traffic MC needs to ensure the safety of those using our roadways (both driving and walking). The current poor physical condition (roadway surfaces and shoulder areas) and their very poor winter maintenance is not at par with other municipalities. Many intersections have been allowed overgrowth of vegetation along shoulders and abutting land which impedes both vehicular and pedestrian safety (ie., cannot see oncoming traffic and pedestrians have no proper walking areas). Roadway signage should also be improved to ensure safety both during daylight and night time hours. Winter maintenance definitely needs to be improved both in frequency and efficiency, MC should be proactive and not reactive in their roadworks activity.

Road and Sidewalk Maintenance

- better rural road maintenance
- Cleaning of the internal roads during winter/snow days are delayed by a week on an average time frame specially in the new build area. Roads are slick and no maintenance of side walks. People also often block the sidewalk with vehicles making it inaccessible to walk past their home resulting in slip, trips and falls when you have to go from the side.
- Continuous road maintenance.
- fixing and repairing roads.
- Further: can someone please teach the plough driver to lift the wing when he goes around the corner, gouging out the earth and creating a pile! Failing that can the County please be asked to smooth out the pile left on the shoulder of the highway where I dutifully cut your grass to keep Middlesex Centre (and our property) looking half decent.
- Increased snow clearing
- More timely clearing of roads in winter, and more asphalt rural roads

Public Works & Engineering – Environmental Services

Water Rates

- Also, the cost of water must be addressed - it is incredibly high.
- Bringing down water costs. PERIOD!
- Get rid of the slush fund that was brought in ... that increased our water bills far beyond reasonable. This is unrealistic to keep in place and costing taxpayers far too much money with absolutely no justification!
- Hi costs of water.
- High cost of water delivery compared to other municipalities.
- High water rates compared to other centres
- It's a three way tie between ...the cost of municipal water/sewer programs
- Lower the cost of Water Services
- Please try and reduce the amount we pay for water its very expensive everything else is great we love living here. Thank you.
- The amount that we pay for water is far too high. There is only my wife and I who live in our house and we have to pay for the minimum every time because we dont use that much water but it ends up being \$100 per month. I think the minimum should be eliminated to promote less water usage.
- The cost of water
- The cost of water and wastewater - is expensive for anyone who continually uses well below the minimum amount allowed.
- The cost of water...way too high.
- The inequity of the storm water surcharge.
- The minimum charges are ridiculous. It is nearly impossible for a single income household to live in Ilderton. Stop punishing single people. Reduce the minimum and start charging people that use above that minimum. I use LESS than half the minimum yet am punished for preservation. Large families (with pools, hot tubs and lawn watering systems), are paying a fraction of what they should be.

- The price of our water is absolutely ridiculous. Please address this issue and make it more affordable for families to bath, drink and use wastewater services.
- water bill
- Water rates
- Water rates are too high.
- Water usage pricing, water pricing seems to be excessively high
- Why is water so expensive? Ilderton has grown significantly since the water tower was installed. The amortization payment should be spread over a larger user group so the amount should be less per user. I have heard that the “ extra” money be paid by the users is being accrued for future projects, Where is that amount shown on the budget?

Water Other

- Sewers in Delaware !.
- Storm and sanitary sewer servicing to those who do not currently have it. Like me in Delaware.
- Storm water management
- The last bit of my comments is with regard to storm water management. I have noticed a failure during recent rains for the culvert and ditches involved here to take away the water.creating standing water for a good number of days. I have noticed this happening elsewhere as I drive down the roads. Please budget money for analysis and maintenance of the ditches and drainage - these weather/heavy rain events do appear to be coming with greater frequency.
- waste water drainage in Meadowcreek subdivision Ilderton
- Wastewater treatment for Delaware
- Water pressure has been decreasing in Ilderton over the last few months.

Waste Management

- It's a three way tie between ... the inability to get yard waste picked up (at a minimum once per season).

- Recycling made easy and confidence that what does I. The recycling doesn't end up in the landfill. Organic pick up.

Community Services Recreation, Parks and Culture

- a new Double Pad arena
- Additionally I would point out that we here in the east are along way from any significant recreational offerings of Middlesex Centre and in a carbon centred world a drive for me from here to Komoka does not seem like a responsible choice. I am not suggesting that facilities be built at this end of Middlesex Centre but our tax rates might reflect how far we are from facilities I would bet we have contributed to. I would hope that equity prevails.
- Better Sporting facilities in the Ilderton area. Our arena is not meeting demand and is at/past it's life expectancy. Ilderton needs a two pad Arena to better service the demand from the community. The baseball diamond in Ilderton is dismal at best. A short drive outside the area will show smaller communities with much nicer, and practical baseball facilities.
- Dog park
- Dog park
- Excessive growth Ilderton ... and poor recreation facilities so people leave the county to use better facilities when the money could be spent here.
- Indoor sports/ recreational programs for seniors; Indoor swimming pool
- Inequality in recreational facilities in ilderton vs Komoka kilworth. Start addressing the poor dated facility in ilderton.
- It would be nice if we had more things to do in the community for those who done play hockey or baseball...A community pool...would be great
- Lack of facilities for youth sports and engagement. Could there be a ball hockey/lacrosse/pickleball on the arena floor in the summer?

- Lack of pools and splash pads (especially for Delaware)
- More green space/trails/dog parks/playgrounds Add a Swimming pool to the komoka wellness center. more programs offered at komoka wellness center for all ages
- Need an indoor pool. We have to drive to London to exercise.as a senior it is very important to stay mobile and be able to live in our own homes.
- No park/place for kids to play in Timberwalk subdivision in Ilderton
- Parks.. council lacks the foeyesight to understand the importance of parks and planning. The Thames river is a huge long term resourse being slowly sqaundered. Our council sees things similiar to Springbank Park in London as something up for sale (and promoted by staff).
- Pool
- Splash pad in Kilworth optimist park would be nice.
- Teen programs
- There are no public pools in this area. This is important for both recreation as well as physical therapy for my family. We currently drive into London, but we're very disappointed that there are no pools, only splash pads, which are targeted at children, and cannot be used for low impact exercise.
- To be honest there is more than one...arena, lack of buildings for recreation...
- We should look at building an indoor aquatic centre so people can swim all year round and kids can do swimming lessons in the winter. The other indoor pools are in London and a far drive. With so many people moving into our area, an indoor pool centre would be amazing!

Economic Development

- A lack of stores and shopping to support the ever expanding population. Given the push for environmentally friendly transportation, it would only make sense to increase commercial space so that people don't have to make the journey into London for everything.

- Business development. Restaurants.
- Economic development
- Excessive growth Ilderton and no businesses in there to offer people ... so people leave the county to use better facilities when the money could be spent here
- Ilderton needs more economic investment and active business recruiting to help build its business district.
- Infrastructure and attracting businesses to support the growing population.
- Lack of economic development in Ilderton's downtown core
- MXC needs more industry/manufacturing to offset taxes, not rely on expensive residential home taxes
- Planning for services within walking distance within new housing.

Growth and Development

- Better land use planning. Excellent farmland is being used to build sprawling subdivisions. This should not be happening because it affects food security and the environment.
- Building on our farm land. Development
- Can't keep up to the growing demand for housing and services particularly in rapid growth communities such as Kilworth, Komoka and Ilderton.
- Control of urban spread, maintaining greenspace
- Development
- Growth
- High population density, and the benefits and consequences that come with that.
- How to expand but without losing the small village feeling for all the towns
- How to handle the significant growth in population and building.
- I have no idea what the single biggest challenge is, however, my greatest concern is the development in Komoka with huge numbers of houses planned.

- I would suggest a look at the real numbers and long term affects of the increase in residential building in the municipality. My belief that in the long run, building houses is net negative in that the upfront idea of building fees and tax assessment gets more than used up by increased servicing costs for those houses/residents.
- Implementing a coherent vision and plan to guide increasing development.
- Increasing growth in a sustained manner and ensuring the requisite infrastructure is in place.
- Keeping pace with growth
- Land development done cautiously so the area does not get too big too fast.
- Land use planning to STOP economic development that takes over farm lands.
- Limiting development and the destruction of farmland in spite of the actions of the federal government to increase immigration by the millions which will likely fuel the real estate insanity further.
- limiting population growth
- Loss of prime agricultural land/green spaces. We are self-serving and not forward-thinking about the loss of land in this county and our kids/grandchildren will pay the price.
- Managing controlled growth
- Planning for future growth, specifically roadways (including safety), schools, retail shops, community events.
- population growth and ensuring flow of traffic
- Population growth in komoka/Kilworth exceeds development of infrastructure supports. Ie: elementary and secondary schools overflowing and long commute.
- Properly planning for growth and development. Please plan where commercial/industrial and residential properties are located by considering traffic, safety, surroundings, history, and resources availability (water/wastewater treatment).
- Protecting our area from urban sprawl.

- Road to access London wider but not once in London. Traffic is already an issue along Glendon and will be much worse with new planned builds.
- Stop the insane greed - and allowing so much land development to happen when people don't want it! ... It's the small communities that make it feel like home - no one wants any more big expansion
- taking steps to avoid urban sprawl in our unique communities.
- The amount of growth in our surrounding areas that leads to our area.
- The growing population needs the infrastructure to support it.
- Too many small building lots
- Too much growth and expansion.
- urban sprawl

Infrastructure

- Continue investing in infrastructure lifecycle renewal.
- Fixing culverts that have failed and ensuring roads are open.
- Having enough water, sewers and road infrastructure to handle our extreme growth.
- Increasing growth in a sustained manner and ensuring the requisite infrastructure is in place.
- infrastructure
- Infrastructure funding for roads and bridges
- Infrastructure support for expanding population areas.
- Infrastructure! With all the new builds there is not sufficient infrastructure in place to support the existing never mind additional households! Sewers, storm water management and fiber internet all need to be addressed!!
- Preserve and upgrade existing structures/parks and other amenities instead of continually building for economic gain.

- with the increase in population the services do not seem to be keeping up - whether it is roads (wider main road), flood control, planning, technology

Governance

- Middlesex Centre should be more in tune with what the residents of the community want. There should be more notice given PRIOR to making decisions that affect the residents. The residents should be the ones deciding what happens in their community not the elected government.
- Unresponsive staff.

Taxes / Government Spending

- Avoid increasing growth and spending just because the tax revenue is stable or increasing.
- Budget. Many people have asked to stop the rate increases. Nonetheless you invest in parks for tennis, kids, playground equipment, some of it is not even used, And programs. Mostly what you illustrate. 3% is not zero but you think it is. People facing huge mortgages will fail. Stop spending money.
- Continuing to provide high quality services without increasing costs.
- Cost - expenditures - taxes - Show the tax payers who are the "experts" who provide the information for the council to act upon.
- ESCALATING COSTS Operating effectively and efficiently Justifying the new and additional capital equipment purchases Are the services that we supply to other municipalities covering ALL our costs --office wages overhead?
- Financial accessibility
- High cost of taxes
- High property taxes ... compared to other centres

- I wish I could remember what last year's head challenge was ... probably remains the same. I believe it's holding the municipality to a successful strategy (commercial and residential growth) within a restricted budget. Every land use decision and economic initiative supported has to contribute substantially over a long term horizon.
- It is infuriating that I can barely afford to live in the town that I was born and raised in and my Dad and his parents before him as well. Stop catering to these rich out of towners and consider single people and seniors that try to reduce water usage and live a simple life. The single biggest challenge is unaffordable expenses. Maybe less money towards all things children to focus periodically on a different demographic.
- Keeping costs low
- keeping taxes down while providing great level of service
- Keeping taxes low and ensuring efficiency of operations.
- Making sure the Municipality's financial position is strong enough to not make it susceptible to yielding to provincial pressure to build wind generators in Middlesex Centre
- Overstaffing. You have way too many people doing way too little work. Beaucroic nonsense prevents real leadership
- Politicians think a 3% increase is like zero to them. It is not. One one hand: People on Food Banks, people with impossible high interest rates, cost of living out of control. Inflation over 3 years. The impact on retired people. Diet has fallen. The second hand: Building new tennis courts with pickle balls lines, frisbee installs etc. New programs, building in the future. Diversity works together, not as singular. Control the costs. Well below the lines to defray or ignore it. Do not care about Gate Keepers or ""higher level bureaucrats"". Tell them they are fired.
- Reduction in spending across all departments to therefore reduce tax burden on residents. I believe we are providing some services inefficiently and some that are not needed at all. There needs to be a change in mindset that budget increases are automatic and have a concerted effort to prioritize services that are absolutely necessary and the mandate of Middlesex Centre. Council needs to realize that not every desire of all residents needs to be provided by the municipality.
- Rising costs for taxes and services
- Sports and recreation programs/facilities are a luxury not a necessity and therefore more attention and financial support should be shifted to roads/ infrastructure maintenance
- taxes
- the biggest challenge is probably how to satisfy everyone's needs and wishes.
- The fact that the municipality increases taxes in unassumed areas with no explanation when asked why. Literally said when asked why this happens, the response I got at the municipality building was, "No idea, that's a good question!" Raising the taxes in these areas in many people's opinions is not fair, as the municipality won't even plow roads or sidewalks, stating, "it's the developers job because it is unassumed land." But.... will increase taxes very quickly for services that aren't even provided. Hope this changes. Thank you for your time!
- The inability of various levels of government to communicate properly to lessen tax dollar waste. The continued support by the government to assure the gap between rich and poor increases.
- Three of us own 48 acres of bush which has been classified as residential/farm. There is no farming done nor is there any residence on the property... Why are we paying tax in the above classification?

- Waste of tax dollars. There are so many projects that spend money but are left incomplete. Examples include the soccer field on Stephen Moore drive that has been excavated for years and has had paths to nowhere paved and sits unfinished. Or the sign posts for speed bumps that were installed but never had signs put on them. There are examples of waste everywhere.
- We pay so much money, which keeps increasing, and we don't have nearly as many amenities as surrounding towns (like Lucan).
- You provide limited services with extremely expensive fees. ... Fees and taxes are extremely high for very limited services, most people go into London for community services because not much is offered here but we pay so much!

Broader Community Issues

Maintenance of Public Property

- getting somebody to regularly cut and maintain the grass and weeds, Jefferies continues to be an embarrassment.
- Grass maintenance
- Maintaining green spaces

Policing (Safety/Property Damage)

- Community safety, policing, vandalism.
- Not sure when talking to my neighbors we are very concerned about cars always speeding on our road. There is never any police presence and often if no traffic lights people use these roads so they can go faster and quicker.
- Policing
- we need to police to do more to stop the small crimes and vandalism that is going on. It is unacceptable.

Housing

- Affordable homes for young local families. Most of our children could never afford a home in this area they grew up in.

- affordable housing
- Affordable housing
- Affordable housing!
- If you want to have employees for lower income jobs in Ilderton, you MUST provide affordable housing, water rates, taxes, etc. These big expensive housing developments should pay for the upgrades to infrastructure.

Seniors

- More Seniors housing (not nursing homes)
- Senior support

Environmental Issues

- Climate change and changing the building codes to move away from fossil fuels / gases. With solar / battery and geothermal technology new homes and vehicles no longer require natural gas or gasoline. These technologies should be promoted and fossil fuels minimized in new homes.
- How all the services are taking into account the change in the climate: reducing the number of gas powered vehicles etc.
- Maintaining green space and protecting our town from becoming too commercialized
- more harsh weather now and the future implications on services and infrastructure
- Preparation for climate change impacts

Other

This section includes issues that are out of the jurisdiction of Middlesex Centre, among others.

- As an educator, we need to determine our long-range goals for providing adequate space and support in our local public school. Education is vital to the overall success of any municipality.
- Diversity and inclusion as a lens on all development.

- Daycare centres and child care for the many young families that are moving into Komoka. Though I'm not sure this is necessarily part of the budget, it's a huge hurdle when moving to Komoka. We had an incredibly challenging time finding care for our son when moving here. I feel that with the continued development of Komoka, there will need to be assistance with adding centres to help alleviate this issue.
- Equable services in all areas of the township. Just because I live on a short street shouldn't mean I won't see the snowplow until the end of the day or the next day after a storm. Just because I live in a small village I should still have the option of a recreational activity close to my home.
- EV (electric) motorized bikes are a serious risk to pedestrians since they are silent and often go much too fast. Operators should be required to have a license They should be strictly banned from sidewalks and walkways such as the Thames Valley Parkway. Collisions with a pedestrians could easily be a life-alternating horrendous event.
- Hydro outages
- I think the Municipality could do more in helping to enlarge facilities for the Middlesex Centre Archives and/ or be more a part of encouraging the County to develop a plan for a County Archives. All infrastructure is important but sometimes culture etc. has to be considered also.
- Ilderton has remained stagnant and I have not seen improvents in the last 10 years I have been here with the exception of the skate park. Other towns are booming (Lucan, Komoka, Kilworth,etc.)
- Improved hydro connections. Power outages are too frequent
- Local schools capacity also need to be addressed.
- More attention to the smaller communities in middlesex centre. ie. Birr. It seems to be all about Komoka and Ilderton.
- New residents who think MxC is a "city" and expectations are for city rather than rural. Perhaps in communications the term "rural" should be prioritized.
- Not the new arena in Mount Brydges. Grocery store in Mount Brydges
- Open new school in Kilworth
- Property management. Middlesex Centre is basically a rural community and it would be a shame to allow the encroachment of London to displace valuable farm land that helps to feed the population.
- School district
- School expansion
- The City of London and its encroachment. Although the City's boundaries are defined the influence of traffic etc is overwhelming to those of us who live on the first two or three concessions above the City border. Commuters look for faster less encumbered routes. There has been a very noticeable change in traffic volume on 8 Mile Road since the extension of HWY 100 (Vetran's Memorial) to Clarke Side Rd within the City. I have been told there is an increased volume on Medway Rd and the traffic lights in Ballymote have added to the number of commuters using 8 Mile and 9 Mile to cross the top of the City. I expect this type of trend is appears all around the Middlesex Centre/City of London boundary. Added focus needs to be on traffic control. I worry too that Middlesex Centre will not stand up to the pressure exerted by developers and will allow a further annexation of land north of the current boundary between Sunningdale and Medway Roads. Money in the budget needs to be set aside for traffic analysis/control and keeping the City at bay!
- The single biggest challenge is incompetence. I am paying a residential tax rate to live on Denfield Road, and yet the county still has not harmoized the speed limit in the hamlet of Denfield. When queiried about this, there is no explanation provided...but now I understand why there is a massive hole in the budget and a 7.5% tax increase is needed.
- We pay so much money, which keeps increasing, and we don't have nearly as many amenities as surrounding towns (like Lucan). ...supermarket, a library that's actually open would be great