



# MIDDLESEX COUNTY

## Vacant Unit Rebate Stakeholder & Public Input Survey

### INTRODUCTION

Middlesex County and its local area municipalities are seeking public input in regards to the potential elimination of a property tax rebate program for vacant commercial and industrial properties. Input received via this survey will contribute to the information available within the final decision making process.

### PART 1: RESPONDENT INFORMATION

- A. Name: \_\_\_\_\_(optional)
- B. Email Address or Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_(optional)
- C. Please confirm that you have not submitted a previous response to this survey \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Please indicate where you reside, conduct business and/or pay property taxes. (check all that apply).

Middlesex County Local Area Municipality	Own /Operate Business	Reside	Pay Property Tax
Adelaide-Metcalf	_____	_____	_____
Lucan Biddulph	_____	_____	_____
Middlesex Centre	_____	_____	_____
Newbury	_____	_____	_____
North Middlesex	_____	_____	_____
Southwest Middlesex	_____	_____	_____
Strathroy-Caradoc	_____	_____	_____
Thames Centre	_____	_____	_____

- E. Are you responsible for the payment/administration of property taxes for a commercial or industrial class property within Middlesex County? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_
- F. Please indicate one (1) stakeholder category that you feel best represents your perspective in completing this survey:
  - Residential Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Commercial / Industrial Property Owner / Occupant: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Commercial / Industrial Landlord: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Commercial / Industrial Tenant: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Tax Agent / Taxpayer Representative: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_



**PART 2: PROGRAM KNOWLEDGE / EXPERIENCE**

The Vacant Unit Rebate program allows owners of commercial and industrial buildings to apply for a partial rebate of property taxes if all or part of the property was vacant for at least 90 consecutive days and various other criteria are met. Rebates are paid against taxes already levied and are prorated based on the vacant portion and the number of eligible days over the taxation year.

A. Which best describes your familiarity with the Vacant Unit Rebate Program?

Not previously aware of this program: \_\_\_\_\_

Generally aware of the program: \_\_\_\_\_

Current or past applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Potential applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

B. What best describes your personal experience with the Vacant Unit Rebate Program over the past 5 taxation years?

I have not applied for a rebate during this time: \_\_\_\_\_

I have applied periodically over this time: \_\_\_\_\_

I have applied for each of the past five years: \_\_\_\_\_

I have applied for rebates on behalf of clients: \_\_\_\_\_

I have applied for rebates outside of Middlesex County: \_\_\_\_\_

C. If you have made an application under this program within the past 5 years, what is the approximate annual/average value of rebate(s) received from the Middlesex County municipalities?

Application Not Approved (\$0): \_\_\_\_\_

Less than \$1,000: \_\_\_\_\_

\$1,000 to \$2,500: \_\_\_\_\_

\$2,500 to \$5,000: \_\_\_\_\_

\$5,000 to \$10,000: \_\_\_\_\_

Greater than \$10,000: \_\_\_\_\_

D. If the program were available would you expect to make an application for all or part of the 2018 taxation year? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ Unsure at this time: \_\_\_\_\_



**PART 3: INPUT AND PERSPECTIVE**

The Province of Ontario has provided municipalities with broad flexibility to tailor the treatment of vacant commercial and industrial units in response to local community circumstances, priorities and needs.

A. The County and local municipalities are considering the discontinuation of the Vacant Unit Rebate Program. Would you support or oppose this change?

Strongly Support:\_\_\_\_ Support:\_\_\_\_ No Opinion:\_\_\_\_ Oppose:\_\_\_\_ Strongly Oppose:\_\_\_\_

B. How do you believe such a change might impact (positively or negatively) any or all of the following?

Your own business / property: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The broader business community: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Commercial / Industrial Vacancy rates: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Active / occupied businesses: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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*(Question 3-B Continued)*

Non-business taxpayers: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Groups: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

C. General Comments: Please provide any general comments or additional information that you feel could not be expressed within the context of the survey questions above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

D. If you would like to pose a question regarding this initiative, please include your inquiry below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Survey Submission:** Completed Surveys may be submitted in one of the following ways.

- 1) Fax to: 905-878-9092
- 2) Scan and e-mail to: [middlesexsurvey@mte.ca](mailto:middlesexsurvey@mte.ca)
- 3) Return to the County Administration Office located 399 Ridout Street North, London
- 4) Return to the tax counter at your local municipal office; or
- 5) This survey may be completed on-line by visiting <https://secure.mte.ca/middlesex>

**The deadline to make a submission is Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**