

2026 STRATFORD MAYORAL CANDIDATES



PRIORITIES & FIRST-TERM COMMITMENTS | Candidate survey responses

MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES BY AVERAGE RANK

1 = highest priority; 10 = lowest priority among the listed issues. Sorted by average rank.

Issue	Andrew Rea	Mark Hunter	Jo-Dee Burbach	Average
Cost of living and affordability	2	2	1	1.67
Keeping property tax increases as low as possible	3	1	8	4.00
Economic development and job creation	7	3	3	4.33
Food insecurity, homelessness and mental health services	5	6	2	4.33
Infrastructure renewal	6	4	5	5.00
Housing supply and attainability	4	5	6	5.00
Public safety and emergency services	1	9	7	5.67
Environmental sustainability	10	7	4	7.00
Community services and recreation	9	8	9	8.67
Waste collection and disposal	8	10	10	9.33

Darker teal = higher priority. Rankings are relative; a lower placement does not mean opposition.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Most important first-term action for economic and social prosperity:

Andrew Rea “A full departmental audit, to better identify over-expenditures, and holding those accountable for having approved them.”	Mark Hunter “I have a number of priorities, but economic development is the key to allowing progress without burdening residential taxpayers. I would take a very focused approach looking initially at food businesses and defence contractors.”	Jo-Dee Burbach “As Mayor, I will champion a data-driven, actionable Housing Strategy for our City. Building on our Official Plan update and Housing Specialist's recent work, we'll focus on getting the housing built that our community needs the most, including transitional, affordable, and supportive housing for our most vulnerable residents.”
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Source: candidate survey responses supplied October 11, 2026. Survey answers only; no endorsement. Stratford | 1/2

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POLICY CHOICES | Housing, taxes, investment and municipal accountability

SURVEY QUESTION	Andrew Rea	Mark Hunter	Jo-Dee Burbach
HOUSING SUPPLY AND ATTAINABILITY			
Reduce development charges and other growth-related fees to encourage attainable ownership and rental housing.	Agree	Neutral	Neutral
Approval timelines with performance targets	☒	☒	☐
Digital permitting and online approvals	☒	☒	☒
Standardized application requirements	☐	☒	☒
Reducing unnecessary studies and reports	☒	☒	☐
Pre-zoning land for housing	☒	☒	☐
Building more housing in existing communities	☒	☒	☐
Supporting staff recommendations for more housing	☒	☒	☒
Delegating more routine approvals to staff	☒	☒	☐
PROPERTY TAXES INVESTMENT AND JOBS			
Approach to property taxes	Keep annual tax increases below inflation	Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)	Keep tax increases at approximately the rate of inflation/consumer price index (CPI)
Priorities for attracting investment and creating jobs	Faster planning approvals Lower municipal taxes and fees Reducing municipal red tape	Faster planning approvals Investment in roads and infrastructure Expanded industrial land development	Investment in roads and infrastructure Expanded industrial land development Transit improvements
MUNICIPAL EFFICIENCY ACCOUNTABILITY AND SERVICE DELIVERY			
Comprehensive service and spending review each council term; publicly report savings.	Strongly Support	Strongly Support	Support
Tax increases above inflation require public justification and evidence that lower-cost alternatives were considered first.	Strongly Support	Strongly Support	Neutral
Expand shared services and joint procurement where costs fall without reducing service levels.	Strongly Support	Strongly Support	Strongly Support
Measurable service standards and public performance reporting for planning approvals, permitting and other key services.	Strongly Support	Strongly Support	Strongly Support
Modern digital services through one online portal for permits, licences and approvals.	Strongly Support	Strongly Support	Strongly Support
CAMPAIGN INFORMATION			
Campaign website	https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61590186761488	votemarkhunter.ca	www.jodeeburbach.com
Contact email	bestmayorever2026@gmail.com	mark@huntersteel.ca	jodeeburbach2026@gmail.com

Checked box = selected. Empty box = not selected; this does not indicate opposition. Question labels are condensed; selected answers and written responses are retained. Names are shown as supplied.

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