

**ON TABLE - Regular Council  
APRIL 25, 2022 - ITEM 4**

**From:** [Gary Gumley](#)  
**To:** [Clerk's Office](#)  
**Subject:** Tour de White Rock funding  
**Date:** April 25, 2022 9:25:04 AM

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Question and Answer Period - April 25, 2022

Mayor and Council,

I am again raising the issue of the Tour de White Rock funding of \$125,900 that is listed as an "operating expense" in the 2022 financial plan on page 99.

A recent article by Alex Browne in the local press included the following quotation:

"Chief administrative officer Guillermo Ferrero said that, unless the event was cancelled permanently, the budget for it would be transferred to reserves to offset other revenue shortfalls for the year."

My question has three parts:

1. How much money has been "transferred to reserves" from the Tour de White Rock budget in the previous two years?
2. Why would city council approve a financial plan that includes a budget line item that is clearly not going to be used for its stated purpose?
3. If the Tour de White Rock will be a viable and meaningful event for our community, then why not simply have the new council next year put it back in the budget for 2023?

This would allow your city council to reduce the current tax increase of 5.24 % by almost 1%. The effect would be almost a 20% reduction in the tax increase for 2022, saving each residential property owner approximately \$40.

As we have heard from all of you over the past four years, transparency in managing public funds is a cornerstone of effective democracy. Is it truly transparent to allow for funds to be collected from tax payers for a stated purpose, knowing full well that the expenditure will not be used for that purpose and instead will be allocated to "offset other revenue shortfalls".

I urge city council again to reconsider assessing the citizens of White Rock a tax for an event that will not take place this year.

Sincerely yours,

Gary Gumley  
White Rock resident